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*Fighting Crime through Research*



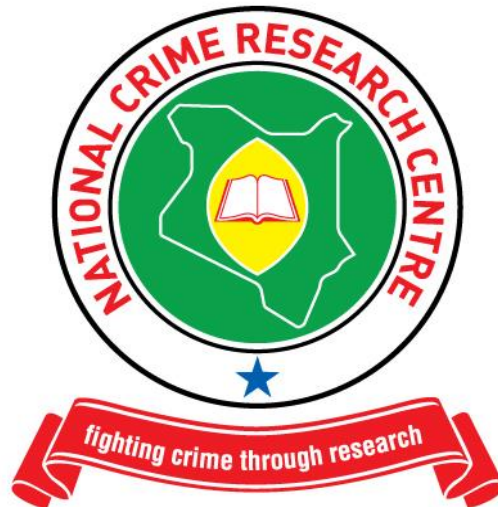
## **THE PROBLEM OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN KENYA**



**Stephen Masango Muteti**



# **NATIONAL CRIME RESEARCH CENTRE**



## **THE PROBLEM OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN KENYA**

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## FOREWORD

The National Crime Research Centre (NCRC) exists to inform policy planning and formulation in crime management in the country towards ensuring a crime-free society. This is achieved through evidence-based research on serious, organized and everyday crime which compromises the safety and security of Kenya's citizens and visitors. The Centre's mandate of carrying out research into the causes of crime and its prevention and to disseminate the research findings and recommendations to the Government agencies concerned with the administration of criminal justice and other relevant stakeholders is guided by the tenets of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 and the aspirations contained in the Kenya Vision 2030 development blueprint.

Available information indicates that the country has been experiencing increasing number of incidents of the human trafficking crime which have been blamed for a myriad negative socio-psychological, physical and economic effects on the direct victims and their families, and the country at large. This form of transnational organized crime has been reported to pose a serious threat to national security for it is also associated with other serious crimes such as terrorism, murder and drug trafficking. The crime threatens the foundation and existence of the Kenyan family which also is the basic unit of the nation, hence it is a serious national threat. In the international arena, the crime dents the country's image in that Kenya has continued to be ranked as one of the Tier 2 countries, that is, one of the countries whose governments do not fully meet the minimum standards of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000.

The Government has been implementing a number of counter-trafficking measures. However, following increased concern on the upward trajectory of human trafficking and its ramifications on the country's development in general, the Centre commissioned the study, with a specific focus on the: prevalent, prominent and/or popular types/forms of human trafficking in the country; victims and perpetrators of human trafficking; factors contributing to and/or facilitating human trafficking; modes of operation of human trafficking; areas and countries and/or regions serving as sources, transit and destinations for victims of human trafficking; effects of human trafficking; intervention strategies and their performance ratings in addressing human trafficking in the country; and the challenges faced and the recommendations for addressing human trafficking in the country. The study aimed at advising on effective counter-trafficking strategies while also updating a 2015 report of the Centre on the subject by highlighting recent dynamics in the areas of focus.

Certainly, the findings of this study are fundamental to counter-trafficking policy and programming for Kenya (as far as implementing local legislations and programmes such as the Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act, 2010 (Revised 2012) and the National Assistance Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking are concerned) and all the countries implementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime in general and the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000 in particular. The study has captured useful statistics and come up with key policy recommendations which will significantly improve counter-trafficking interventions. I therefore call upon all relevant stakeholders to plan and programme guided by the insights in this report.



P. KIHARA KARIUKI  
ATTORNEY GENERAL/CHAIRMAN  
GOVERNING COUNCIL  
NATIONAL CRIME RESEARCH CENTRE

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**VINCENT O. OPONDO**  
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## **ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

ACLU	American Civil Liberties Union
AGPO	Access to Government Procurement Opportunities
AIDs	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
AMISON	African Union Mission to Somalia
ASEC	African Sisters Education Collaborative
CCIs	Charitable Children Institutions
COVID	Coronavirus disease
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
DCI	Directorate of Criminal Investigations
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
EAC	East African Community
EACC	Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission
FBOs	Faith-Based Organizations
HAART	Awareness Against Human Trafficking
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority for Development
ILO	International Labour Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
NCRC	National Crime Research Centre
NEA	National Employment Authority
NGAO	National Government Administration Office
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
OSCE	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
P.R.C	People's Republic of China
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Sciences
TIP	Trafficking in Persons
TVET	Technical Vocational Education and Training
TVPA	Trafficking Victims Protection Act
UAE	United Arab Emirates
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
UNHCR	United Nations High Commission for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
U. S	United States
USA	United States of America

## **OPERATIONAL DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS**

### **Challenges faced in addressing human trafficking**

These were the hindrances/obstacles in the effort to address human trafficking in the country. The challenges included: weak counter-trafficking legal and law enforcement frameworks; inadequate resources affecting counter-trafficking efforts; corruption among concerned public officials; economic challenges of unemployment, high demand for cheap labour and poverty and accompanying vulnerability; socio-cultural hindrances especially retrogressive cultural (including religious) beliefs and practices.

### **Effects of human trafficking**

Effects referred to the negative consequences of human trafficking and they included: underdevelopment resulting from brain and labour drain and strain on limited government resources; psychological trauma and depression on victims and their family members; slavery, loss of human dignity and violation of human rights and freedoms; destabilization of the family leading to breakdown of marriages and families; and increased risk of insecurity in the country.

### **Factors contributing to and/or facilitating human trafficking**

These factors referred to any inadequacies, omission or behaviour on the part of individuals and/or institutions that was partly to blame for the occurrence and/or sustainability of human trafficking in the country. These factors included: poverty-occasioned vulnerabilities; ignorance and/or illiteracy among the victims; corruption especially among public officials; and unemployment-occasioned vulnerabilities.

### **Human trafficking**

This study adopted the definition of human trafficking (or trafficking in persons) provided by the Trafficking Protocol, also known as the “Palermo Protocol”. According to the Protocol, trafficking in persons means “the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation”. Further, exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs (UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre (2005).

### **Intervention strategies for addressing human trafficking**

These referred to the deliberate measures and activities put in place by different stakeholders towards preventing and/or combating human trafficking. The strategies included: sensitization and capacity building of citizens on human trafficking through civic education programmes by the Government and Media; enforcement of the Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act, 2010 (Revised 2012) and other relevant laws especially by way of arrest,



prosecution, trial, punishment and rehabilitation of perpetrators of human trafficking; strategic checkpoints for and verification of travel documents; intensified security and immigration-related patrols along Kenya's borders; ban on night travelling in some areas; and enactment of the Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act, Revised 2012.

### **Modes of operation of human trafficking**

This referred to: methods used in recruiting and/or obtaining victims; networks and/or processes involved in the recruitment of victims; and the modes of transportation of victims.

### **Perpetrators of human trafficking**

This referred to categories of individuals and/or institutions which directly or indirectly orchestrated and/or committed the human trafficking crime. They included: owners of Employment Bureaus, agents and brokers; acquaintances especially family members/relatives, barren couples, friends and neighbours; organized criminal gangs and cartels including drug traffickers; and wayward and/or corrupt public officials. The individuals were categorized on the basis of characteristics such as age (that is, adults and children), gender (that is, women and men), nationality, marital status, highest level of formal education and occupations and levels of income at the time of committing the crime of trafficking in persons.

### **Prevalence of types/forms of human trafficking**

This was the proportion of the reported different types/forms of human trafficking such as labour trafficking, sex trafficking and religious and other culturally-related trafficking. It was arrived at by comparing the number of sample respondents who reported the particular type/form of human trafficking with the total number of sample respondents and it was expressed as a percentage of the total sample respondents in a particular sample category (that is, category of members of the public or Agency officials).

### **Victims of human trafficking**

This referred to categories of individuals who suffered from the crime of trafficking in persons and they were categorized in terms of demographic and socio-economic characteristics/profiles. They included persons categorized on the basis of characteristics such as age (that is, adults and children), gender (that is, women and men), nationality, marital status, highest level of formal education and occupations and levels of income at the time of trafficking

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Human trafficking is one of the transnational organized crimes posing a serious threat to national security. The crime has negative implications on the country's socio-economic and political development which require urgent and strategic attention. It was against this background that the study sought to: establish the prevalent, prominent and/or popular types/forms of human trafficking; identify the victims and perpetrators of human trafficking; examine the factors contributing to and/or facilitating human trafficking; examine the modes of operation of human trafficking; map the areas and countries and/or regions serving as sources, transit and destinations for victims of human trafficking; appraise the effects of human trafficking; ascertain the intervention strategies and their performance ratings in addressing human trafficking in the country; and identify the challenges faced and suggested possible solutions and recommendations for addressing human trafficking.

The conceptual framework of the study was mainly modelled along the 'Modern Slavery' theory and 'Vulnerability theory' especially in articulating the: forms of human trafficking exploitation; the critical factors facilitating and/or contributing to human trafficking; and the effects of the crime in the country.

The study covered twenty-three (23) counties and specific study areas which were selected using the non-probability sampling technique in general and purposive and availability sampling in particular. These counties were Kwale, Mombasa, Kilifi, Taita Taveta, Nairobi, Kiambu, Makueni, Kajiado, Marsabit, Isiolo, Mandera, Garissa, Kitui, Turkana, Trans Nzoia, Uasin Gishu, Nandi, Nakuru, Migori, Narok, Kisumu, Busia and Bungoma.

The study traced and interviewed: 734 members of the public sample respondents in their households in the study locations; 129 Agency officials sample respondents (in their offices) who were ordinary officers drawn from key institutions; and key informants who were majorly senior officials in some of the institutions of the Agency officials in the study sites. Availability sampling was used to select members of the public sample respondents. Agency officials sample respondents and key informants were also selected based on availability and purposive sampling because of their knowledge and experience on the subject matter and the fact that their availability in their offices within the time allocated for the study was not guaranteed.

Both quantitative and qualitative methodologies were used to obtain the required data from the sources. Primary data was collected from: the members of the public respondents using interview schedules containing both closed and open-ended questions in face to face interviews; Agency officials using a self-administered questionnaire containing both closed and open-ended questions; and key informants using a majorly open-ended key informant guide. Secondary data was collected through review and analysis of thematic reports and ready secondary data requested from government agencies. Quantitative data was analyzed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) and Microsoft office excel and presented in tables and figures while qualitative data was analyzed and interpreted through

content analysis. Quantitative and qualitative data was triangulated and all information presented thematically guided by the specific research objectives.

## **Key Findings**

### **Prevalent, prominent and/or popular types/forms of human trafficking**

Findings from majority (54.9%) of the members of the public showed that human trafficking in the country was high. Secondary data obtained from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Intelligence Service and the Kenya Prisons Service showed that there was an **82.4% increase** in the number of human trafficking cases in year 2021, with the number of cases of labour trafficking having **increased by 86.6%** between year 2020 and 2021 and accounting for 96.0% and 98.3% of all the human trafficking cases in year 2020 and 2021 respectively.

Prevalence, prominence and/or popularity of human trafficking was gauged based on three aspects of: internal/domestic and external human trafficking; comparison based on destination, source and transit aspects; and the demographic characteristics of victims and main purposes of trafficking. With regard to the most prominent and/or popular between internal/domestic and external human trafficking, the findings of the study showed that external human trafficking (that is, trafficking of victims outside Kenya's borders) was the most prominent and/or popular at 64.7% while internal/domestic human trafficking (that is, trafficking of victims within regions in Kenya) was rated at 35.3%.

On the most prominent and/or popular between destination, source and transit human trafficking, trafficking of victims from Kenya as a source to other countries was rated as the most prominent and/or popular, followed by trafficking of victims to other countries through Kenya as a transit and trafficking of victims from other countries to Kenya as a destination.

Findings of the study showed that the country was experiencing trafficking for labour exploitation/domestic servitude, trafficking for sex exploitation and trafficking for cultural reasons. However, trafficking for labour and trafficking for sex-related and/or prostitution purposes were the types/forms of trafficking mainly known by members of the public. Based on the main purposes of trafficking and the demographic characteristics of victims, the most prevalent specific types/forms of human trafficking in the country were trafficking for labour and sex trafficking.

### **Victims and perpetrators of human trafficking**

This study sought to identify the victims and perpetrators of human trafficking. The results showed that adults were the most trafficked and they accounted for about 6 out of 10 victims in internal/domestic human trafficking, 8 out of 10 victims in trafficking from Kenya to other countries and 9 out of 10 victims in trafficking from other countries to Kenya. Children accounted for 4 out of 10 victims in internal/domestic human trafficking (with children accounting for 44.4%) and 2 out of 10 victims in trafficking from Kenya to other countries. Women were the most trafficked in internal/domestic human trafficking (accounting for 4 out

of 10 victims) and trafficking from Kenya to other countries (accounting for 6 out of 10 victims) while men were the most trafficked in trafficking from other countries to Kenya (accounting for 4 out of 10 victims).

Concerning the socio-economic profiles of victims of human trafficking at the time of trafficking (and underscoring the age, gender, nationality, marital status, highest level of formal education, occupations and levels of income characteristics of the victims), the findings reported by at least 5 out of 10 sample respondents showed that most victims of domestic human trafficking were adult: youthful female Kenyans aged 18-34 years; single/never married; holding pre-primary and/or primary school level education; majorly unemployed; and with low level incomes. Children and juveniles aged below 18 years accounted for about 3 out of 10 victims of domestic human trafficking. In external human trafficking, most victims were adult: youthful female Kenyans aged 18-34 years; single/never married; holding at least secondary level education; unemployed and/or engaged in casual temporary employment; and earning low level incomes.

The main perpetrators of internal/domestic human trafficking were found to be business people who included owners of Employment Bureaus, agents and brokers (accounting for 6 out of 10 perpetrators) and the others (in order of prominence) were: acquaintances especially family members/relatives, barren couples, friends and neighbours; organized criminal gangs and cartels including drug traffickers; and wayward and/or corrupt public officials who included Refugee Department and Camp officials, Security Officers, Immigration and other border officials. The key perpetrators of external human trafficking were: business people who included owners of Employment Bureaus, agents and brokers (accounting for 7 out of 10 perpetrators) while the others (in order of prominence) were: wayward and/or corrupt public officials who included Refugee Department and Camp officials, Security Officers, Immigration and other border officials; and organized criminal gangs and cartels including drug traffickers.

The main recruiters of victims of internal/domestic human trafficking were found to be unscrupulous business people who included owners of Employment Bureaus, agents and brokers (accounting for 6 out of 10 recruiters) and acquaintances especially family members/relatives, barren couples, friends and neighbours (accounting for 4 out of 10 recruiters). On the other hand, the main recruiters of external human trafficking were: business people who included owners of Employment Bureaus, agents and brokers (accounting for 8 out of 10 recruiters) and the others (in order of prominence) were: wayward and/or corrupt public officials who included Refugee Department and Camp officials, Security Officers, Immigration and other border officials; unscrupulous tourists and other foreigners; acquaintances especially family members/relatives, barren couples, friends and neighbours; and unscrupulous Civil Society Organizations and officials including Non-Governmental Organizations, religious and community leaders.

With regard to the socio-economic profiles of perpetrators of human trafficking (with the focus being on the age, gender, nationality, marital status, highest level of formal education, occupations and levels of income characteristics of the perpetrators), the findings from at least 5 out of 10 sample respondents were that most perpetrators of domestic human trafficking were: youthful female Kenyans aged 18-34 years; married; holding secondary and middle level college education; engaged in business; and earning medium level incomes. However, most perpetrators of external human trafficking were: youthful male Kenyans aged 18-34 years; married; holding secondary and middle level college education; engaged in business; and earning high level incomes.

### **Factors contributing to and facilitating human trafficking**

The findings of the study which were reported by at least 1 out of 10 of either of the members of the public or Agency officials with regard to the main factors contributing to domestic and external human trafficking, drivers or risk factors for human trafficking, reasons why human trafficking business has persisted in Kenya and factors facilitating recruitment of victims in domestic and external human trafficking showed that the key factors contributing to and facilitating human trafficking in the country were: poverty-occasioned vulnerabilities (reported by 9 out of 10 sample respondents); ignorance and/or illiteracy among the victims (reported by 6 out of 10 sample respondents); corruption especially among public officials (reported by 3 out of 10 sample respondents); unemployment-occasioned vulnerabilities and/or search for greener pastures (reported by 2 out of 10 sample respondents); and ready markets for cheap labour in hospitality and tourism industry especially in hotel and bar businesses (reported by 2 out of 10 sample respondents). Factors reported by 1 out of 10 sample respondents were: lucrative nature of human trafficking business; a region's attractiveness in terms of being a tourism and/or adventure destination; and greed for money on the part of both perpetrators and victims. Political instability and/or volatile security situations in source and destination countries and weak legal framework and enforcement mechanisms were the other key factors which were reported by Kenya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Intelligence Service and the Directorate of Immigration Services.

### **Modes of operation of human trafficking**

Modes of operation of human trafficking were examined in respect of: methods used in recruiting and/or obtaining victims; networks and/or processes involved in the recruitment of victims; and the modes of transportation of victims.

Findings of the study showed that the most prominent methods used in recruiting and/or obtaining victims of human trafficking were: use of deceptive information in the internet and social media and/or networking sites on available economic (including job/work) opportunities (reported by 8 out of 10 Agency officials); initial placement of advertisements in the mass media for legitimate economic (including job/work) opportunities (reported by 3 out of 10 members of the public); and use of recruitment agencies who issue forged or altered documents to register migrants (reported by 2 out of 10 members of the public). The other

modes reported by at least 1 out of 10 of either the members of the public or Agency officials were: study-abroad programmes and fictitious educational scholarships; brokers' use of grass roots agents to do recruitment; and collusion with wayward public officials to get travelling documents.

The findings of this study indicated that recruitment brokers and relatives of victims were the main players in the networks and/or processes involved in the recruitment of victims in both domestic and external human trafficking. With regard to domestic human trafficking, the networks and/or processes were: brokers connected to firms offering jobs contact victims, do recruitment, organize travel documents, offer accommodation, make transport arrangements and then hand over victims to agents in destinations (reported by 6 out of 10 Agency officials); relatives collaborate in recruitment, hand over victim to agents in home areas and then to agents in destination (reported by 4 out of 10 Agency officials); and individuals and bureaus recruit, another group does transportation, another group offers accommodation and transfer from one place to another (reported by 4 out of 10 members of the public). With regard to external human trafficking, the networks and/or processes were: brokers connected to firms offering jobs contact victims, do recruitment, organize travel documents, offer accommodation, make transport arrangements and then hand over victims to agents in destinations (reported by 6 out of 10 Agency officials); relatives collaborate in recruitment, hand over victim to agents in home areas and then to agents in destination (reported by 4 out of 10 Agency officials); spies do recruitment, hands over to agents, agents prepare travel documents, then transportation to Nairobi or other exit points and then to final destinations (reported by 3 out of 10 members of the public); and individuals and bureaus recruit, another group does transportation, another group offers accommodation and transfer from one place to another (reported by 2 out of 10 members of the public).

The main mode of transportation of victims of both domestic human trafficking (reported by 99.4% of the members of the public) and external human trafficking (reported by 87.0% of the Agency officials) was by road (by foot, using public and private vehicles, taxis and motorcycles/bodaboda) while air travel using planes was the second most prominent mode of transportation of victims of external human trafficking (reported by 35.4% of the members of the public).

### **Areas and countries and/or regions serving as sources, transit and destinations for victims of human trafficking**

Findings of the study confirmed that Kenya was a transit route (reported by 9 out of 10 Agency officials), a source (reported by 9 out of 10 members of the public) and a destination (reported by 6 out of 10 Agency officials) for victims of human trafficking.

The findings showed that twenty-nine (9) counties had known hotspot areas. The main catchment areas of victims of internal/domestic human trafficking are rural areas (reported by 9 out of 10 members of the public) while the main catchment areas of victims of external human trafficking are urban areas and especially slum areas (reported by 5 out of 10

members of the public), rural areas (reported by 4 out of 10 Agency officials), Refugee camps (reported by 4 out of 10 Agency Officials) and other countries (reported by 2 out of 10 members of the public).

The most prominently known specific countries and/or regions of origin for persons trafficked into Kenya reported by at least 1 out of 10 of the members of the public were Somalia, Uganda, Tanzania and Ethiopia while the main countries and/or regions of origin of trafficked persons on transit through Kenya were Ethiopia, Somalia, South Africa and Uganda. The persons trafficked while on transit through Kenya were mainly from Ethiopia (3 out of 10 of those trafficked) and Somalia (2 out of 10 of those trafficked).

The study found that urban areas were the main destination points for most victims of domestic human trafficking (reported by 92.0% of the members of the public and 96.1% of the Agency officials). The Middle East region (especially Saudi Arabia and Qatar) was reported to be the leading destination for most victims of external human trafficking at 52.4% followed by the African region at 42.1%. On ever hearing of persons ever trafficked from Kenya, countries in the Middle East region account for 6 out of 10 cases while those in the African region account for 3 out of 10 cases. With regard to knowledge of persons ever trafficked from Kenya, countries in the Middle East region account for 5 out of 10 cases while those in the African region account for 4 out of 10 cases. With regard to knowledge of persons ever trafficked from Kenya, Saudi Arabia was leading followed by Tanzania, United Arab Emirates and South Africa.

The most prominent transit routes for internal/domestic human trafficking are eight (8) and in order of prominence, these are: Busia-Nairobi- Machakos-Kibwezi (Makueni)-Taita Taveta-Mombasa; Namanga (Kajiado)-Nairobi- Machakos- Kibwezi (Makueni)-Taita Taveta-Mombasa; Moyale-Garissa-Nairobi- Machakos- Kibwezi (Makueni)-Taita Taveta-Lungalunga in Kwale; Lodwar (Turkana)-Kitale-Bungoma-Eldoret-Kericho; Mandera-Wajir-Garissa-Mwingi (Kitui)-Kiambu-Nairobi; Mwingi-Machakos-Thika (Kiambu)-Nairobi; Lodwar (Turkana)-Kitale-Eldoret-Busia; and Kisumu-Kericho-Nakuru-Nairobi-Loitokitok. With regard to external human trafficking, there are six (6) prominent transit routes for external human trafficking and in order of prominence, these are: Ethiopia-Moyale-Isiolo-Nairobi-Namanga (Kajiado)-Tanzania-South Africa; Somalia- Mandera-Garissa-Nairobi-Europe; Somalia-Marsabit-Turkana-South Sudan-Egypt- Saudi Arabia and Qatar; Tanzania-Loitokitok (Kajiado)-Nairobi-USA; Kenya-Tanzania-South Africa- Saudi Arabia and/or Qatar; and Ethiopia-Moyale-Nairobi-Mombasa-Tanzania-South Africa.

The study findings showed that 36 out of 47 counties (that is, 76.6%) were noticeably sources, transit routes and destinations of domestic human trafficking thus implying that most counties in Kenya hosted transit routes because one has to pass through (by road) some counties not mentioned in the study to reach those mentioned. Further analysis of the findings also showed that: out of the 36 counties which were featuring as sources, transit routes and destinations of domestic human trafficking, 23 of them (that is, 63.9%) were

sources of victims (that is, based on the starting point of the routes); of the 23 source counties, 13 of them (that is, 56.5%) were borderline counties; 17 counties were the main destination counties of domestic human trafficking with Nairobi, Mombasa and Kwale leading in this aspect; and 12 counties were both source and destination of victims.

The leading contributors of victims in the Kenyan external human trafficking problem were found to be Ethiopia (accounting for 6 out of 10 victims) followed by Somalia, Kenya and Tanzania. The leading foreign destinations for victims leaving Kenya were Saudi Arabia and Qatar (accounting for 3 out of 10 victims), Europe (accounting for 2 out of 10 victims), South Africa (accounting for 2 out of 10 victims) and the United States of America (accounting for 1 out of 10 victims).

### **Effects of human trafficking**

Human trafficking was reported to have mainly negative socio-economic effects in society and the most prominent ones (in order of prominence) were: underdevelopment resulting from brain and labour drain and strain on limited government resources; psychological trauma and depression on victims and their family members; slavery, loss of human dignity and violation of human rights and freedoms; destabilization of the family leading to breakdown of marriages and families; and increased risk of insecurity in the country. There were payment costs involved in human trafficking and these included: agent commission; transportation costs; and food and accommodation expenses.

Further findings of the study showed that victims indeed made certain payments to traffickers in anticipation of certain benefits. The payments made were to: facilitate the promised good returns and/or employment opportunities; facilitate transportation to reach their desired destinations; and to facilitate document processing and/or job registration. Most of the members of the public and Agency officials argued that most victims who had already paid for the promised opportunities would not be refunded their monies upon failure to benefit mainly because: there was no legal framework for refund; traffickers were after exploiting victims and making illegal money; the process involved in human trafficking was illegal and criminal; most victims did not know all the parties involved in the whole process of trafficking; and traffickers took advantage of the vulnerability of victims.

The kinds of treatment and conditions that victims of human trafficking were subjected to by the perpetrators (in order of prominence) were mainly: sexual abuse and forced prostitution; starvation and confinement in rooms without basic amenities; hard labour; assault; and confiscation of travelling documents.

### **Intervention strategies and their performance ratings in addressing human trafficking**

The study showed that 6 out of 10 members of the public did not know of any organizations which were attempting to address human trafficking in the country. Of the known ones, Government-based Organizations were the most known, followed by international agencies and Non-Governmental Organizations.



Further, 6 out of 10 members of the public were not aware of any intervention strategies that had been used to address human trafficking in the country. The most prominent strategies listed by those who were aware included: sensitization and capacity building of citizens on human trafficking through civic education programmes by the Government and Media; enforcement of the Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act, 2010 (Revised 2012) and other relevant laws especially by way of arrest, prosecution, trial, punishment and rehabilitation of perpetrators of human trafficking; strategic checkpoints for and verification of travel documents; intensified security and immigration-related patrols along Kenya's borders; ban on night travelling in some areas; and enactment of the Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act, Revised 2012.

With regard to the activities undertaken by Agency officials' organizations to address human trafficking in the country, the most prominent activities revolved around: arresting, maintaining custody, prosecution, trial and sentencing of human trafficking culprits/perpetrators; capacity building through public meetings/barazas; issuance of external travel documents; and rehabilitation, correction and empowerment of offenders.

At least 9 out of 10 Agency officials reported that their organizations were collaborating with other organizations in addressing human trafficking in the country and that there was positive collaboration on human trafficking mainly with regard to aspects of: human rights and law enforcement including judiciary services; civic education; and sensitization of other stakeholders on reduction of the crime of human trafficking.

With regard to the satisfaction levels with the performance of frontline organizations in preventing and combating human trafficking, the findings showed that most of the members of the public were not satisfied with the performance of nine (9) out of eleven (11) frontline organizations (that is, 81.8% of the organizations), with over 50.0% of these sample respondents reporting that they were not satisfied with the performance of the National Police Service (67.2%), Immigration Department (67.0%), Department of Labour (58.6%), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (58.4%), Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (58.3%), the Judiciary (54.9%) and Foreign Embassies (51.0%). Only the Department of Children Services (45.4%) and Faith-Based Organizations (42.5%) were rated as satisfactory in their performance in preventing and combating human trafficking.

On perceived effectiveness of prevention, protection, prosecution and capacity building intervention strategies in addressing human trafficking in the country, over 53.0% of the members of the public were of the opinion that all the intervention strategies, except capacity building intervention strategies (which was deemed effective by 46.5%), were not effective. On the other hand, over 55.0% of the Agency officials perceived all the intervention strategies, except prosecution intervention strategies (which was deemed effective by 43.7%) as not effective.

With regard to the adequacy of existing laws for dealing with human trafficking in the country, over 50.0% of the Agency officials argued that the laws were not adequate citing that: the laws had many loopholes and enforcing them was a challenge; the Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act was shallow; the laws were used to prosecute victims (especially of external trafficking) as illegal immigrants; there were no laws against human trafficking per se; and that the laws were not clear to concerned government officers and hence not very familiar with them.

### **Challenges faced and suggested possible solutions and recommendations for addressing human trafficking**

The main challenges faced in addressing and/or preventing and combating human trafficking which were reported by at least 1 out of 10 of either of the members of the public or Agency officials and more than one of the three reporting institutions (that is, Kenya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Intelligence Service and the Directorate of Immigration Services Head Offices), in order of prominence, were: weak counter-trafficking legal and law enforcement frameworks; inadequate resources affecting counter-trafficking efforts; corruption among concerned public officials; economic challenges of unemployment, high demand for cheap labour and poverty and accompanying vulnerability; socio-cultural hindrances especially retrogressive cultural (including religious) beliefs and practices, lack of patriotism and/or selfishness/individualistic tendencies among Kenyans; unwillingness of locals to share information and/or their collusion with perpetrators; and inadequate collaboration between stakeholders.

The best practices and main possible solutions to the challenges faced in preventing and combating human trafficking which were reported by at least 1 out of 10 members of the public or Agency officials (in order of importance) were: enhanced financial, human and physical infrastructural resourcing of organizations involved in counter-trafficking activities; civic education aimed at raising national consciousness against human trafficking; enhanced and strategic counter-trafficking law enforcement especially through deployment of a specialized counter-trafficking police unit, increased surveillance of border and/or transit points, deployment of strengthened community policing and Nyumba Kumi Initiatives, prosecution and punitive punishment of perpetrators; corruption eradication and regular vetting of Public Officers concerned with the problem of human trafficking; economic reforms especially targeted on poverty eradication, youth empowerment (such as soft loans), employment creation opportunities and equitable distribution of national resources; and enhanced collaboration, networking and/or reporting among local and international counter-human trafficking stakeholders.

The most prominent recommendations for addressing human trafficking in the aspect of detection and investigations that were proposed by at least 1 out of 10 of either the members of the public or Agency officials were: intensifying border control operations; strengthening collaboration between police and other local and international agencies in addressing human trafficking; improving investigation skills on human trafficking and general police service

delivery; strengthening and/or embracing community policing and Nyumba Kumi Initiative in counter-trafficking; strengthening special police units handling human trafficking; and deployment of modern technology in tracking and detecting perpetrators of human trafficking.

With regard to addressing human trafficking in the aspect of prosecution, the most prominent recommendations were: recruitment of additional and/or adequate training of human trafficking-specialized prosecutors; timely prosecution of human trafficking offenders; closer working relationships, collaboration and networking between prosecutors, investigators and other relevant agencies; improved collection and presentation of human trafficking evidence; and eradication of corruption in prosecution of human trafficking cases.

The most prominent recommendations for addressing human trafficking in the aspect of trial and sentencing were meting out stringent penalties to human trafficking offenders and strict bail and bond terms and expeditious trial of human trafficking suspects.

In the aspect of rehabilitation and correction of human trafficking offenders, the most prominent recommendations were: improving rehabilitation programmes for human trafficking offenders with a special focus on provision of vocational training to low-income offenders and intensive guidance and counselling; setting up rehabilitation centres for human trafficking offenders; effective supervision of correctional punishment meted out on human trafficking offenders; and conducting civic education and sensitizations on the impact of the human trafficking vice.

The most prominent recommendations for addressing human trafficking in the aspect of resettlement and reintegration of survivors of human trafficking that were proposed by at least 1 out of 10 of either the members of the public or Agency officials were: provision of intensive and professional counselling services to survivors; provision of economic empowerment to victims/survivors of human trafficking with a special focus on provision of business grants and/or start-up financial support, employment opportunities and vocational training; deportation and/or repatriation of foreign and local survivors; and establishment of pre-resettlement and reintegration Rescue Centres and/or Half-Way Homes for survivors.

Some of the main policy and programmatic recommendations suggested by Kenya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Intelligence Service and the Directorate of Immigration Services to effectively address human trafficking in the country were: continued awareness creation and public sensitization campaigns and programmes on the dangers of human trafficking through channels such as social media, seminars and press releases; instituting support services such as reintegration and counselling programmes for victims of human trafficking upon their return back home; strengthening and/or amending counter-trafficking legal frameworks (for example, the Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act 2010 to clarify sexual exploitation and forced labour); and maintaining updated database on human trafficking with

details on victims, perpetrators, nationalities, trafficking routes, sentencing verdicts and other information on counter-trafficking in persons and smuggling.

Based on the findings, it is therefore concluded that: the problem of human trafficking in the country is real, high and on an upward trajectory; the country experiences both internal/domestic and external human trafficking although the latter is the most prominent and/or popular; different areas and countries and/or regions serve as sources, transit and destinations for victims of human trafficking with Kenya serving majorly as a source even though it is also a transit route and destination point for victims mainly trafficked for labour exploitation; human trafficking is fuelled and/or sustained by an array of factors with the central one being poverty and/or unemployment-occasioned vulnerabilities; most victims and perpetrators of human trafficking are adult youthful Kenyans aged 18-34, with the latter being mainly business people operating as owners of Employment Bureaus, agents and brokers who, to a large extent, subject the former to negative socio-economic effects, inhuman and degrading treatment; the mode of operation of human trafficking is anchored in the methods used in recruiting and/or obtaining victims, networks and/or processes involved in the recruitment of the victims and the modes of transportation of the victims; there are organizations deploying numerous strategies to address human trafficking in the country but these appear unknown to most members of the public, with a significant proportion of those who know them rating most of the organizations and the strategies as ineffective and unsatisfactory; numerous challenges bedevil efforts to address human trafficking in the country with the practical solutions seen to lie especially in: enhanced financial, human and physical infrastructural resourcing of organizations involved in counter-trafficking activities; civic education aimed at raising national consciousness against human trafficking; and enhanced and strategic counter-trafficking law enforcement.

### **Key policy recommendations**

Generally, there is need for strengthened and/or enhanced: counter-trafficking law enforcement to reduce the confidence of real and potential human traffickers to engage in the crime; economic empowerment in society and especially of the vulnerable youth; effective synergies, collaborations and partnerships among stakeholders involved in counter-trafficking; awareness creation and public sensitization campaigns and programmes on human trafficking; capacity of organizations and public officials handling human trafficking; human trafficking victim support services; and database on human trafficking.

The specific key policy recommendations are:

1. The Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government, the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions and the National Police Service need to spearhead an enhanced counter-trafficking: multi-agency collaboration; technology-assisted and intelligence-led mapping; detection (especially of disguised perpetrators), investigation and evidence gathering and preservation; prosecution of cases in

courts; and disruption and/or dismantling of the complex trafficking networks and/or processes involved.

2. The Ministry of Devolution needs to lead other agencies especially with mandates relating to education, economic development and youth employment in spearheading counter-human trafficking localized, catchment area-specific interventions and county-specific measures to address the push factors of poverty, unemployment and ignorance and/or illiteracy in all counties, but with a prioritized focus on the borderline counties.
3. The Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, in partnership with the Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, needs to undertake effective vetting, registration and regular accreditation, monitoring and inspection of local and international employment, study-abroad and educational scholarship programmes recruitment, and philanthropy-founded agencies with a view of enhancing their oversight and accountability and reigning on fake and/or unscrupulous agencies perpetuating human trafficking.
4. It is recommended that the National Intelligence Service, the National Police Service and the Directorate of Immigration Services lead other agencies in the strategic policing of all transportation networks and especially the roads in the mapped twenty-nine (29) hotspot counties (and their specific hotspot areas), eight (8) prominent domestic trafficking and six (6) external trafficking transit routes and their corridors, and enhance vigilance on irregular and/or suspicious movement of population especially in human trafficking source, transit and destination border counties. The mapped eight (8) prominent domestic trafficking transit routes are: Busia-Nairobi- Machakos-Kibwezi (Makueni)-Taita Taveta-Mombasa; Namanga (Kajiado)-Nairobi- Machakos- Kibwezi (Makueni)-Taita Taveta-Mombasa; Moyale-Garissa-Nairobi- Machakos- Kibwezi (Makueni)-Taita Taveta-Lungalunga in Kwale; Lodwar (Turkana)-Kitale-Bungoma-Eldoret-Kericho; Mandera-Wajir-Garissa-Mwingi (Kitui)-Kiambu-Nairobi; Mwingi-Machakos-Thika (Kiambu)-Nairobi; Lodwar (Turkana)-Kitale-Eldoret-Busia; and Kisumu-Kericho-Nakuru-Nairobi-Loitokitok. The mapped six (6) prominent external trafficking transit routes are: Ethiopia-Moyale-Isiolo-Nairobi-Namanga (Kajiado)-Tanzania-South Africa; Somalia- Mandera-Garissa-Nairobi-Europe; Somalia-Marsabit-Turkana-South Sudan-Egypt- Saudi Arabia and Qatar; Tanzania-Loitokitok (Kajiado)-Nairobi-USA; Kenya-Tanzania-South Africa- Saudi Arabia and/or Qatar; and Ethiopia-Moyale-Nairobi-Mombasa-Tanzania-South Africa.
5. It is recommended that the Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government leads programmes to enhance citizen participation in security in matters anti-human trafficking through the community policing and Nyumba Kumi initiatives.

6. There is need for the Kenyan Government (through the relevant Ministries) to work closely with partner member states in the East African Community (EAC) and Intergovernmental Authority for Development (with a special focus on Ethiopia, Burundi, Uganda, Somalia and Tanzania) and other governments especially in the Middle East (especially Saudi Arabia, Qatar and United Arab Emirates) and southern Africa region (especially the Republic of South Africa), for state-specific and joint-state efforts centred on effective policing, migration and migrant labour management in addressing the challenge of external human trafficking in the region.
7. The National Treasury and Planning and its development partners need to prioritize enhanced anti-human trafficking funding geared towards improving the financial, human and infrastructural resourcing especially of the frontline organizations with the main focus being on the Children's Department, the National Police Service, Immigration Department, Department of Labour, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, the Judiciary and Foreign Embassies.
8. It is recommended that the Judiciary and the Office of the Attorney General and Department of Justice and the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection lead other agencies in spearheading the strengthening of the foreign labour management, the Victim Protection Board and the National Assistance Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking. Prioritized undertakings need to include: a mandatory medical and repatriation scheme (that includes an open pre-paid return transport ticket) for any Kenyan before their being allowed to leave the country for any privately-arranged migrant labour/employment; the establishment of an adequately-resourced rescue centres/safe houses; and a well-planned and resourced programme of repatriation, reintegration and resettlement of identified human trafficking victims.
9. It is recommended that the Ministry of ICT, Innovations and Youth Affairs, the Ministry of Public Service, Gender, Senior Citizens Affairs and Special Programmes, and the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection lead other actors in rolling out aggressive media campaigns with messages targeting at vulnerable social groups especially youthful females in society, with a special focus on the human trafficking catchment areas. A **“Stay Informed and Alert Programme on Human Trafficking”** which is gender-specific could therefore be pursued.
10. It is recommended that the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) puts in place elaborate measures to counter corruption among public officials especially those working at entry/exit points and within the Foreign National Management Department, the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection and the National Employment Authority who could be facilitating human trafficking. The measures need to include the vetting and auditing of lifestyles and unaccounted accumulation of wealth by these officials.

11. The National Assembly and the National Executive need to strengthen the legal framework for handling human trafficking crimes especially as it relates to aspects of immigration, child protection, sexual abuse and/or exploitation, physical and mental health, victim protection and services and domestic and migrant labour.
12. Effective management of human trafficking will require the Criminal Justice System agencies to put in place evidence-based screening, assessment protocols and treatment approaches that are specific to the different categories of perpetrators of human trafficking.
13. It is recommended that the Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government, the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the National Employment Authority lead the establishment, maintenance and sharing of an updated databank and information on human trafficking across relevant agencies to inform relevant policy and programming. The establishment and/or maintenance of a regularly-updated databank of Kenyan citizens working abroad (which contains the necessary information such as nature of employment, contact details and locations) at the National Employment Authority and in respective Kenyan Embassies and/or foreign missions needs to be prioritized.
14. The Department of Culture needs to put in place programmes for inculcating and/or enhancing national values (especially national unity and patriotism) among Kenyans and for addressing retrogressive cultural practices and beliefs that appear to fuel and/or sustain human trafficking.
15. It is recommended that the Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government and the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection lead a programme for the constant training and review of training curriculum for relevant officers in line with the dynamics of commission of the human trafficking crime.
16. The Ministry of Labour and Social Protection and that of Tourism and Wildlife need to de-incentivize the human trafficking pull factor of ready markets for cheap labour in the hospitality and tourism industry sector especially in the coastal region of Kenya by putting in place relevant intervention measures that include professionalizing, setting and/or raising the minimum education and/or skill requirements for labour force in the sections of the sector that are risk-prone to sex trafficking.

# **CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION**

## **1.1 Background of the Study**

### **1.1.1 The General Context of Human Trafficking**

Human trafficking is considered a form of modern-day slavery and one of the most serious transnational organized crimes. In fact, Belser (2005) argues that it is amongst the most lucrative of criminal activities, rivalled only by drug and firearms trafficking and generating billions of dollars annually for the sophisticated criminal organizations involved in it. Although Oram, Busza and Zimmerman (2011) observe that it is difficult to obtain dependable information on human trafficking due to its illegal operation, nature, the range and strictness of trafficking activities, and variations in how trafficking is defined, it has been argued that the crime is on an upward trajectory, and growing at alarming rates thus attracting the concerns of the international community. The 2018 Global Slavery Index shows that there were an estimated 40.3 million individuals (that is, 71% female and 29% male) across the globe in modern slavery in 2016, with approximately 24.9 million people who were in forced labour (compared with 12.3 million in 2010) and 15.4 million who were in forced marriage (Walk Free, 2018; African Sisters Education Collaborative (ASEC), 2021; U.S Department of State, n.d). According to UNODC (2018), the share of identified domestic victims of human trafficking had more than doubled, rising from 27 per cent in 2010 to 58 per cent in 2016.

Trafficking in human beings takes a number of forms which include sexual exploitation (sex trafficking), labour trafficking and trafficking for cultural reasons. For instance, of the estimated 24.9 million people who were in forced labour in 2016, at least 16 million were in the private economy, another 4.8 million were in forced sexual exploitation and 4.1 million were in forced labour imposed by state authorities (U.S Department of State, n.d). Trafficking also occurs domestically (that is, internal/domestic trafficking) and externally across borders of different nations, that is, external trafficking (UNODC, 2018). Human trafficking can also be classified in terms of the source, destination or transit points of the persons trafficked, or a combination of two or all the three dimensions (UNODC, 2009).

Reports have shown that human trafficking perpetrators prey on victims who are adults (that is, adult trafficking) and children of all ages (that is, child trafficking), backgrounds, and nationalities, exploiting them for their own profit (U.S Department of State, n.d). Finckenauer and Schrock (2007) argue that the main goal of traffickers is to maximize profits. Most victims are misled by businessmen, relatives, peers, religious acquaintances and agents with assurance of money, jobs, education and professional training barely to end up in manipulative situations. Children are mainly hired by family members or close family friends and some travel across counties and national borders on foot, by bus or are transported by long distance truck drivers (IOM, 2018a).



There are a number of factors that contribute to human trafficking crime. Some of the significant push and pull factors fuelling and/or sustaining human trafficking include: globalization; economic crises (especially poverty and unemployment); political instability, conflicts and wars leading to displacement of populations; retrogressive cultural practices that include ethnic cleansing; social inequality; market economy (such as availability of cheap labour); discrimination; illiteracy and/or lack of knowledge or experience; broken families; porous borders; and the wider processes of transformation and personal aspirations for an improved life (Financial Action Task Force, 2011; IOM, 2018a; Hartmann, 2021). The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) argues that COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated existing disadvantages, poverty and vulnerabilities. It created larger pools of vulnerable persons who, due to their worsened economic situation, were recruited for labour or sexual exploitation (OCHA, 2022; UNODC, n.d).

The crime of human trafficking has far-reaching, pervasive and majorly negative consequences that are felt within individual countries and societies. According to U.S Department of State (2010), the proceeds from human trafficking crime business approximated US\$ 32 billion in 2009, thus depicting the magnitude of its negative economic impact in society. At the individual victim level, victims of human trafficking are often forced to perform degrading, dehumanizing and dangerous work in conditions akin to slavery since it involves coercion and/or exploitation. Zimmerman, Hossain, Yun, Roche, Morison and Watts (2006) assert that every stage of the trafficking process can involve physical, sexual and psychological abuse and violence, deprivation and torture, the forced use of substances, manipulation, economic exploitation and abusive working and living conditions. According to UNODC (2008), the trauma experienced by victims of trafficking includes post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety, depression, alienation, disorientation, aggression and difficulty concentrating. According to Vahini (2005), IOM (2018a) and IOM (2022), the effects of sexual abuse in most of the cases of trafficking include deaths, physical injuries, infections (including HIV infection), chronic ill health, lax rectal muscles and incontinence due to sodomy, unwanted pregnancies, abortions, infertility rape trauma syndrome and post-traumatic stress disorder, disturbed sleep, nightmares, regressive behaviour, psychosomatic illness, lost opportunities, feelings of betrayal, socio-economic problems, strained family relations, drug abuse, low self-esteem, anxiety and suicidal thoughts. These negative effects have serious ramifications extending beyond the individual victim to the family, society, national and international levels.

In light of the grave nature and serious negative consequences of human trafficking, addressing it has become a prioritized focus of most governments and advocacy agendas globally. This has therefore sparked a rapid proliferation of international, regional and national trafficking policy, legal and administrative frameworks aimed at addressing the crime. For instance, on 15 November 2000, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the United Nations Convention against Organized Crime, which came into force on 23 September 2003. The Trafficking Protocol, also known as the “Palermo Protocol” was adopted to supplement the Convention with its key objective being to prevent, suppress and

punish trafficking in persons, especially women and children. By December 2007, at least 116 States had ratified the Trafficking Protocol and in 2021, this number had risen to more than 175 countries. As of August 2018, 168 countries among the 181 assessed for the *Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2018* had legislation in place that criminalized trafficking in persons broadly in line with the United Nations Trafficking in Persons Protocol. The main focus of States within the provisions of the Protocol has been on detecting and prosecuting traffickers, identifying, protecting and assisting people who have already been trafficked and initiating action to prevent people from being trafficked in the first place. Most of these states have adopted new laws or amended existing legislation to translate the Protocol into action, define an offence of trafficking in persons and increase the penalties for traffickers, as well as established institutions and procedures to implement the law (UNODC, 2008; 2018; Chuang, 2014; U.S Department of State, 2021).

Combating human trafficking has not been without inherent challenges. These challenges have been summarized to include: the challenge of customizing and/or translating international legal instruments and guidelines into national laws to ensure their full implementation; diverse interpretation and understanding with regard to the definition of human trafficking; failure of legislations to be comprehensive in approach and addressing all aspects of crime and balancing prosecution with ensuring the rights and protection of victims; failure to appropriately identify victims; mistreatment of victims; inadequate or lack of social service providers; inability to enforce statutory workplace protections; lack of co-ordination to enforce workers' rights; low reporting of human trafficking; inadequate data on human trafficking; lack of adequate cooperation and co-ordination with other partners, inside and outside government; language barriers between law enforcers on the one hand and victims and traffickers on the other hand; lack of adequate resources to anti-trafficking agencies; and knowledge gaps related to the patterns and flows of trafficking in persons (Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), 2009; Oram *et al.*, 2011; UNODC, 2018).

### **1.1.2 The Global Perspective of Human Trafficking**

Human trafficking is a global phenomenon affecting both the developed and developing countries in variable magnitudes and ways. According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, different governments reported trafficking in humans originating from 127 countries and exploited in 137 countries worldwide from 1996 to 2003 (UNODC, 2006).

The United States of America grapples with the problem of domestic and external human trafficking. According to the U.S. Department of State, it is estimated that 14,500 to 17,500 people are trafficked into the United States each year, and these numbers do not include the many persons trafficked within its borders. Immigrant women (who are the main victims) and children victims fall prey to the deceptive and coercive tactics of traffickers because of factors such as their (victims) lower levels of education, inability to speak English, immigration status, lack of familiarity with U.S. employment protections and working in jobs that are hidden from the public view and/or are unregulated by the government. Trafficking

is most prevalent in domestic service, agriculture, sweatshop and factory work, restaurant and hotel work and in the sex industry. The country's efforts in addressing the vice is evidenced by the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000 which states that the purpose of combating human trafficking is to punish traffickers, to protect victims, and to prevent trafficking from occurring (U.S Department of State, 2010; American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), 2022).

According to the U.S Department of State, there were an estimated 13,000 trafficking victims in the United Kingdom in 2020 with the country's police estimating that there were up to 4,000 trafficking victims in the United Kingdom at any one time. The victims comprise 123 nationalities and are men, women and children trafficked from source countries such as United Arab Emirates, Lithuania, Russia, Albania, Ukraine, Malaysia, Thailand, the People's Republic of China (P.R.C.), Nigeria and Ghana. Children account for nearly half of the victims. The most common form of exploitation among adults and minors is labour trafficking, with youth being trafficked by gangs and forced to act as drug couriers from larger cities into rural areas across the UK and traffickers forcing adults and children to work in agriculture, cannabis cultivation, construction, food processing, factories, domestic service, nail salons, food services, the hospitality industry, and car washes, as well as on fishing boats. However, the country has put in place various prosecution, prevention and protection measures to deal with the problem that have earned it the rank of Tier 1 country, to imply that it fully meets the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking (Mc Bain, 2017; U.S Department of State, 2020).

Human trafficking is one of the most momentous social problems of the global south, that is, the regions within Asia, Latin America, Africa and Oceania. It is reported to be most prevalent in Asia, where of the 600,000 to 800,000 people trafficked annually in the region, about 250,000 are estimated to be from South-East Asia and 150,000 from South Asia. The majority of Asian victims are trafficked for the purpose of sexual exploitation, with trafficking for labour exploitation purposes being reported to be in a recent theatrical rise. Of the 12 million people reported to be enslaved worldwide, 55% are in South East Asia, and children account for between 40% and 50% of the 12 million victims (World Vision Australia, 2007).

Yahan (2022) argues that the human trafficking trade that was rampant in China in the 1980s has remained active in the country today. It is estimated that between 2017 and 2020, Chinese courts handled cases involving at least 1,250 women who had been victims of trafficking. The trafficking in the country appears to be culturally-instigated in that traffickers kidnap vulnerable young women especially from low-income provinces in southwest China to sell them as wives to men in other parts of China in illegally-arranged and forced marriages especially in the rural areas in what is termed 'marriage trade'. The main contributing factor for human trafficking in China is severe population imbalance especially in northern Jiangsu region where there are fewer girls than boys in some provinces. The main reason behind the population imbalance is said to be a strong cultural

preference for boys in the region (which led to many sex-selective abortions) coupled with the migration of many economically-impooverished young women from outside Jiangsu to rural parts of northern Jiangsu to get married. Towards addressing the challenge of human trafficking in China, "China's Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking (2021-2030)" has already been put in place whose overall goals are centred around adhering to and improving long-term and effective mechanisms for countering human trafficking that integrate prevention, enforcement, aid, placement and rehabilitation (China Law Translate, 2022).

According to Habibullah (2021), human trafficking is one of the most worrying problems in India, taking the forms of men trafficking, women trafficking and child trafficking. It is considered as the second largest organized crime and remains a major issue in the country despite the fact that it is banned under Indian law. People are reportedly trafficked illegally through India for commercial sexual exploitation and forced or bonded labour. Out of an estimated 20 million commercial prostitutes in the country, 16 million women and girls are victims of sex trafficking. According to Najar (2021), 95% of trafficked persons in India are forced into prostitution. In 2009, one-third of those accused of human trafficking in nearly 200 cases in West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh were women, with fifty percent of the defendants aged between 25 and 45 years. Surveys in the country have also shown that 21% of the households are potentially ready to send their children into child labour due to their increased economic vulnerability especially worsened by the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown experienced in year 2020 and 2021. It is argued that even with the laws present in India, human trafficking (which is 90% domestic/internal and 10% external) remains an unspoken problem in the country and that the estimated number of victims of severe forms of trafficking is significantly increasing. The country is accused of not taking proportional concrete actions and failure to provide evidence of increasing efforts to combat severe forms of human trafficking from the previous year. For instance, the acquittal rate for trafficking cases was 73 percent in 2019. These misses have led to the consistent ranking of India in Tier 2 (UNODC, 2009; U.S Department of State, 2021).

In Pakistan, the most common forms of human trafficking include sexual exploitation and bonded labour and the highest number of trafficking victims belongs to different vulnerable groups including women, girls, young boys and children. Measures to combat human trafficking at the national level in Pakistan began in 2002 and in 2018, the country passed the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act which called for fines and prison sentences ranging from 2 to 10 years for labour and sex trafficking violations. In Bangladesh, cases of human trafficking increased in the backdrop of the coronavirus crisis in year 2020 and 2021 in comparison to 10 years ago. The factors fuelling the vice in the country are those associated with: a large population; chronic poverty; natural disasters; rural-urban migration due to unemployment; increased insecurity of girls; lack of shelter in disaster periods; and gender inequality. Legislations to deal with the problem in Bangladesh include the Prevention of Cruelty against Women and Children Act 2000 and the penal code under articles 372 and 373 (Global Human Rights Defence, 2021; The Borgen Project, 2021).

In 2018, almost 80% of detected victims of trafficking in Central America and the Caribbean in the Latin America region were girls and women, while in South America, 70% of the victims were women. Territorial displacement in these regions has been regarded as an alternative to improving the livelihoods of people and their families, and particularly women in especially vulnerable economic situations. Economic hardships and social exclusion, family problems and gender inequality have been identified as the main factors pushing these people to leave their home countries. Hence, in the presence of this phenomenon, trafficking networks in Latin America have taken advantage of women's vulnerability to deceive and exploit them. Networks that use virtual tools to attract their victims have emerged and generally do not use force to capture and take them abroad, but upon arrival at the final destination, many victims have their travel documents seized and are held (by use of threats by the perpetrators) until their debts are paid. Men have been identified to be the prevalent recruiters of trafficked women, although there are also many women recruiters who convince other women of the advantages of joining sex networks through their fabricated "successful" experiences of prostitution in the foreign countries (Teresi, 2022).

### **1.1.3 The African Perspective of Human Trafficking**

Africa appears to bear the brunt of human trafficking in the world. The 2018 Global Slavery Index indicates that: the prevalence of modern slavery was highest in the region of Africa, with 7.6 victims for every 1,000 people in the region; an estimated 9.24 million individuals are enslaved in all of Africa, making up 23% of the total global enslaved population; and Africa accounts for 8% of child sex trafficking in the world (Walk Free, 2018; ASEC, 2021).

The problem of human trafficking has become a commonplace phenomenon in many African countries and especially the Sub-Saharan Africa region. UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre (2005) argues that human trafficking is more prevalent and familiar in West and Central Africa where it has been identified by more than 70 per cent of the countries in the region as a problem (and a severe one in a third of these countries), compared to 33 per cent of countries in East and southern Africa. There has been trafficking of refugees from Angola and the Great Lakes region to South Africa and child trafficking from Lesotho, Mozambique and Malawi to South Africa. Incidences of inter-continental trafficking of young women from Russia, Eastern Europe, Thailand, China and Taiwan to South Africa involving crime syndicates based in Mozambique, Eastern Europe and Thailand have also been reported (Truong, 2006). According to Walk Free (2018) and ASEC (2021), an estimated 7.8 million individuals are today enslaved in Sub-Saharan Africa, making up 19% of the total global enslaved population.

According to UNODC (2021), at least 35 countries in the Sub-Saharan Africa region which fall under three areas are today affected by human trafficking, and they include: West Africa (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo), East Africa (Kenya, Mauritius, Rwanda, Uganda and United Republic of Tanzania) and Southern Africa

(Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eswatini, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Zambia). And although human trafficking appears to be widespread in Sub-Saharan Africa region, Walk Free (2018) and ASEC (2021) have indicated that the countries with the highest rates of modern slavery in this region are Eritrea (0.93% of population), Burundi (0.40% of population), Central African Republic (0.22% of population), Mauritania (0.21% of population) and South Sudan (0.21% of population).

Various forms of human trafficking are experienced in the African continent. The most common forms of slavery in Sub-Saharan Africa are forced labour and forced marriage. Both internal and cross-border forms of trafficking are reportedly prevalent in Southern Africa. The occurrence of internal trafficking of women and children (and especially girls) in South Africa for the purposes of commercial sexual exploitation has been highlighted. Girl children are reportedly sold by their family as brides especially to single men or to prostitution brothels, syndicates and gangs. Girls are recruited into the sex industry through newspapers advertisements and a clear link exists between tourism and the sex trafficking of the girls. Sometimes, young women are coerced through a form of debt bondage into doing strip-tease work, providing “sex” for patrons of certain establishments or performing in pornographic films. Those involved in the sexual exploitation trafficking of children in South Africa include: parents (and especially the mothers); other relatives, particularly brothers, sisters and cousins; adult sex workers; teachers; foreign nationals organized in gangs and syndicates; strangers; gangs; and Minibus taxi drivers. In Senegal, religious teachers predispose children to trafficking conditions by forcing them to beg for money and food in the streets (Molo Songololo, 2000; IOM, 2003; Walk Free, 2018; ASEC, 2021; UNODC, 2021).

A number of factors appear to facilitate human trafficking in Africa. The main causes of modern slavery in the Sub-Saharan Africa region have been cited as poor economic conditions, violent conflict and territorial displacement, and humanitarian and environmental crisis (Dottridge, 2002; Walk Free, 2018; ASEC, 2021). International Labour Organization (2001) indicates that the factors that have facilitated trafficking in West and Central Africa are socio-cultural (for instance, the social acceptability of putting children to work, traditions of migrations, illiteracy or low education levels, and preparations for marriage), economic (for instance, the imbalance between urban and rural wealth levels and a desire to free oneself from poverty), and juridical and political (with some of the main factors being open borders, the absence of legislation and the ignorance of parents and trafficked persons of their rights under the law and mistrust of the law) in nature. Molo Songololo (2000) identifies the factors for internal sex trafficking of children in South Africa to include: poverty coupled with high unemployment, and school drop-out rates; lack of effective social welfare support for children and families; lack of effective safety and protection services for children; sexual abuse of children; high levels of domestic violence; increased urbanisation; parental involvement that is pro-trafficking; and an increased demand from sex exploiters, both local and foreign.

Different African countries have put in place measures to deal with the human trafficking problem in their jurisdictions. However, the collective African effort to address the problem is emphasized in the ‘Ouagadougou Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings, Especially Women and Children’ which was developed in 2006. The European Union and African States adopted the Plan in which they resolved to prioritize different measures for: prevention and awareness raising; victim protection and assistance; and legislative framework, policy development and law enforcement (African Union and European Union, 2006).

The African Union has initiated the ‘The Draft Policy on the Prevention of Trafficking in Persons in Africa’ in order to actualize the Ouagadougou Action Plan. The Policy sets the strategic framework for combating and prevention of trafficking in persons in Africa, and in particular seeks to: strengthen the law enforcement, prosecution and intelligence sharing framework to prevent trafficking in persons in the continent; facilitate gender-responsive victim protection, compensation and assistance; develop and implement a comprehensive legal and policy frameworks on combating trafficking in persons at all levels; promote research, collection and utilization of verifiable and disintegrated data on trafficking in persons as a basis of evidence-based policy development and implementation; build and enhance the capacity of relevant institutions to combat trafficking in persons in the continent; manage borders in an integrated, secure and coordinated manner; streamline the management of cross-border and international labour migration, including its recruitment and other labour practices; develop and enhance the use of technology and information systems to prevent trafficking in persons and online child exploitation; address the root causes of irregular migration and trafficking in persons in Africa; develop and implement awareness creation and sensitization strategies on the prevention of trafficking in persons in Africa; and undertake sustainable solutions for the victims of trafficking in persons, including but not limited to their return, re-admission and reintegration (African Union, 2021).

#### **1.1.4 The Kenyan Perspective of Human Trafficking**

The Global Initiative (2021) and Kenya News Agency (2021) assert that Kenya continues to be a high-risk country for human trafficking. Kaberia (2021) has observed that Kenya is among the list of human trafficking hot spots in the World while Kirwa and Teyie (2022) argue that human trafficking is still a menace in Kenya. These assertions are confirmed by a number of recent incidents. For instance, in 2018, twelve Nepalese women and girls were trafficked from Nepal into Kenya by a prominent businessman (Ahmed and Ocharo, 2019). Wangui (2022) has observed that detectives based at the Transnational and Organized Crime Unit of the Directorate of Criminal Investigations, with support from their Embakasi-based counterparts, recently rescued sixty human trafficking victims aged between 14 and 50 years at an apartment within Tassia Estate in Embakasi, Nairobi County and arrested three suspects of Somali origin on suspicion of being part of a larger human trafficking syndicate operating across the Horn of Africa. The victims were being trafficked from two countries that border Kenya for sale as slaves overseas against their will and had been ferried to the location

temporarily, as the traffickers sought alternative ways of transporting them outside the country unnoticed.

According to U.S Department of State (2021), Kenya still ranks as a Tier 2 country, that is, one of the countries whose governments do not fully meet the minimum standards of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000 but are making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance with those standards. The Global Initiative (2021) and Kenya News Agency (2021) indicate that Kenya is a source, transit and destination country for victims. Stop The Traffik (2019) has shown that child exploitation takes place in different forms in Kisumu, Nairobi and Mombasa and these forms include: domestic servitude; forced labour in supermarkets, hotels and restaurants; forced begging on the streets; sexual exploitation; and forced marriage. McGrail (2021) has also observed that: the cities of Nairobi, Kisumu and Mombasa are where trafficking occurs the most; Refugee Camps in Kenya are sources of victims of human trafficking; traffickers traffic children for domestic servitude, sexual exploitation, forced labour, forced begging and forced marriage; and that Awareness Against Human Trafficking (HAART) reports that at best, only 2% of trafficked Kenyan children ever make it back home.

Human trafficking in Kenya takes a number of forms. The U.S Department of State (2021) highlights that over the past five years, human traffickers have been exploiting domestic and foreign victims in Kenya and traffickers have also been exploiting victims from Kenya abroad. Victims from Kenya are usually trafficked to Europe, North America, Middle East and other parts of Africa. This therefore signifies that the country experiences both domestic and external human trafficking. According to Kirwa and Teyie (2022): there is sex trafficking where traffickers exploit women and children (especially girls) in commercial sex especially in informal settings in urban areas throughout the country; in 2020, an international NGO reported between 35,000 and 40,000 victims of commercial sex including child sex tourism; Kenyans who voluntarily migrate in search of employment opportunities are vulnerable to exploitative conditions and that traffickers exploit them in massage parlours, brothels, domestic servitude or manual labour; and traffickers exploit children (approximated to be 19,000 in 2020) through forced labour in domestic service, farming, fishing, cattle herding, street vending and even begging.

Perpetrators of human trafficking in the country are diverse. Most of the perpetrators are reported to be Kenyan, with foreigners also playing a role especially in external human trafficking. Kaberia (2021) observes that: trafficking syndicates vary from organized groups to individual criminals, with the latter taking a lead based on the number of suspects charged for human trafficking which shows that 142 and 148 people were arrested for trafficking in 2017 and 2018 respectively; and that majority of those convicted for human trafficking were Ethiopians who had trafficked 227 victims followed by Nepalese (21), Libyans (13), Indians (9) and then South Sudanese (7). Family members are also reported to facilitate the exploitation of women and children in commercial sex trafficking. Both legal and fraudulent employment agencies recruit Kenyans to work in the Middle East, especially in countries



such as Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates (UAE), Qatar and Lebanon in trafficking situations disguised as genuine employment opportunities (Kirwa and Teyie, 2022).

Human trafficking in Kenya has been linked to a number of factors, the key among them being vulnerabilities occasioned by limited livelihood opportunities as a result of poverty and unemployment. For instance, according to U.S. Department of State (2019), Kenya was hosting approximately 470,000 refugees and asylum seekers living in camps (such as Kakuma Refugee Camp and Dadaab Refugee Complex) with limited access to education and livelihood opportunities which made them vulnerable to abuse and exploitation. Kaberia (2021) has argued that there is an increase in human trafficking in the country which is attributed to the vulnerability of victims reeling in the economic meltdown caused by the coronavirus pandemic which led to a sharp increase in unemployment rates and which also brought the world almost to a halt since 2020. Stop The Traffik (2019) has observed that: sex tourism fuels sexual exploitation of children in Kenya and is most prevalent in Mombasa and Nairobi; and that the children are groomed and targeted online and forced to work in brothels. Equality Now (2022) has cited that perpetrators of sex trafficking and exploitation take advantage of sex, gender, and structural forms of discrimination and inequality that are inherent in the country's culturally-patriarchal society that disproportionately affect women and girls.

The effective combat of human trafficking in Kenya has faced challenges that include: general poverty within the region; limited resources and technology to monitor porous borders; many relevant labour laws that do not refer directly to labour exportation, and which means they cannot protect migrant workers; state and non-state actors that are involved in regulating labour exportation but lacking in coordination among themselves thus weakening enforcement; human trafficking to the Middle East either not recognized, or not given priority by government because none or few of the prosecution cases of human trafficking involve forced labour to Middle Eastern countries; partial implementation or no implementation at all of most of the recommendations made by a multi-agency taskforce set up to recommend on how to protect migrant workers and curb the activities of 'briefcase employment agencies'; the presence of foreign and local criminal networks working in cohort and that are highly organized and disguised as employment agencies to perpetrate human trafficking; lack of safe houses for victims; and corruption within the law enforcement agencies coupled with limited prosecution of the corrupt government officials facilitating human trafficking (IOM, 2018a; Business Daily, 2019; Daghar, 2020; U.S. Department of State, 2021; Njeru, 2022 ).

Efforts aimed at addressing human trafficking in the country have majorly centred on formulation and implementation of legal, policy and administrative frameworks that are consistent with the globally agreed upon action plan parameters of prevention, protection, prosecution and partnerships in the fight against human trafficking in the country. These efforts include: enactment of the Counter Trafficking in Persons Act, 2010 which criminalizes sex trafficking and labour trafficking and prescribes penalties of 30 years to life

imprisonment, a fine of not less than Kenya Shillings 30 million, or both for the offence; establishment of the multi-agency Counter Trafficking in Persons Advisory Committee; operationalization of the National Assistance Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking; and development of the National Referral Mechanism for assisting victims of human trafficking in Kenya (National Council for Law Reporting, 2012a; Kenya News Agency, 2021).

Human traffickers in Kenya have continued to be investigated, arrested, prosecuted and sentenced under the Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act No. 8 of 2010. For instance, in 2020, 18 trafficking cases were investigated and 11 alleged traffickers were arrested. At least 46 individuals were prosecuted between July 2019 and June 2020, compared with at least 22 individuals prosecuted in 2019 (U.S. Department of State, 2021). On November 26, 2021, a Resident Magistrate in Kenya's Shanzu Law Court delivered a landmark ruling, finding a prominent businessman who holds Canadian and UK passports, guilty of trafficking 12 Nepalese women and girls into Kenya and sentenced him to 60 years in prison. The accused had been charged with three counts of trafficking, promoting human trafficking, interfering with travel documents through the act of seizing the women's passports and allowing his Bar to be used for trafficking purposes. The twelve victims were repatriated to Nepal in July 2019, following collaboration between the International Organization for Migration, Trace Kenya and government actors (Ahmed and Ocharo, 2019; Equality Now, 2022).



## 1.2 Statement of the Problem

Human trafficking is one of the organized crimes posing a serious threat to national security and which has ramifications of solemn concern on the country's development in general. This crime has been associated with other serious crimes such as terrorism, murder and drug trafficking. Further, the very fact that human trafficking majorly victimizes women and

children who form the foundation and existence of the Kenyan family which also is the basic unit of the nation, is a serious national threat.

Human trafficking is an apparently growing international crime and human rights violation with serious negative implications to the country. The crime has been blamed for a myriad negative socio-psychological, physical and economic effects on the direct victims and their families, and the country at large. For instance, reports abound of Kenyans and foreigners who have been subjected to dehumanizing conditions in utmost violation of their human rights and freedoms, and others who have died in circumstances of trafficking both in Kenya and outside the country. Unsuspecting victims have been lured and/or deceived by traffickers with non-existent beneficial opportunities outside their usual locations only to suffer labour exploitation, sexual exploitation and religious and other forms of cultural-related exploitations. These forms of exploitation are said to have occasioned socio-economic losses thus contributing to desolation in society. The extent to which this is true of recent Kenya's human trafficking especially in the time of COVID-19 pandemic remains unclear.

Towards tackling the problem of human trafficking in the country, the Government enacted the Counter Trafficking in Persons Act, 2010. This Act criminalizes sex trafficking and labour trafficking and prescribes penalties of 30 years to life imprisonment, a fine of not less than Kenya Shillings 30 million, or both for the offence. The Act has been enforced alongside other related laws through varied interventions. Despite the presence of this seemingly deterrent penalty set by the Act, the implementation of the interventions and the continued highlighting of the serious negative effects of human trafficking by both state and non-state actors, the vice continues in the country, and with an upward trajectory. For instance, using the crude total number of human trafficking cases recorded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Intelligence Service and the Kenya Prisons Service in year 2020 as the base, the country experienced an 82.4% increase of human trafficking cases in year 2021 (that is, from 1,136 cases in year 2020 to 2,072 cases in year 2021). Specifically, labour trafficking increased by 86.6% between year 2020 and 2021 (that is, from 1,091 cases in year 2020 to 2,036 cases in year 2021). This upward trajectory and/or trend is likely to persist if effective remedial interventions are not put in place.

The problem of human trafficking appears to dent the image of the country in international circles and thematic forums such as those relating to governance of human rights, trafficking victim protection and assistance services and addressing corruption reported among government officials involved in facilitating human trafficking. This is especially evidenced by the continuous ranking of Kenya in Tier 2, that is, one of the countries whose governments do not fully meet the minimum standards of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000. It therefore remains unclear why this pattern and trend in human trafficking appears to be persisting in the country. Some of the questions one would ask are: What are the factors contributing to and/or facilitating human trafficking in the country? What are the intervention strategies that have been deployed and how effective are they in

addressing human trafficking in the country? Are there challenges faced in addressing human trafficking in the country and how can they be solved and the vice addressed effectively?

The country's counter-trafficking measures appear not to be informed by current and reliable data on the subject. In fact, a 2019 peer review of the human rights records of all 193 UN member states cited the lack of comprehensive, consolidated and credible data and information on trafficking in Kenya as one of the main challenges in current anti-trafficking work.

It was against this background that the study was undertaken with a view of informing relevant policy formulation, planning and programming on human trafficking, with anchorage on current information. The report was also intended to update an earlier report on the subject which had been completed by the National Crime Research Centre in 2015.

### **1.3 Research Objectives**

#### **1.3.1 General Objective**

The general objective of this study was to examine the problem of human trafficking in the country with a view to informing relevant policy formulation, planning and programming.

#### **1.3.2 Specific Objectives**

The specific objectives of this study were to:

- i. Establish the prevalent, prominent and/or popular types/forms of human trafficking.
- ii. Identify the victims and perpetrators of human trafficking.
- iii. Examine the factors contributing to and/or facilitating human trafficking.
- iv. Examine the modes of operation of human trafficking.
- v. Map the areas and countries and/or regions serving as sources, transit and destinations for victims of human trafficking.
- vi. Appraise the effects of human trafficking.
- vii. Ascertain the intervention strategies and their performance ratings in addressing human trafficking in the country.
- viii. Identify the challenges faced and suggested possible solutions and recommendations for addressing human trafficking.

### **1.4 Justification of the Study**

Human trafficking is a serious organized crime with far-reaching negative consequences. For instance, the crime: poses a threat to national security; is a great violation of fundamental human rights enshrined in the Kenya Constitution and international instruments such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; dents Kenya's international reputation as the country is a signatory to and has ratified international instruments concerned with the advancement of human dignity and welfare; and generally, undermines the country's development agenda. Therefore, the importance of the findings and recommendations of this study in informing prevention, control and mitigation interventions for addressing the vice in the most practical and effective way cannot be overemphasized.

Human trafficking is complex, at times disguised in legitimate activities and majorly covert in its mode of operation. Hence its scale and magnitude in the country remains largely unknown to the public. This study therefore contributes to public awareness, knowledge and understanding of the nature of the crime in Kenya. This is important in that a well-informed public is the most important asset in as far as participating in and supporting local initiatives aimed at addressing challenges confronting local communities and the nation at large is concerned.

Every year, the U.S Department of State conducts assessment to establish the progress made by different governments in addressing human trafficking in their respective countries. Having been finalized in 2022, the study significantly contributes towards illuminating the latest state of affairs in Kenya in relation to the implementation of local and international counter-trafficking instruments.

Local and international practitioners, scholars and researchers of organized transnational crime stand to benefit from this study as it looks at the local as well as the international dimensions of the crime of human trafficking. For instance, regional and international countries contributing to Kenya's human trafficking problem have been mapped. Hence this study contributes to the filling of knowledge gaps within relevant academic circles and provokes the interest of researchers into conducting in-depth studies on the various aspects of human trafficking. The study also reinforces a compelling and rallying call for enhanced international collaboration and networking of practitioners, scholars and researchers in addressing global human trafficking.

### **1.5 Assumptions of the Study**

This study made the following assumptions.

- i. That respondents would be able to share relevant information and experiences on the subject despite human trafficking being a covert activity.
- ii. That human trafficking in Kenya manifests itself in types/forms not significantly different from the ones reported in other jurisdictions.
- iii. That there is a relationship between economic, socio-cultural, institutional factor and dysfunctional family vulnerabilities and human trafficking exploitation.
- iv. That human trafficking in Kenya is significantly influenced by regional and international socio-economic and political dynamics.

### **1.6 Scope of the Study**

Thematically, the study focused on the: prevalent, prominent and/or popular types/forms of human trafficking in the country; victims and perpetrators of human trafficking; factors contributing to and/or facilitating human trafficking; modes of operation of human trafficking; areas and countries and/or regions serving as sources, transit and destinations for victims of human trafficking; effects of human trafficking; intervention strategies and their performance ratings in addressing human trafficking in the country; and the challenges faced

and suggested possible solutions and recommendations for addressing human trafficking in the country.

The study was conducted in twenty-three (23) counties organized in seven (7) clusters and specific study areas which were selected using the non-probability sampling technique in general and purposive and availability sampling in particular guided by cases of human trafficking mentioned in earlier reports on the subject.

### **1.7 Conceptual Framework of the Study**

The problem of human trafficking in the country is real and serious if available statistics and reports on the subject are anything to go by. This vice is mainly perpetrated for labour-related (for instance, forced labour and domestic servitude), sex-related (for instance, commercial sex and/or prostitution) and religious and other cultural practice-related (for instance, forced marriage and human body organ/part extraction for ritualistic purposes) exploitation. These forms of exploitation form what theorists such as Kevin Bales call ‘modern slavery’ (Bales, 2005; 2009).

Based on the reviewed literature, it is clear that human trafficking in Kenya, as in other parts of the world, is a factor of various vulnerabilities functioning as contributing and/or facilitating factors. These vulnerability factors are consistent with the ‘vulnerability theory’ developed by Martha Fineman, and which argues that people should be understood as ‘vulnerable subjects’ whose capacity for autonomy may be lost when they are deprived of supportive relationships (Fouladvand and Ward, 2018).

Key among the factors linked to human trafficking is that of economic vulnerabilities, where poverty and unemployment have been identified as the main push factors. Individuals faced with livelihood challenges and who desire to free themselves from the bondage of poverty and/or unemployment in their localities have been lured and deceived by traffickers with promises of better economic opportunities locally and/or abroad. However, some end up being deprived of their payment and even subjected to poor working conditions or are forced to work as slaves. Some women and girls have been trafficked to be exploited for commercial sex by individuals and patrons especially in the sex, entertainment, tourism and hospitality industry in foreign countries such as Saudi Arabia, and in Kenya’s urban areas mainly in Nairobi, Mombasa, Kwale and Kilifi counties. Some girls are promised employment in towns as domestic workers but are later on introduced to commercial sex and/or prostitution in brothels, with very little pay for the services offered. Child trafficking has also been facilitated by close family members who are unable to provide for the children due vulnerabilities of poverty and/or unemployment.

The socio-cultural vulnerabilities contributing and/or facilitating human trafficking include: beliefs that some extracted body parts especially of persons (including children) with albinism have medicinal and/or witchcraft value; beliefs that sexual intercourse with young girls cures diseases such as HIV/AIDs; social acceptability of putting children to work;

ignorance, illiteracy or low education levels; preparations and need for marriage partners especially in situations of non-consensual marriage arrangements; and the desire for children and family heir in situations of infertility/barren couples.

Institutional factor vulnerabilities linked with facilitation of human trafficking include: counter-trafficking resource constraints within the relevant agencies leading to inadequate prevention, protection and prosecution services; corruption orchestrated by some rogue officials of counter-trafficking agencies; inadequate collaboration and partnerships among stakeholders involved in counter-trafficking efforts; un-coordinated counter-trafficking efforts; and weak counter-trafficking legal, policy (such as migration and victim protection and assistance policies) and administrative frameworks coupled with poor implementation of the frameworks leading to ineffective prevention, protection and prosecution services.

Situations of dysfunctional family vulnerabilities are potential facilitating factors of human trafficking. For instance, members of a family in which conflict, misbehaviour, and child neglect or abuse on the part of individual parents occur continuously and regularly are potential victims of human trafficking. Adults in unstable marriage relations (including separation and divorce) and children who escape from their homes due to strained family relations and conflicts are predisposed to conditions of trafficking. Alcohol and substance abuse, physical and/or mental illness of parents may also contribute to child trafficking.

It is important to note that the factors facilitating and/or contributing to human trafficking are largely interconnected. For instance, economic difficulties within the family can lead to its dysfunction and force some parents to allow their children for labour exploitation or domestic servitude, and their girls for non-consensual and/or early marriages. Illiteracy or low education levels may lead to unemployment and hence economic difficulties which in turn predispose one to risks of trafficking. Weaknesses, for instance, in child protection law enforcement by relevant institutions may, for example, be exploited by family members (in disguised trafficking situations) to marry off their girls to overcome economic challenges or 'sell' their children with albinism if they hold the cultural belief that such children are a bad omen.

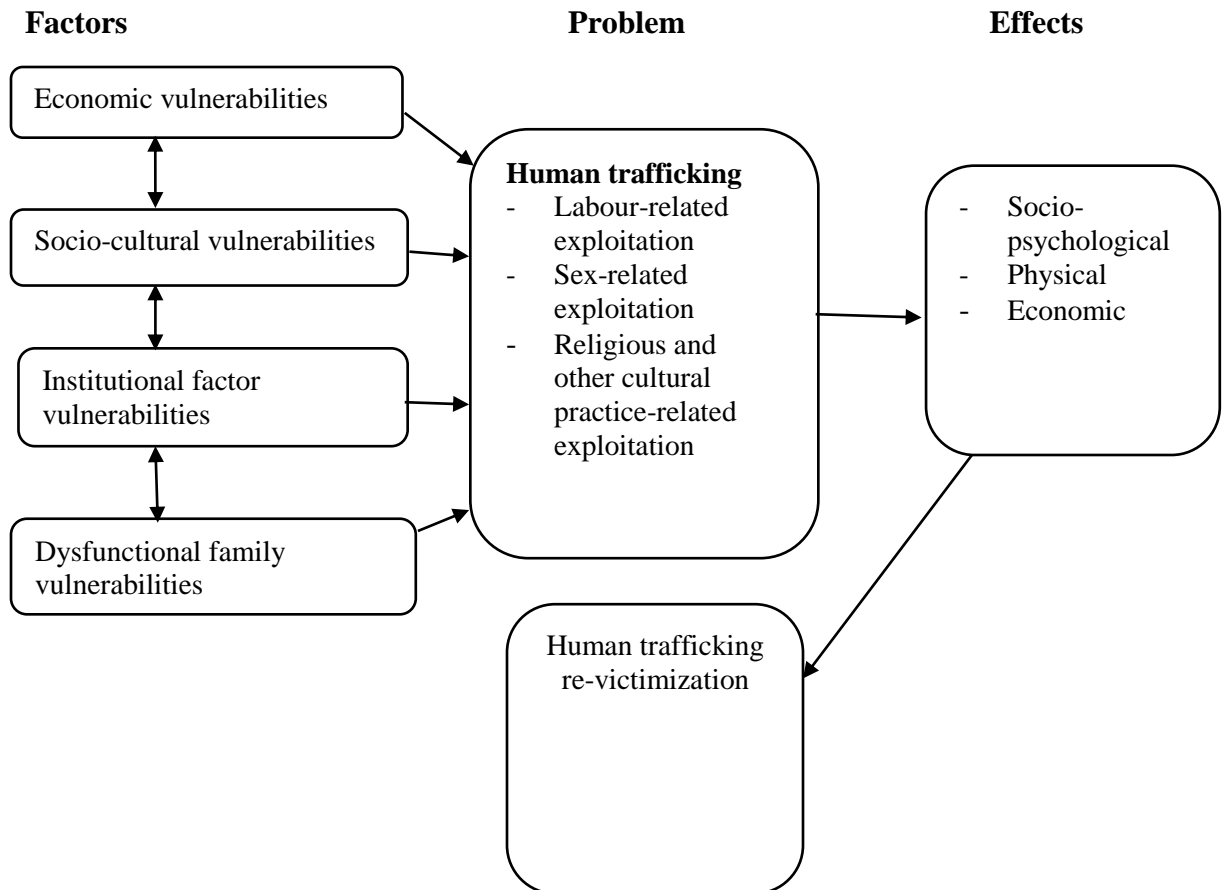
Human trafficking has far-reaching and majorly negative effects in society. The socio-psychological effects on victims and/or their family members include: post-traumatic stress disorder; depression; alienation; disorientation; aggression; difficulty concentrating; disturbed sleep; nightmares; regressive behaviour; psychosomatic illness; feelings of betrayal; strained family relations; low self-esteem; anxiety and suicidal thoughts; loss of human dignity; violation of human rights and freedoms; increased risk of insecurity and some crime types (such as terrorism and drug abuse and trafficking); and destabilization of the family leading to breakdown of marriages and families. The physical effects include: deaths; physical injuries; infections (including HIV infection); chronic ill health; lax rectal muscles and incontinence due to sodomy; unwanted pregnancies; and abortions. The economic effects of human trafficking include: economic exploitation; underdevelopment

resulting from brain and labour drain; strain on limited government resources used towards victim assistance and dealing with the crime; loss of incomes to victims; and increase in poverty levels. Some of these negative effects have been reported to contribute to re-trafficking of victims.

This study was conceptualized mainly along the ‘Modern Slavery’ theory and ‘Vulnerability theory’. Some of its areas of central focus were the types/forms of human trafficking exploitation, factors facilitating and/or contributing to and effects of human trafficking in Kenya. Hence addressing human trafficking in the country needs to prioritize interventions focused on these factors and effects.

Figure 1 below captures the conceptual framework used in the study. It addresses the factors facilitating and/or contributing to and effects of human trafficking.

**Figure 1: Conceptual framework of factors facilitating and/or contributing to and effects of human trafficking**





## **CHAPTER TWO: METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY**

### **2.1 Introduction**

This chapter presents the research design (that includes the sampling design, sample size and locations of the study), sources of data and methods of data collection, data collection and management procedures, methods of data analysis and ethical consideration applied in the study.

### **2.2 Research Design**

The study on the problem of human trafficking in Kenya employed the descriptive research study design which adopted both the qualitative and quantitative mode of inquiry.

The study utilized the non-probability sampling technique in general and purposive and availability sampling in particular. This technique was highly favoured as researchers needed a maximum degree of insight into the problem with comprehensive information from people deemed to be information-rich.

Availability sampling was used to select members of the public sample respondents because it was difficult to tell in advance the number of them who could be traced and interviewed, due to the covertness of the human trafficking activity. Agency officials sample respondents and key informants were also selected based on availability and purposive sampling because of their knowledge and experience on the subject matter of the study and the fact that their availability in their offices within the time allocated for the study was not guaranteed.

The study traced and interviewed: 734 members of the public sample respondents in their households in the study locations; 129 Agency officials sample respondents (in their offices) who were ordinary officers drawn from institutions that included the Directorate of Immigration Services, Kenya Prisons Service, National Police Service, Judiciary, Probation and Aftercare Services, Department of Children Services, National Government Administration Office (NGAO), Department of Refugees, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, National Registration Bureau, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, Employment Bureaus, Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs) and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs); and key informants. Key informants were majorly senior officials in some of the institutions of the Agency officials who were deemed to have pertinent information and/or interacting with the issues of human trafficking in the study sites.

The study was conducted in twenty-three (23) counties organized in seven (7) clusters and specific study areas as shown in Table 2.1 below.

**Table 2.1: Selected clusters where data was collected**

<b>Cluster No.</b>	<b>Clustered counties</b>	<b>Specific areas visited</b>
<b>1</b>	Kwale, Mombasa, Kilifi, Taita Taveta	Kwale town, Msambweni, Mombasa Town, Kisauni, Kilifi, Taveta
<b>2</b>	Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado, Makueni	Kamukunji/Eastleigh, Starehe, Westlands, Embakasi, Thika, Namanga, Oloitoktok, Mukaa, Kibwezi
<b>3</b>	Marsabit, Isiolo	Moyale, Isiolo
<b>4</b>	Mandera, Garissa, Kitui	Mandera East, Garissa, Mwingi Central
<b>5</b>	Turkana, Trans Nzoia, Uasin Gishu, Nandi, Nakuru	Lodwar, Turkana West/Kakuma, Kitale, Kwanza, Eldoret South, Nandi East/Kapsabet and Naivasha
<b>6</b>	Migori, Narok, Kisumu	Kuria West/Manga, Trans Mara West, Kisumu West, Kisumu East
<b>7</b>	Busia and Bungoma	Busia Town, Teso North, Mt. Elgon, Malaba, Bungoma West, Cheptais

Study sites (clusters and regions in the clusters) were selected purposively mainly because most of the areas had featured in earlier reports of human trafficking and some are border points which are real and potential entry and/or exit points for external human trafficking. The clusters had both state and non-state organizations interacting with human trafficking issues.

The first cluster (comprising Kwale, Kilifi, Mombasa and Taita Taveta Counties) was selected for purposes of capturing human trafficking happenings in the transit routes, exit and entry points between the lower coastal region of Kenya and lower parts of Tanzania. The sites also connect Kenya to southern regions of Africa. Mombasa has many tourist zones which have been reported to experience incidents of trafficking in children for sex. Traffickers also use the Indian Ocean waters to transport their victims to countries of destination.

The second cluster (comprising Kiambu, Nairobi, Kajiado and Makueni Counties) experiences trafficking of persons especially from the war-torn Somalia. The cluster provides a transit route/corridor for migrant population from Somalia intending to settle in Nairobi (in areas such as Eastleigh) or crossing to Tanzania in their destination to South African countries. Tanzanians were indicated to be crossing into Kenya through Rombo and Namanga areas and Loitoktok border points. Dadaab Refugee Camp in Garissa County is home to thousands of Somali refugees and officials of organizations such as the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) and International Organization for Migration (IOM) could be traced in this cluster as well.

The third cluster (comprising Marsabit and Isiolo Counties) has porous borders in Moyale and persons are trafficked from Somalia, Ethiopia and Eritrea into Kenya using the transit corridor linking Moyale, Isiolo and Nairobi.

The fourth cluster (comprising Mandera, Garissa and Kitui Counties) is the main human trafficking transit corridor from Somalia to Kenya. Human trafficking through this cluster region takes advantage of the insecurity situation witnessed in these areas preying on the instability in Somalia. In this cluster, there are immigration officials and public security agents.

The study sites in the fifth cluster (comprising Turkana, Trans Nzoia, Uasin Gishu, Nandi, and Nakuru Counties) are entry routes for persons crossing the border from both Ethiopia and Southern Sudan to Kenya due to conflicts witnessed in the two countries. Kakuma area of Turkana County hosts the Kakuma Refugee Camp which is home to thousands of refugees from Ethiopia, Sudan and Southern Sudan. Kitale (in Trans Nzoia County), Eldoret (in Uasin Gishu County), Kapsabet (in Nandi) and Naivasha (in Nakuru County) are situated along the Northern transit corridor from Turkana. Cases of child trafficking in Naivasha town and the flower firms in the area have been reported.

The sixth cluster is that of Migori, Narok and Kisumu Counties and has border points between Kenya and the upper parts of Tanzania, and lower parts of Uganda. People are trafficked through Kilgoris in Narok County, Isebania in Migori County. Those entering through Mbita border points and the Mfangano Island in Homa Bay County must go through Migori or Kisumu Counties. Some people trafficked from and to Tanzania and Uganda transit through Kisumu.

The seventh cluster (comprising Busia and Bungoma Counties) is an entry point between Kenya and Uganda.

## **2.3 Sources of Data and Methods of Data Collection**

### **2.3.1 Sources of data**

Both primary and secondary sources of data were utilized. Primary data was collected from the sample respondents and key informants. Secondary data was collected from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Intelligence Service, the Directorate of Immigration Services and the Kenya Prisons Service. Literature review materials included private and public authoritative and topical statistical records, documents, books, newsletters, newspapers, magazines and journals on human trafficking.

### **2.3.2 Data collection methods**

Both quantitative and qualitative methodologies were used to obtain the required data from the sources. Primary data was collected from: the members of the public respondents using interview schedules containing both closed and open-ended questions in face to face interviews after rapport had been established between a researcher and the respondent;

Agency officials using a self-administered questionnaire containing both closed and open-ended questions; and key informants using a majorly open-ended key informant guide. The face to face interviews were conducted by trained Researchers in English and/or Kiswahili languages depending on the preferred language of the member of the public respondent. Secondary data was collected by way of reading, analyzing, collating and recording data contained in readily prepared materials in the statistical records, documents, books, newsletters, newspapers, magazines and journals on human trafficking.

To ensure validity, reliability and comparability of the responses, sample respondents were asked the same questions in their respective tools. This ensured collection of meaningful, quality, accurate, consistent and comparable information in consonance with the research questions. Content validity of the instruments was established to ensure they reflected thematic concerns of the study. A pre-test was done to eliminate any ambiguity and ensure sequential flow of the questions in the research instruments. The research instruments were revised to ensure that procedural challenges and vagueness were corrected.

## **2.4 Data Collection and Management Procedures**

The National Crime Research Centre (NCRC) worked closely with a number of institutions in realizing the objectives of the study. This was particularly in obtaining authority to conduct the study and consent of institutions to allow their staff to participate in the interviews. The collection of data began with the formulation of draft data collection tools. Researchers and Research Supervisors were then identified and trained on basic research methods, ethics in research and administration of draft data collection tools. A one-day pre-test of the draft tools was conducted in selected Sub-counties of Nairobi County which were not to be covered during the actual field work. The draft research tools were used for purposes of identifying any bias and ambiguities. This enabled the Head of Research at the Centre to re-design the tools prior to the actual field work.

The second phase in data collection process involved: preparation of the final data collection tools; final orientation of the researchers; organizing and assigning the Researchers and Research Supervisors into teams and clusters; establishing routing schedules for the field work; and final facilitation of the research teams with funds, sufficient copies of the final data collection tools and letters of authority to collect data.

The third phase was the actual data collection from the seven clusters. Research Supervisors were guided to first pay courtesy calls to the County and/or Deputy County Commissioners of the respective study areas in the clusters as assigned. Interviews with the Agency officials and key informants were arranged at their convenience while members of the public were reached in their households. At the interview points, the Researchers and Research Supervisors introduced themselves and the purpose of the study, and each respondent were assured of confidentiality.

The final phase of the study involved data organization, analysis, interpretation and report writing. All data collected from the field were organized, cleaned, coded and analyzed at NCRC offices, Nairobi. A report was compiled and subjected to the necessary approvals.

## **2.5 Methods of Data Analysis**

Quantitative data was analyzed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) and Microsoft office excel and presented in tables and figures while qualitative data was analyzed and interpreted through content analysis. Quantitative and qualitative data was triangulated and all information presented thematically guided by the specific research objectives.

## **2.6 Ethical Consideration**

This study observed the following ethical considerations throughout the research process.

- i. Authority to collect data was sought from the relevant institutions before commencement of interviews.
- ii. Researchers clearly explained research objectives of the study, and tasks to all study participants.
- iii. Respect to all participants' dignity and abilities was observed throughout the research.
- iv. Respondent's confidentiality of information and identity and the right of privacy and to say no to participation in the research were observed as per the Centre's Research Code of Ethics.
- v. Researchers did respect and appreciate the cultural diversity of all respondents.

## **CHAPTER THREE: RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS**

### **3.1 Introduction**

This chapter presents the results and discussion of the findings. It first outlines the socio-demographic characteristics of members of the public sample respondents and then discusses all the other findings thematically guided by the specific objectives of the study. The results are presented by use of tables and figures.

### **3.2 Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Members of the Public Sample Respondents**

A total of 734 members of the public were interviewed, of which 54.8% were males and 45.2% were females. Over 54.0% of the respondents were aged between 26 and 41 years while 45.3% were between 18 and 33 years. The sample had a fair representation of different age categories cognizant of Kenyan population and spread by age and gender. The gender divide across different age categories was more or less similar.

The proportion of the members of the public who indicated that they were married was the highest (59.7%) compared to the other marital status categories combined. Cumulatively, over 57.0% reported that they had completed secondary and middle level college levels of education. Nearly in all the various education levels attained, the proportion of male respondents was higher compared to that of the female respondents. However, female respondents comprised the minority in middle level college and university education and the majority among the proportion with adult literacy, secondary education, primary education, pre-primary education or those with no education at all.

The members of the public were more or less proportionate to the religious demographics in the country. Christians were 77.1%, Muslims were 20.6% while the rest (2.3%) were affiliated to the traditional and other religious groupings.

The members of the public sample predominantly comprised of Kenyans (98.2%). The 13 non-Kenyans (1.8%) were nationals from Tanzania (5), Uganda (4), Somalia (2), Ethiopia (1) and South Sudan (1).

Most of the members of the public sample respondents (35.6%) were involved in business and/or farming while 19.8% were engaged in casual/temporary employment. The least number of members of the public respondents were in permanent employment in the private sector (9.5%). All the socio-demographic characteristics of members of the public sample respondents are captured in Table 3.1 below.

**Table 3.1: Socio-demographic characteristics of members of the public sample respondents**

<b>Variable</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Males</b>	<b>Females</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Age</b>	18-25	68(16.9%)	61(18.4%)	129(17.5%)
	26-33	115(28.6%)	89(26.8%)	204(27.8%)
	34-41	102(25.4%)	96(28.9%)	198(27.0%)
	42-49	59(14.7%)	49(14.8%)	108(14.7%)
	50-57	34(8.5%)	29(8.7%)	63(8.6%)
	58-65	9(2.2%)	5(1.5%)	14(1.9%)
	66 and above	15(3.7%)	3(0.9%)	18(2.5%)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>402(100.0%)</b>	<b>332(100.0%)</b>	<b>734(100.0%)</b>
<b>Marital Status</b>	Single/Never married	131(32.6%)	117(35.2%)	248(33.8%)
	Married	257(63.9%)	181(54.5%)	438(59.7%)
	separated	6(1.5%)	13(3.9%)	19(2.6%)
	Divorced	7(1.7%)	3(0.9%)	10(1.4%)
	widowed	1(.2%)	17(5.1%)	18(2.5%)
	Not stated	0(0.0%)	1(0.3%)	1(0.1%)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>402(100.0%)</b>	<b>332(100.0%)</b>	<b>734(100.0%)</b>
<b>Highest Level of Education</b>	None	11(2.7%)	15(4.5%)	26(3.5%)
	Pre-primary	4(1.0%)	8(2.4%)	12(1.6%)
	Primary	81(20.1%)	73(22.0%)	154(21.0%)
	Secondary	132(32.8%)	112(33.7%)	244(33.2%)
	Middle Level College	100(24.9%)	77(23.2%)	177(24.1%)
	University	73(18.2%)	42(12.7%)	115(15.7%)
	Adult Literacy	1(0.2%)	5(1.5%)	6(0.8%)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>402(100.0%)</b>	<b>332(100.0%)</b>	<b>734(100.0%)</b>
<b>Religion</b>	Traditional	6(1.5%)	3(0.9%)	9(1.2%)
	Christian	303(75.4%)	263(79.2%)	566(77.1%)
	Islam	90(22.4%)	61(18.4%)	151(20.6%)
	Other	3(0.7%)	5(1.5%)	8(1.1%)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>402(100.0%)</b>	<b>332(100.0%)</b>	<b>734(100.0%)</b>
<b>Nationality</b>	Kenyan	395(98.3%)	326(98.2%)	721(98.2%)
	Non-Kenyan	7(1.7%)	6(1.8%)	13(1.8%)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>402(100.0%)</b>	<b>332(100.0%)</b>	<b>734(100.0%)</b>
<b>Occupation</b>	Permanent employment-private sector	46(11.4%)	24(7.2%)	70(9.5%)
	Permanent employment- public sector	90(22.4%)	50(15.1%)	140(19.1%)
	Casual/ temporary employment	86(21.4%)	59(17.8%)	145(19.8%)
	Business and/or farming	128(31.8%)	133(40.1%)	261(35.6%)
	Other ( <i>including House wife, student/pupil, unemployed, retiree, volunteer, intern</i> )	52(12.9%)	66(19.9%)	118(16.1%)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>402(100.0%)</b>	<b>332(100.0%)</b>	<b>734(100.0%)</b>

### 3.3 Prevalent, Prominent and/or Popular Types/Forms of Human Trafficking

#### 3.3.1 Understanding of human trafficking

The study sought to know the understanding of the members of the public about human trafficking. From the definitions provided in Table 3.2 below, majority (86.5%) of them demonstrated a basic understanding on what human trafficking entailed.

**Table 3.2: Members of the public's understanding on human trafficking**

Responses on what human trafficking is	Responses (in percentage) from members of the public
Illegal business of transporting people to other countries without proper documents	31.8
Movement of persons from one area to another for slavery	27.9
The selling of persons for cultural reasons, child labour and prostitution	15.0
Recruiting, abduction of persons and subjecting them to exploitation	9.6
Taking away of people either voluntary or involuntary with false promises and ends up being exploited	7.2
The stealing/trade of people for cheap labour, sexual exploitation and cultural purposes	6.5
It is an organized crime where people are abducted and taken to other countries or different localities from which they live	2.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>

The U.S Department of State (2016) has shown that the quality and frequency of reporting by international media has helped raise awareness of trafficking for forced labour (in some risk-prone sectors) among governments, businesses and consumers. Raising public awareness on the problem of human trafficking by all governments of the world continues to be a prioritized recommendation by the U.S Department of State (U.S Department of State, 2022).

#### 3.3.2 Ever hearing and/or knowledge of trafficked persons

Members of the public sample respondents were asked if they had ever heard and or/knew of persons trafficked in Kenya. Nearly all of these respondents (96.0%) indicated ever hearing of persons trafficked in Kenya.

Human trafficking was also looked at in terms of whether it was internal (within Kenyan borders) or external (outside Kenyan borders). Between 26.4% and 40.2% of the members of the public pointed out that they had heard of persons trafficked within Kenyan borders. On the cases of externally trafficked persons, this was reported by 83.9% of the members of the public respondents.



In addition, the members of the public respondents' knowledge of persons ever trafficked was probed. Nearly a third (31.7%) of them confirmed that they knew of a person(s) who had ever been trafficked.

A summary of the affirmative/yes responses of members of the public on ever hearing and/or knowing of trafficked persons are shown in Table 3.3 below.

**Table 3.3: Affirmative/yes responses of members of the public on ever hearing and/or knowing of trafficked persons**

Aspect of human trafficking	Members of the public affirmative/yes responses in percentage on ever hearing of persons ever trafficked	Members of the public affirmative/yes responses in percentage on knowledge of persons ever trafficked
Ever heard and/or known of persons ever trafficked in Kenya?	96.0	31.7
Ever heard and/or known of persons ever trafficked from Kenya to other countries?	83.9	25.6
Ever heard and/or known of persons ever trafficked from other countries to Kenya?	48.9	15.0
Ever heard and/or known of persons ever trafficked on transit through Kenya?	42.4	10.4
Ever heard and/or known of persons ever trafficked from your county to another county within Kenya?	40.2	12.5
Ever heard and/or known of persons ever trafficked within areas in your county in Kenya?	38.7	14.9
Ever heard and/or known of persons ever trafficked from another county within Kenya to your county?	26.4	7.5

A number of key informants confirmed that they had heard and/or experienced and/or witnessed incidents of human trafficking in their localities and/or their counties in general in the last 2 years (that is, between 2019 and 2021). For instance, a senior Police Officer in Moyale Sub-County in Marsabit County had this to say:

*“We have arrested Ethiopians being trafficked to South Africa. Eritreans looking for greener pastures enter Ethiopia and are also trafficked to other countries with Moyale being an entry point and Kenya being an exit route. Uganda is a central holding place where they are connected to other places of the world”*

A senior National Government Administration Officer in Migori County observed that:

*“We have handled trafficking cases in this locality in the last two years. These include incidents of young women being trafficked to the Middle East countries”*

A Children’s Officer in Isiolo County said:

*“I know of a child trafficking case which happened at Archers Post”*

A Senior Immigration Officer in Isiolo County had the following to say:

*“Yes, I have witnessed cases where Ethiopians and Eritreans were being trafficked using lorries via Isiolo route. In this locality, Ethiopians and Eritreans have been arrested severally on their way to other countries. Isiolo route is a transit route thus such cases are commonly reported to our offices.”*

A Resident Magistrate in Taveta Sub-county of Taita Taveta County who had interacted with cases of trafficking in persons had this to say:

*“Sometimes in 2019, there was quite a number of trafficking cases and especially Ethiopians who used to come to court and plead guilty. Since last year, I have handled one case of human trafficking. Getting to know much more about them is difficult. I haven’t come across other cases other than the Ethiopians”*

A senior Police Officer in one of the Police Divisions in Makueni County had this to report:

*“Yes, we have encountered human trafficking in this locality and county in the last two (2) years. We have had cases of victims of external trafficking who included 25 men, 27 women and 7 children.*

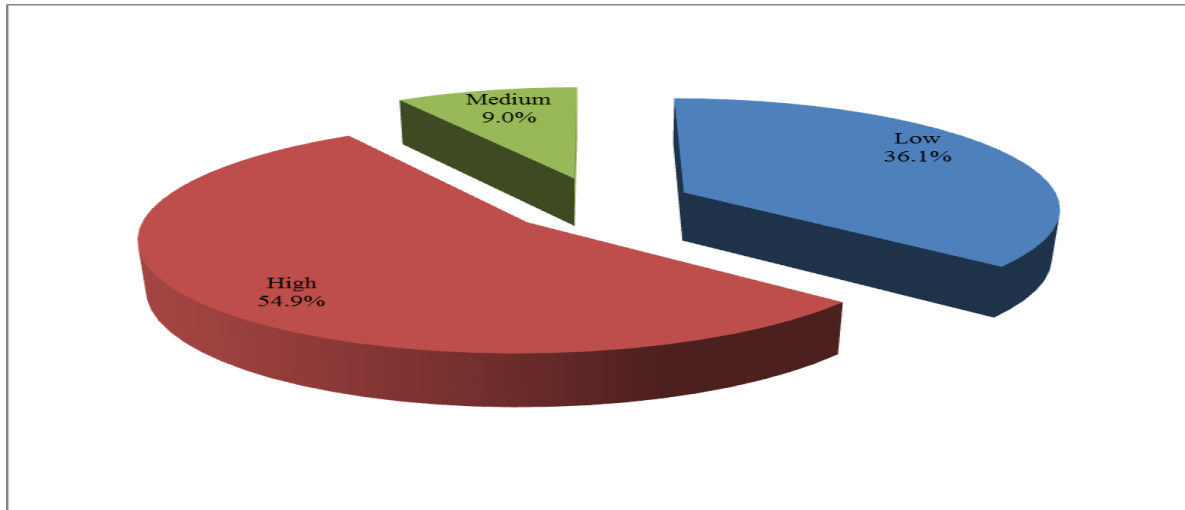
The information from sample respondents and key informants illustrates a growing sense of awareness and knowledge on human trafficking, particularly trafficking of persons from other countries into Kenya and on transit to other countries.

### **3.3.3 Prevalent, prominent and/or popular types/forms of human trafficking**

#### **3.3.3.1 Rating of levels of human trafficking in Kenya**

The findings of the study showed that there are variations in the prevalence levels of human trafficking. Over half (54.9%) of the members of the public sample respondents indicated that human trafficking was high, whereas 9.0% others said it was on medium scale. As

indicated in Figure 2 below, only 36.1% were of the opinion that human trafficking in Kenya was low.



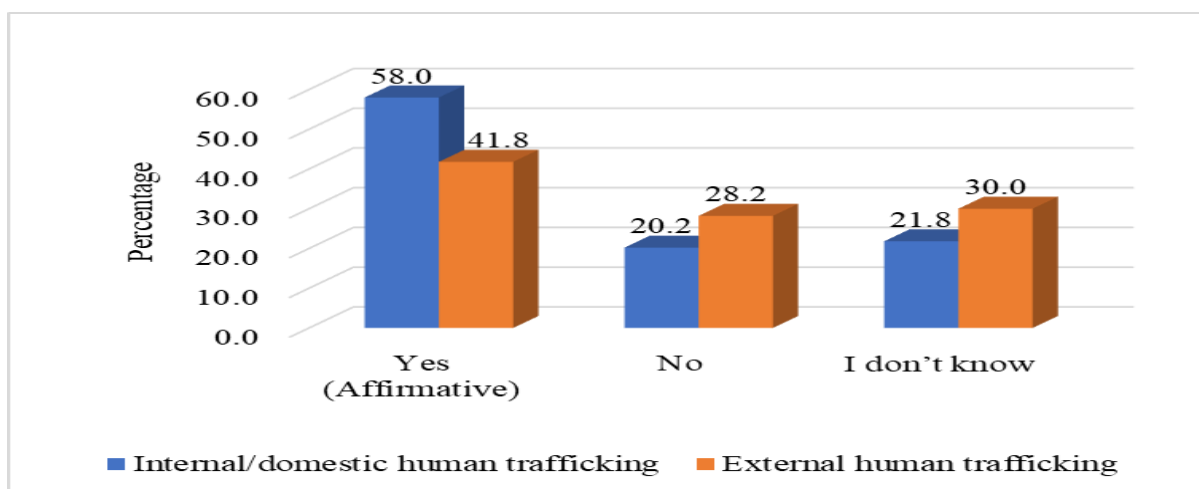
**Figure 2: Perceived levels of trafficking of persons in Kenya as reported by members of the public**

### 3.3.3.2 Most prevalent, prominent and/or popular types/forms of human trafficking

Prevalence, prominence and/or popularity of human trafficking was gauged based on three aspects of: internal/domestic and external human trafficking; comparison based on destination, source and transit aspects; and the demographic characteristics of victims and main purposes of trafficking.

#### 3.3.3.2.1 Occurrence, prevalence, prominence and/or popularity of internal/domestic and external human trafficking

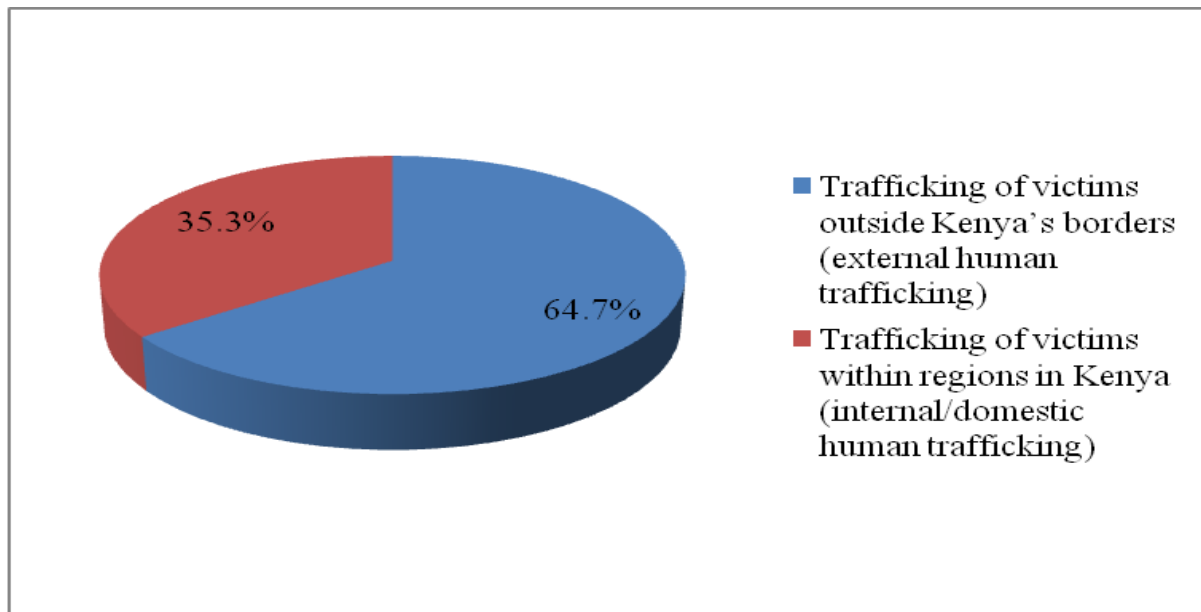
As shown in Figure 3 below, most members of the public were of the view that domestic human trafficking (58.0%) and external human trafficking (41.8%) were occurring in Kenya.



**Figure 3: Perceptions of members of the public about occurrence of internal/domestic and external human trafficking**

The above findings on occurrence of internal/domestic and external human trafficking are consistent with the other findings of the study which showed that majority (96.0%) of the members of the public had heard of persons being trafficked, irrespective of whether it was internally or externally.

Despite most members of the public perceiving internal/domestic human trafficking (as opposed to external human trafficking) as occurring in the country, the findings presented in Figure 4 below showed that the most prominent and/or popular was external human trafficking (64.7%).

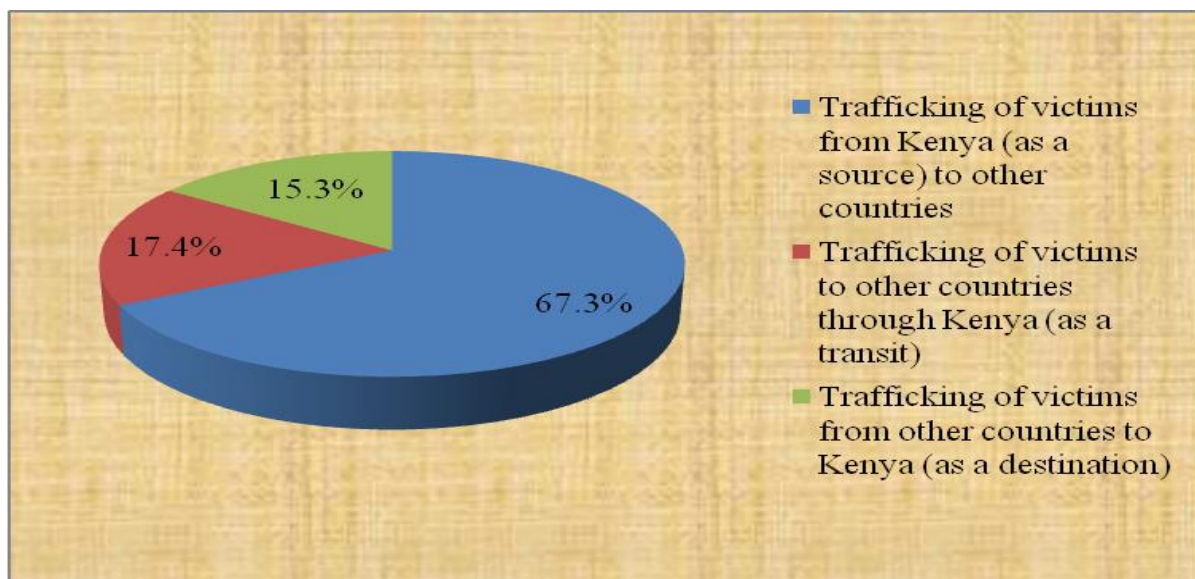


**Figure 4: Perceptions of members of the public on the most prominent and/or popular between internal /domestic and external human trafficking**

External human trafficking was more prominent and/or popular than internal/domestic human trafficking probably because the latter (and its negative effects) has not been highlighted as much as the former or has been rationalized as a day-to-day normal occurrence.

#### **3.3.3.2.2 Perceptions on prominence and/or popularity of destination, source and transit aspects of human trafficking**

The study went further to ask members of the public of their perceptions on the most prominent and/or popular between destination, source and transit human trafficking. As indicated in Figure 5 below, trafficking of victims from Kenya (as a source) to other countries was rated as the most prominent and/or popular at 67.3%, followed by trafficking of victims to other countries through Kenya as a transit (17.4%) and trafficking of victims from other countries to Kenya as a destination (15.3%).



**Figure 5: Perceptions of members of the public on the most prominent and/or popular between destination, source and transit human trafficking**

The finding that trafficking of victims from Kenya (as a source) to other countries was the most prominent and/or popular was consistent with other findings which indicated that external human trafficking was more prominent and/or popular (64.7%) than internal/domestic human trafficking (35.3%).

### **3.3.3.2.3 Prevalence based on the main purposes of trafficking and demographic characteristics of victims**

Members of the public and Agency officials were asked to indicate for what purposes persons were trafficked in both internal/domestic and external human trafficking. The main purposes for trafficking persons in domestic human trafficking which were reported by at least 1 out of 10 of either of the members of the public and/or Agency officials were: for labour exploitation (reported by 77.4% of the members of the public and 65.4% of the Agency officials); for economic and/or financial/monetary gains (reported by 15.0% of the Agency officials and 11.6% of the members of the public); and for sexual exploitation and/or prostitution (reported by 13.1% of the Agency officials). Trafficking of persons externally was also majorly: for labour (reported by 75.6% of the members of the public and 66.7% of the Agency officials); economic and/or financial/monetary gains (reported by 11.7% of the Agency officials and 11.3% of the members of the public); and for sexual exploitation and/or prostitution (reported by 11.7% of the Agency officials). These findings are presented in Table 3.4 below.

**Table 3.4: Main purposes for trafficking of persons**

Main purposes for trafficking of persons	Responses in percentage			
	Internal/domestic human trafficking		External human trafficking	
	Members of the public	Agency officials	Members of the public	Agency officials
Labour exploitation	77.4	65.4	75.6	66.7
Economic and/or financial/monetary gains	11.6	15.0	11.3	11.7
Sexual exploitation and/or prostitution	6.4	13.1	7.7	11.7
Religious and other cultural purposes (including rituals, marriages and for body parts' extraction)	3.3	6.5	4.2	2.7
Child adoption purposes	1.1	-	0.8	-
Militia and/or terrorism purposes	0.2	-	0.5	1.8
Drug trafficking	-	-	-	5.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.1</b>	<b>100.0</b>

The members of public were also asked a question on whether or not they knew of different types/forms of human trafficking in Kenya (based on the main purposes for trafficking of persons). The study found that majority (84.9%) of them knew while the rest did not know. As shown in Figure 6 below, the mainly known types/forms of human trafficking in Kenya were trafficking for labour (83.5%) and trafficking for sex-related and/or prostitution purposes (12.4%).

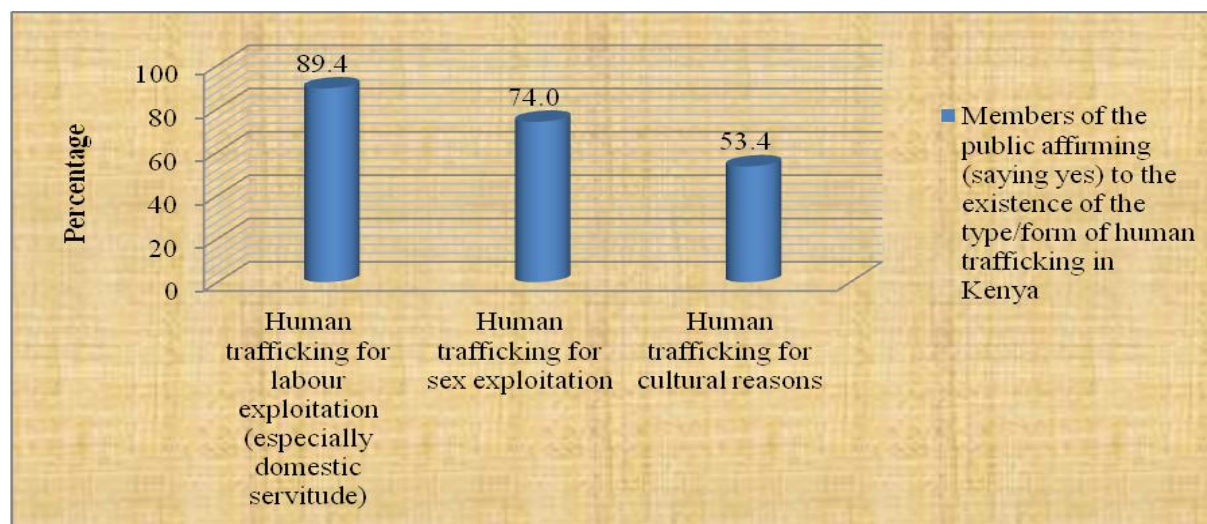
**Figure 6: Mainly known types/forms of human trafficking in Kenya based on the main purposes for trafficking**



Further probing by way of a direct question to the members of the public on whether or not the three main aspects of human trafficking were found in Kenya confirmed that, in deed there was trafficking for labour exploitation/domestic servitude (89.4%), trafficking for sex exploitation (74.0%) and trafficking for cultural reasons (53.4%) in the country. These findings are presented in Table 3.5 and Figure 7 below.

**Table 3.5: Responses on existence in Kenya of human trafficking for labour exploitation especially domestic servitude, for sex exploitation and for cultural reasons**

Types/forms of human trafficking	Perception responses (in percentage) of members of the public on existence of human trafficking for labour exploitation especially domestic servitude, for sex exploitation and for cultural reasons are found in Kenya		
	Yes (Affirmative)	No	I don't know
Human trafficking for labour exploitation (especially domestic servitude)	89.4	3.3	7.4
Human trafficking for sex exploitation	74.0	5.9	20.2
Human trafficking for cultural reasons	53.4	12.8	33.8



**Figure 7: Members of the public affirming (saying yes) to the existence of the type/form of human trafficking in Kenya**

Key informants in the study also highlighted the types/forms of human trafficking in their localities and/or counties. For instance, a senior Immigration Officer based at the Horohoro border point in Kwale County observed that:

*“This area experiences labour and sex trafficking. Labour/domestic servant exploitation is reported to be the most prevalent and is most common for females going to the Middle East region”*

A senior Police Officer in Lunga Lunga area of Kwale County added his voice and opined that:

*“Kwale experiences domestic labour trafficking and it is the most prevalent form of trafficking. Males are the main victims in this form of trafficking”*

In Turbo area of Uasin Gishu County, an Immigration Officer observed that:

*“Labour trafficking is the most common in this locality. I however understand that cases of sex trafficking, and to a small extent, organ harvesting, have been reported in this county”*

The above findings are consistent with reports by HAART Kenya (an organization dedicated to ending all forms of human trafficking in Kenya and East Africa) that indicate that the most common forms of human trafficking in the country are trafficking for forced labour and sexual exploitation (Njeru, 2022).

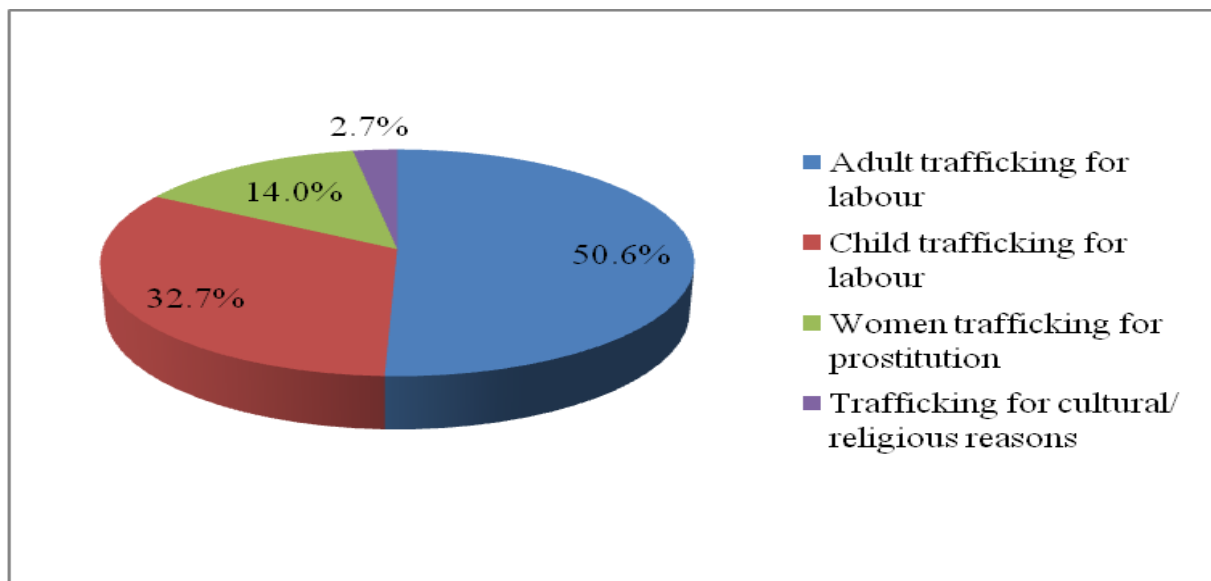
The study further probed the members of the public on the specific explanations and or/examples for human trafficking in Kenya with respect to the above three types/forms. With regard to trafficking of persons for labour exploitation/domestic servitude, some respondents quoted cases of: individuals who are usually promised employment opportunities only to end up being sexually abused, deprived of their payment and even subjected to poor working conditions; young ladies who are taken to Saudi Arabia and forced to work as slaves; trafficked children working as domestic workers who are beaten when they ask for payment from their employer; individuals who would get employed as domestic servants only but end up as prisoners with no pay and freedom; trafficked victims who are subjected to work are made to work for long hours; some trafficked girls who are used to provide cheap labour in towns and cities; and children from remote areas who are brought to town or cities and forced to work as domestic servants with no payment for the services offered.

The explanations for trafficking of persons for sexual exploitation included: both male and female are trafficked for sex exploitation where young boys are usually more affected than the older men; there are also cases of girls who are usually promised non-existent jobs and in the process, they are trafficked only to be forced to engage in sex with dogs; there are cases of underage girls who are trafficked to go and entertain customers in clubs and bars and in the process, end up being abused as sex slaves; girls are promised to work in towns as domestic workers but after some time, they are introduced to prostitution with very little pay for the services offered, only to end up in brothels as sex workers; and girls from rural areas are also promised jobs in the hotel industry in Mombasa but they end up being sexually exploited by the hotel owners and clients.



With regard to human trafficking for cultural reasons, the explanations given by members of the public included: body parts of albinos are believed to have medical value, with cases of albinos and children, especially young girls, who are trafficked to Tanzania and killed with some body parts removed for use in witchcraft; a person is promised good pay but is eventually 'sold' to perpetrators who extract/remove his/her body parts.

According to members of the public, based on the demographic characteristics of victims and main purposes of trafficking, trafficking for labour rated at 83.3% (that is, adult trafficking for labour (50.6%) and child trafficking for labour (32.7%)) was the most prevalent specific type/form of human trafficking in the country, followed by sex trafficking (that is, women trafficking for prostitution) which recorded 14.0%. As shown in Figure 8 below, the least prevalent was trafficking for cultural/religious reasons (2.7%).



**Figure 8: Most prevalent specific types/forms of human trafficking based on the main purposes for trafficking and demographic characteristics of victims as reported by members of the public**

Agency officials had a slightly different categorization and according to them, the most prevalent type/form of human trafficking in the country was trafficking for labour (52.5%), followed by child trafficking (23.8%) and women trafficking for sex (22.8%). The least prevalent type/form of human trafficking in the country was trafficking for cultural/religious reasons (1.0%).

The findings from members of the public that labour trafficking (83.3%) and sex trafficking (14.0%) were the most prevalent specific types/forms of human trafficking (based on the main purposes for trafficking) were similar to the earlier findings which showed that trafficking for labour (83.5%) and trafficking for sex-related and/or prostitution purposes (12.4%) were the mainly known types/forms of human trafficking in the country. According to NCRC (2015), human trafficking is mainly for purposes of labour exploitation (that is,

55.5% for domestic and 53.9% for external labour trafficking exploitation) and sexual exploitation (that is, 21.8% for domestic and 26.8% for external sexual exploitation).

The primary findings on prevalence of the types/forms of human trafficking based demographic characteristics of victims and main purposes of trafficking was consistent with secondary data obtained from three public institutions. Using the total number of human trafficking cases recorded in year 2020 as the base, there has been an **82.4% increase** of human trafficking cases in year 2021. The number of cases of labour trafficking **increased by 86.6%** between year 2020 and 2021. However, cases of sex trafficking appeared to have dropped between year 2018 and year 2021. These findings are captured in Table 3.6 below.

**Table 3.6: Total number of cases recorded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Intelligence Service and the Kenya Prisons Service between January, 2018 and December, 2021**

Type/form of human trafficking	Number of cases of human trafficking recorded between January and December, 2021 and their percentage	Number of cases of human trafficking recorded between January and December, 2020 and their percentage	Number of cases of human trafficking recorded between January and December, 2019 and their percentage	Number of cases of human trafficking recorded between January and December, 2018 and their percentage
Labour trafficking (especially domestic servitude)	2,036 (98.3%)	1,091 (96.0%)	87 (64.0%)	77 (38.9%)
Sex trafficking	29 (1.4%)	41 (3.6%)	48 (35.3%)	112 (56.6%)
Child trafficking	-	1 (0.1%)	-	-
Trafficking for socio-cultural (including religious and matrimonial) purposes	7 (0.3%)	3 (0.3%)	1 (0.7%)	9 (4.5%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,072 (100.0%)</b>	<b>1,136 (100.0%)</b>	<b>136 (100.0%)</b>	<b>198 (100.0%)</b>

Source: Kenya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2022, January 18), the National Intelligence Service and the Kenya Prisons Service (2021, December 3) (N.B: The data may be overlapping across the three public institutions and is therefore not conclusive).

The statistics in the Table above: indicate that labour trafficking in the country is on an upward trajectory and this trend is likely to persist if effective remedial interventions are not put in place; and are consistent with other findings of the study which indicate that trafficking for labour is the most prevalent type/form of human trafficking (accounting for 96.0% and 98.3% of all the human trafficking cases in year 2020 and 2021 respectively), followed by sex trafficking.

Labour trafficking is a pointer that economic vulnerability is a factor predisposing victims to trafficking. Sex trafficking is a pointer to the socio-psychological and moral degrading conditions and treatments the victims are subjected to by the perpetrators.

### **3.4 Victims and Perpetrators of Human Trafficking**

This study sought to establish who the victims and perpetrators of human trafficking in Kenya were and their socio-economic characteristics.

#### **3.4.1 Victims of human trafficking**

##### **3.4.1.1 Categories of victims of human trafficking**

Findings of the study showed that 40.3% of the Agency officials knew of cases of victims of domestic human trafficking in their localities while 44.2% knew of cases of victims of external human trafficking in their localities.

Findings reported by at least 1 out of 10 of either of the members of the public and/or Agency officials showed that the main categories of victims of internal/domestic human trafficking were those of: children (reported by 63.2% of the Agency officials and 29.9% of the members of the public); women (reported by 40.0% of the members of the public and 19.6% of the Agency officials); and youth (reported by 15.5% of the members of the public and 12.0% of the Agency officials). The main categories of victims of external human trafficking reported by at least 1 out of 10 of either of the members of the public and/or Agency officials were those of: women (reported by 40.4% of the members of the public and 30.8% of the Agency officials); youth (reported by 21.7% of the Agency officials and 19.6% of the members of the public); men (reported by 20.8% of the Agency officials and 14.4% of the members of the public); children (reported by 19.3% of the Agency officials and 15.2% of the members of the public); and the physically challenged persons including albinos (reported by 9.9% of the members of the public). The detailed findings are presented in Table 3.7 below.

**Table 3.7: Categories of victims of human trafficking**

General categories of victims of human trafficking	Responses in percentage			
	Internal/domestic human trafficking		External human trafficking	
	Agency officials	Members of the public	Agency officials	Members of the public
Children	63.2	29.9	19.3	15.2
Women	19.6	40.0	30.8	40.4
Youth	12.0	15.5	21.7	19.6
Economically unstable (including job seekers) and/or poor people	3.5	0.5	7.5	0.5
Physically challenged persons (including albinos)	0.9	7.5	-	9.9
Men	0.8	6.4	20.8	14.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>99.8</b>	<b>100.1</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Adults were found to be the most trafficked and they accounted for 55.7% in internal/domestic human trafficking (that is, 40.0% women, 12.9% youth and 2.8% men), 84.8% in trafficking from Kenya to other countries (that is, 62.2% women, 14.1% men and 8.5% youth) and at least 93.2% (that is, 43.5% men, 36.7% women and 13.0% youth) in trafficking from other countries to Kenya. Women were the most trafficked in internal/domestic human trafficking (40.0%) and trafficking from Kenya to other countries (62.2%) while men (43.5%) were the most trafficked in trafficking from other countries to Kenya. These findings are captured in Table 3.8 below.

**Table 3.8: Category of victims most trafficked as reported by members of the public**

General category of victims most trafficked	Responses of members of the public		
	Internal/domestic human trafficking	Trafficking from Kenya to other countries	Trafficking from other countries to Kenya
Adults	<b>55.7%</b> (that is, 40.0% women, 12.9% youth and 2.8% men)	<b>84.8%</b> (that is, 62.2% women, 14.1% men and 8.5% youth)	<b>93.2%</b> (that is, 43.5% men, 36.7% women and 13.0% youth)
Children (both male and female)	44.4%	15.3%	5.0%
Male and female adults and children who are physically challenged persons (including albinos)	-	-	1.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.1</b>	<b>100.1</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Further probing of the members of the public on which gender of children victims is most trafficked showed that females were the most trafficked, both in domestic human trafficking (83.0%) and trafficking outside Kenya (74.2%).

Key informants also highlighted some of the victims of domestic human trafficking. A Children's Officer in Mwingi Central of Kitui County observed that:

*“You may get a child being moved from Mandera to Nairobi or Thika in Kiambu County. Also, girls are the main victims. This September 2021, I had a case of a girl of about 10 years who was being moved from Garissa to Nairobi by people who were not well known to her. The office had to take action”*

In Matapato South Ward in Kajiado County, a senior Criminal Investigations Officer reported that:

*“Young girls are the main victims of domestic trafficking. We have experienced domestic human trafficking of a young girl aged 13-16 years who had been taken to Tanzania for promised domestic work but ended up being exploited”*

Information gathered from the Head Offices of Kenya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Intelligence Service and the Directorate of Immigration Services showed that the persons prone to be victims of human trafficking were diverse, with the unemployed persons and especially youthful job seekers, street children and/or homeless youth, and individuals fleeing violence or natural disasters being the notable categories. The detailed categories of persons prone to be victims of human trafficking are captured in Table 3.9 below.

**Table 3.9: Categories of persons prone to be victims of human trafficking reported by Kenya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Intelligence Service and the Directorate of Immigration Services Head Offices**

Category of persons prone to be victims of human trafficking	Institution providing information			Number of institutions (out of 3) mentioning the category
	Institution No. 1	Institution No. 2	Institution No. 3	
Unemployed persons and especially youthful job seekers	✓	✓	✓	3
Street children and/or homeless youth	✓		✓	2
Individuals fleeing violence or natural disasters	✓		✓	2
Illiterate and/or semi-illiterate persons		✓		1
Children (especially young boys and	✓			1

Category of persons prone to be victims of human trafficking	Institution providing information			Number of institutions (out of 3) mentioning the category
	Institution No. 1	Institution No. 2	Institution No. 3	
girls between age of 12 and 16 years)				
Female persons (especially girls and young women) from counties in the Coast, Central and Nyanza regions	✓			1
Middle aged women and men	✓			1
Widows	✓			1
Orphans	✓			1
Children and youth in foster care			✓	1
Individuals with disability			✓	1
Victims of abuse such as domestic violence, incest, psychological or emotional abuse and neglect			✓	1
Foreign nationals who have increased risk of trafficking because of legal restrictions of work, language barrier and unfamiliarity with the geographical location			✓	1

**Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs-Kenya (2022, January 18), the National Intelligence Service and the Directorate of Immigration Services-Kenya (2021, November 30)**

The finding that the most trafficked are adults (that is, over 55.0% for domestic trafficking, trafficking from Kenya to other countries and trafficking from other countries to Kenya) relates with the finding that adult trafficking for labour is the most prominent form of human trafficking.

Based on the findings on categories of victims and those that are most trafficked, there is need for counter-trafficking efforts targeting all vulnerable categories of persons with a special focus on children, women, youth and the physically challenged. Children are highly vulnerable and hence local communities should be empowered technically and financially to care for and protect their children. High poverty levels and low employment opportunities reduce the capacity of many parents to effectively provide for their children, putting the children at high risks of human trafficking for child labour and child prostitution among other social ills. Close family members therefore need to extend support to such vulnerable children to alleviate their predisposition to human trafficking.

#### **3.4.1.2 Socio-economic profiles of victims of human trafficking at the time of trafficking**

The socio-economic profiles were looked at from two perspectives, that is, domestic and external human trafficking, and underscoring the age, gender, nationality, marital status, highest level of formal education, occupations and levels of income characteristics of the victims.

Findings reported by most (and according to at least 5 out of 10) sample respondents showed that most victims of domestic human trafficking were adult: youthful Kenyan females aged 18-34 years; single/never married; holding pre-primary and/or primary school level education; majorly unemployed; and with low level incomes. Children and juveniles aged below 18 years accounted for about 3 out of 10 victims of domestic human trafficking. For external human trafficking, most victims were adult: youthful Kenyan females aged 18-34 years; single/never married; holding at least secondary level education; unemployed and/or engaged in casual temporary employment; and earning low level incomes. The detailed findings on socio-economic profiles of most victims of both internal/domestic and external human trafficking are presented in Table 3.10 below.

**Table 3.10: Socio-economic profiles of most victims of human trafficking at the time of trafficking**

Variable	Category of victims	Responses in percentage			
		Internal/domestic human trafficking		External human trafficking	
		Members of the public	Agency officials	Members of the public	Agency officials
Age	Children and juveniles aged below 18 years	35.7	26.0	5.1	4.2
	Youth of 18-34 years	48.9	59.8	64.6	79.2
	Persons aged 35 years and above	15.4	14.2	30.3	16.7
Gender	Female	82.4	72.4	74.4	54.3
	Male	17.7	27.6	25.5	45.7
Nationality	Kenyan	97.0	92.3	82.1	65.9
	Non-Kenyan	3.0	7.7	17.9	34.1
Marital Status	Single/never married	95.6	93.4	89.4	94.3
	Married	4.2	6.6	8.9	4.7
	Separated	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.9
	Divorced	0.0	0.0	1.2	0.0
	Widowed	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0
Highest level of education	None	5.3	10.4	4.4	10.2
	Pre-primary and/or Primary	71.7	67.0	30.2	37.8
	Secondary	20.3	22.6	54.8	44.9
	Middle level college	1.9	0.0	6.5	6.1
	University	0.7	0.0	4.1	1.0
	Adult Literacy	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Occupation	Unemployed	53.9	55.2	38.8	53.5
	Business	0.2	2.4	9.6	8.6

Variable	Category of victims	Responses in percentage			
		Internal/domestic human trafficking		External human trafficking	
		Members of the public	Agency officials	Members of the public	Agency officials
	Casual/temporary employment (including domestic work as house help, shepherd and gardener)	38.1	27.3	44.2	22.5
	Permanent employment	0.0	0.0	1.8	0.0
	Subsistence farming	7.6	11.0	5.5	9.4
	Other (e.g, commercial sex work)	0.2	4.1	0.0	6.0
Levels of income	High	1.0	1.9	1.5	1.9
	Medium	3.0	2.8	6.8	11.3
	Low	96.1	95.4	91.8	86.8

Further probing on nationalities of the non-Kenyan victims of domestic and external human trafficking showed that they were majorly Ethiopians, Somalis, Ugandans, Tanzanians and Sudanese.

Some key informants were able to give the profiles of victims of internal and external human trafficking. For instance, a senior Police Officer based in Nyando Sub-county in Kisumu County said the following of victims of external trafficking:

*“Ladies from the neighbouring countries are victims of trafficking here. Most of them are aged 18-30 years and hold only basic education and are trafficked to provide cheap labour”*

A National Government Administration Officer in Trans Nzoia County observed the following of victims of trafficking:

*“In this locality, Kenyan children aged between 10 and 13 years are the main victims of domestic trafficking. They are both boys and girls who are illiterate and are engaged as house helps, babysitters and cowboys”*

In Busia County, a senior Police Officer opined that:

*“Victims of external trafficking are Somalis, Ugandans and Ethiopians of all genders. They are aged between 20 and 35 years and are both literate and illiterate. They are trafficked and employed as casual labourers as house helps and bar attendants who also engage in prostitution”*



The findings presented in the above Table showing that most victims of both internal and external human trafficking are majorly unemployed youthful Kenyans (and especially females) aged 18-34 years and who have low level incomes are consistent with reports from Kenya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Intelligence Service and the Directorate of Immigration Services which showed that the persons prone to be victims of human trafficking were mainly the unemployed adult persons and especially youthful job seekers. According to IOM (2018), youth between ages of 12 to 35 years, regardless of gender, are most vulnerable to trafficking and that exploitation happens more frequently with less educated women without alternative livelihoods and little understanding of urban lifestyles.

### **3.4.2 Perpetrators of human trafficking**

#### **3.4.2.1 Key perpetrators and recruiters in human trafficking**

The study sought to identify who the key perpetrators and recruiters in human trafficking in Kenya were. Findings reported by at least 1 out of 10 of either of the members of the public and/or Agency officials showed that the main perpetrators of internal/domestic human trafficking were business people who included owners of Employment Bureaus, agents and brokers (reported by 60.2% of the Agency officials and 55.1% of the members of the public); acquaintances especially family members/relatives, barren couples, friends and neighbours (reported by 27.6% of the members of the public and 18.2% of the Agency officials); organized criminal gangs and cartels including drug traffickers (reported by 14.8% of the Agency officials); and wayward and/or corrupt public officials who included Refugee Department and Camp officials, Security Officers, Immigration and other border officials (reported by 12.6% of the members of the public). The key perpetrators of external human trafficking reported by at least 1 out of 10 of either of the members of the public and/or Agency officials were: business people who included owners of Employment Bureaus, agents and brokers (reported by 67.1% of the Agency officials and 52.5% of the members of the public); wayward and/or corrupt public officials who included Refugee Department and Camp officials, Security Officers, Immigration and other border officials (reported by 32.9% of the members of the public and 18.4% of the Agency officials); and organized criminal gangs and cartels including drug traffickers (reported by 13.2% of the Agency officials). These findings are presented in Table 3.11 below.

**Table 3.11: Key perpetrators of human trafficking**

Key perpetrators of human trafficking	Responses in percentage			
	Internal/domestic human trafficking		External human trafficking	
	Members of the public	Agency officials	Members of the public	Agency officials
Business people (including owners of Employment Bureaus, agents and brokers)	55.1	60.2	52.5	67.1
Acquaintances (especially family members/relatives, barren couples, friends, neighbours and domestic workers)	27.6	18.2	4.6	-
Wayward and/or corrupt public officials (including Refugee Department and Camp officials, Security Officers, Immigration and other border officials)	12.6	6.8	32.9	18.4
Civil Society Organizations and officials (including Non-Governmental Organizations, religious and community leaders)	2.3	-	4.1	-
Tourists and other foreigners	2.1	-	4.6	1.3
Organized criminal gangs and cartels (including drug traffickers)	0.2	14.8	1.4	13.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>99.9</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.1</b>	<b>100.0</b>

The 2021 Trafficking in Persons Report for Kenya indicates that both legal and fraudulent employment agencies recruit Kenyans to work in the Middle East (particularly Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Kuwait, Qatar, UAE, Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, and Oman), Central and Southeast Asia, Europe, Northern Africa, and North America, with traffickers exploiting their victims in massage parlours, brothels, domestic servitude or manual labour. Family members especially in informal settings in the country are reported to facilitate traffickers to exploit children in commercial sex and sex tourism in cities such as Nairobi, Mombasa and Kisumu. Criminals involved in terrorist networks are also reported to lure and recruit Kenyan adults and children to join non-state armed groups, primarily the Al-Shabaab terrorist group, in Somalia, sometimes with fraudulent promises of lucrative employment (U.S Department of State, 2021).

Information collated from Kenya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Intelligence Service and the Directorate of Immigration Services Head Offices pointed to a host of human trafficking perpetrators, the major ones being: fake and/or unscrupulous recruitment agencies/employment bureaus (including Labour Brokers); criminal gangs and networks;

families and/or relatives; pimps (Controls prostitutes) and/or madams; local transporters (including long haul truck drivers, matatu drivers and bodaboda operators); and corrupt public officials. The detailed information on categories of perpetrators are presented in Table 3.12 below.

**Table 3.12: Perpetrators of human trafficking reported by Kenya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Intelligence Service and the Directorate of Immigration Services Head Offices**

Category of perpetrator	Institution providing information			Number of institutions (out of 3) mentioning the category
	Institution No. 1	Institution No. 2	Institution No. 3	
Fake and/or unscrupulous recruitment agencies/employment bureaus (including Labour Brokers)	✓	✓	✓	3
Criminal gangs and networks	✓		✓	2
Families and/or relatives	✓		✓	2
Pimps (Controls prostitutes) and/or Madams	✓		✓	2
Local transporters (including long haul truck drivers, matatu drivers and bodaboda operators)	✓	✓		2
Corrupt public officials (including security agents (especially the Police), Immigration Officers and Kenya Airport Authority Officers) at entry/exit points and within Foreign National Management Department who assist foreigners to acquire Visitor Passes and manipulate the details/contents of the extension endorsements/stamps in order to facilitate the foreign applicants' illegal stay in the country		✓	✓	2
Unscrupulous individuals from neighbouring countries	✓			1
Drug dealers/traffickers/peddlers	✓			1
Online social friends	✓			1
Cyber or internet café operators and their employees	✓			1
Domestic Help Bureaus	✓			1
Children's Homes	✓			1
Religious organizations (including Churches and Mosques)	✓			1
Former victims of human trafficking	✓			1
Salon/Beauty Palour operators and their employees	✓			1
Owners of online dating apps	✓			1
Informal money lenders/shylocks	✓			1
Peers			✓	1

Category of perpetrator	Institution providing information			Number of institutions (out of 3) mentioning the category
	Institution No. 1	Institution No. 2	Institution No. 3	
Intimate partners			✓	1
Owners of big businesses across a number of counties and countries			✓	1
Airline companies and travel agencies		✓		1
Asylum seekers exploiting the same to get involved in human trafficking		✓		1
Proprietors of entertainment spots (e.g Clubs who traffic in girls for sexual exploitation/entertainment purposes)		✓		1

**Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs-Kenya (2022, January 18), the National Intelligence Service and the Directorate of Immigration Services-Kenya (2021, November 30).**

The main recruiters of victims of internal/domestic human trafficking reported by at least 1 out of 10 of either of the members of the public and/or Agency officials were found to be unscrupulous business people who included owners of Employment Bureaus, agents and brokers (reported by 60.4% of the Agency officials and 56.8% of the members of the public) and acquaintances especially family members/relatives, barren couples, friends and neighbours (reported by 37.7% of the members of the public and 33.7% of the Agency officials). With regard to external human trafficking, the main perpetrators were found to be: business people who included owners of Employment Bureaus, agents and brokers (reported by 82.6% of the Agency officials); wayward and/or corrupt public officials who included Refugee Department and Camp officials, Security Officers, Immigration and other border officials (reported by 48.2% of the members of the public); unscrupulous tourists and other foreigners (reported by 26.9% of the members of the public); acquaintances especially family members/relatives, barren couples, friends and neighbours (reported by 11.6% of the Agency officials); and unscrupulous Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and officials including Non-Governmental Organizations, religious and community leaders (reported by 10.0% of the members of the public). These findings are captured in Table 3.13 below.

**Table 3.13: Recruiters of victims of human trafficking**

Recruiters of victims of human trafficking	Responses in percentage			
	Internal/domestic human trafficking		External human trafficking	
	Members of the public	Agency officials	Members of the public	Agency officials
Unscrupulous business people (including owners of Employment Bureaus, agents and brokers)	56.8	60.4	8.3	82.6
Acquaintances (especially family members/relatives, barren couples, friends and neighbours)	37.7	33.7	5.0	11.6

Recruiters of victims of human trafficking	Responses in percentage			
	Internal/domestic human trafficking		External human trafficking	
	Members of the public	Agency officials	Members of the public	Agency officials
Wayward and/or corrupt public officials (including Refugee Department and Camp officials, Security Officers, Immigration and other border officials)	1.7	-	48.2	-
Young men	1.7		0.0	-
Unscrupulous Civil Society Organizations and officials (including Non-Governmental Organizations, religious and community leaders)	1.3		10.0	
Unscrupulous tourists and other foreigners	0.7		26.9	-
Organized criminal gangs and cartels (including drug traffickers)	0.0	5.8	1.7	5.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>99.9</b>	<b>99.9</b>	<b>100.1</b>	<b>100.1</b>

Some of the explanations given by sample respondents with regard to perpetrators and recruiters were that: Employment agencies promise people good jobs and they register them but these people eventually end up as slaves; there are incidences where unsuspecting people seeking for employment are promised better employment and scholarship opportunities only to discover later that they have been trafficked; and some victims of human trafficking are lied to by their friends or relatives who collude with the traffickers in exchange for monetary gain.

The information of sample respondents was also echoed by key informants. For instance, a senior Police Officer in the Directorate of Criminal Investigations Department in Naivasha Sub-county of Nakuru County contended that:

*“The main recruiters and perpetrators of domestic and external trafficking are individuals who understand what is happening or knowledgeable on the issue. External recruiters are majorly travel agencies who are licensed and are able to process travelling documents, and unlicensed agencies dealing with traveling/bookings in and out of the country”*

In Turkana County, a Children’s Officer argued that:

*“The main recruiters and perpetrators are both Kenyans men and women and economically well-to-do foreigners who have links and connections with public officers”*

Still in Turkana County, a senior Police Officer observed that:

*“The main recruiters and perpetrators of external human trafficking are locals, rogue public officials and people working for different Non-Governmental Organizations”*

In Nyando Sub-county of Kisumu County, a senior Children’s Officer reported that:

*“The main recruiters and perpetrators of internal/domestic human trafficking are men, relatives (both male and female), and neighbours”*

In Nairobi County, a senior Police Officer based in Kamukunji Sub-county observed that:

*“In this locality and/or county, the main recruiters and perpetrators of both internal/domestic and external human trafficking are employment recruitment agencies and NGOs purporting to be on a charity mission”*

The findings on perpetrators and recruiters in human trafficking resonate with other studies. For instance, it has been shown that Nairobi-based labour recruiters maintain networks in Uganda and Ethiopia that recruit Burundian, Ethiopian, Rwandan, and Ugandan workers through fraudulent offers of employment in the Middle East and Asia. Business owners and employers are also reported to exploit Ugandan girls in sex trafficking and forced labour especially in the Eastleigh neighbourhoods of Nairobi County. Further, Ugandan and Nigerian traffickers are reported to exploit Kenyan women in sex trafficking in Thailand (U.S Department of State, 2021). According to UNODC (2018), traffickers have targeted persons who cope with other forms of hardship, such as recruiting people from refugee camps with false promises of receiving payments and/or transport to safer locations.

Acquaintances and especially domestic workers and nannies, have participated in domestic human trafficking especially of young children. In Eldoret, Uasin Gishu County, a nanny was recently accused by a couple of trafficking their three-year old daughter to a neighbouring country while offering baby-sitting services (Ominde, 2021). The U.S Department of State (2022) has shown that trusted community members recruit and groom vulnerable youth on behalf of local and international human trafficking syndicates by exaggerating the advantages of working abroad.

Based on the above findings, addressing human trafficking will require relevant Government agencies to put in place perpetrator-specific measures to counter the various perpetrators and recruiters of human trafficking victims with a special focus on: fake and/or unscrupulous recruitment agencies/employment bureaus (including Labour Brokers); criminal gangs and networks; families and/or relatives; pimps (controls prostitutes) and/or madams; local transporters (including long haul truck drivers, matatu drivers and bodaboda operators); corrupt public officials working at entry/exit points and within Foreign National

Management Department; unscrupulous Civil Society Organizations and officials (including Non-Governmental Organizations, religious and community leaders); and unscrupulous tourists and other foreigners. According to the U.S Department of Justice (2014), offenders vary widely both in the future risk they pose to public safety and in their specific treatment needs, and hence the need for evidence-based screening, assessment protocols and treatment approaches to help criminal justice officials match each offender to an intervention of appropriate type and intensity.

#### 3.4.2.2 Socio-economic profiles of perpetrators of human trafficking

The socio-economic profiles of perpetrators were looked at from the perspective of internal/domestic and external human trafficking, with the focus being on the age, gender, nationality, marital status, highest level of formal education, occupations and levels of income characteristics of the perpetrators.

Findings reported by most (and according to at least 5 out of 10) sample respondents showed that most perpetrators of domestic human trafficking were: youthful female Kenyans aged 18-34 years; married; holding secondary and middle level college education; engaged in business; and earning medium level incomes. However, there were slight variations with regard to external human trafficking in that most perpetrators were: youthful male Kenyans aged 18-34 years; married; holding secondary and middle level college education; engaged in business; and earning high level incomes. The detailed findings on socio-economic profiles of most perpetrators of both internal/domestic and external human trafficking are presented in Table 3.14 below.

**Table 3.14: Socio-economic profiles of most domestic and external human traffickers**

Variable	Category	Responses in percentage			
		Internal/domestic human trafficking		External human trafficking	
		Members of the public	Agency officials	Members of the public	Agency officials
Age	Children and juveniles aged below 18 years	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Youth of 18-34 years	69.9	57.7	68.7	55.0
	Persons aged 35 years and above	28.8	42.3	31.3	45.0
Gender	Female	58.8	50.5	47.9	40.1
	Male	41.2	49.5	52.1	59.9
Nationality	Kenyan	94.3	91.9	84.8	81.9
	Non-Kenyan	5.7	8.1	15.2	18.1
Marital Status	Single/never married	31.9	28.7	21.1	25.6
	Married	64.0	70.5	76.2	74.4
	Separated	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0
	Divorced	4.0	0.8	2.6	0.0
	Widowed	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Highest level	None	2.0	5.8	0.6	3.5

Variable	Category	Responses in percentage			
		Internal/domestic human trafficking		External human trafficking	
		Members of the public	Agency officials	Members of the public	Agency officials
of education	Pre-primary and/or Primary	9.0	24.4	3.0	15.3
	Secondary	52.3	50.0	39.3	50.6
	Middle level college	25.7	12.8	31.4	16.5
	University	11.0	7.0	25.3	14.1
	Adult Literacy	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0
Occupation	Unemployed	10.6	4.7	3.8	3.9
	Business	76.1	81.4	91.3	81.4
	Casual/temporary employment (including domestic work as house help, shepherd and gardener)	8.0	3.2	2.0	8.7
	Permanent employment	5.3	5.5	2.9	0.0
	Subsistence farming	0.0	4.7	0.0	3.1
	Other (e.g, commercial sex work)	0.0	0.8	0.0	3.2
Levels of income	High	31.7	37.4	59.5	54.6
	Medium	49.6	48.5	34.1	29.9
	Low	18.7	14.1	6.5	15.5

Findings from key informants highlighted some of the socio-economic characteristics of perpetrators of human trafficking. For instance, a Children’s Officer based in Naivasha, Nakuru County had this to report:

*“Recruiters and perpetrators of domestic human trafficking are both male and female Kenyans who could be married and some single. They majorly hold Secondary School education and above and most are in middle class. For external trafficking, male Southern Sudanese and Tanzanians who are averagely educated with well-to-do or average incomes undertake trafficking for purposes of cheap labour, religious activities linked to sacrifice and radicalization and military aspects such as with the Al Shabaab. Track drivers and relatives of victims also play a role in trafficking”*

In Rombo Ward, Oloitoktok Sub-county of Kajiado County, a senior Immigration Officer observed that:

*“The main recruiters and perpetrators of external trafficking are recruitment agencies, persons known to the victims, bodaboda operators and employers who seek foreign cheap labour”*



In Nairobi County, a National Government Administration Officer in Kamukunji Sub-county opined the following on perpetrators:

*“The nationality of perpetrators varies, some are Kenyans, or Ugandans, or Tanzanians and Ethiopians. The main livelihood is business activities done by both men and women of middle age, say 30-45 years approximately and of various education level ranging from secondary, tertiary and even university who have well established links in this kind of job”*

The findings from all categories of respondents highlight socio-economic influences, differences and dominance between perpetrators and victims in human trafficking. In domestic human trafficking, most victims are adult: youthful Kenyan females aged 18-34 years; single/never married; holding pre-primary and/or primary school level education; majorly unemployed; and with low level incomes. However, the perpetrators are youthful Kenyan females aged 18-34 years; married; holding secondary and middle level college education; engaged in business; and earning medium level incomes. In external human trafficking, most victims are adult: youthful Kenyan females aged 18-34 years; single/never married; holding at least secondary level education; unemployed and/or engaged in casual temporary employment; and earning low level incomes. However, the perpetrators are youthful Kenyan males aged 18-34 years; married; holding secondary and middle level college education; engaged in business; and earning high level incomes. According to the U.S Department of State (2021), most perpetrators of human trafficking in the country are Kenyan and, to a lesser extent, foreign tourists.

By being in the same age category, it means there is a possibility of peer influence between the victim and the perpetrator. Being married is associated with responsibility and trust and hence the victim is likely to trust the married perpetrator to be responsible but who in turn capitalizes on this advantage to deceive the victim. Higher education levels of the perpetrator over the victim places the former at a position of advantage in terms of enlightenment and/or information which can be used and/or manipulated to the disadvantage of the latter through deception and fake promises of economic gains. The economic advantage of the perpetrator over the victim means the former has the ability to meet the initial costs of trafficking of the latter and even entice them with temporary financial benefits as part of the luring scheme. The findings therefore indicate that socio-economic influences, differences and dominance of perpetrators over victims could be significant factors in human trafficking. Hence counter-trafficking measures need to focus on: sensitizations targeted at enlightening the public on peer influence; raising the education levels of all Kenyan children beyond the primary school level; and enhancing economic opportunities (including employment) especially for the youth. Kenya youth unemployment rate for 2021 was 13.84%, a 0.26% increase from the rate of 13.59% for year 2020 (Kamer, 2022; Macrotrends, n.d).

### 3.5 Factors Contributing to and Facilitating Human Trafficking

#### 3.5.1 Factors contributing to human trafficking

The study respondents were probed on the main factors contributing to human trafficking in Kenya. Responses were grouped into two broad categories with respect to internal/domestic human trafficking and external human trafficking. A number of factors were found to contribute immensely to human trafficking in the country.

Findings from sample respondents presented in Table 3.15 below showed that the main factors contributing to domestic human trafficking and which were reported by at least 1 out of 10 of either of the members of the public and/or Agency officials were poverty-occasioned vulnerabilities (reported by 88.0% of the Agency officials and 73.7% of the members of the public) and unemployment-occasioned vulnerabilities and/or search for greener pastures (reported by 16.9% of the members of the public). With regard to external human trafficking, the main factors were: poverty (reported by 62.9% of the agency officials and 53.1% of the members of the public); unemployment and/or search for greener pastures (reported by 22.5% of the members of the public and 18.1% of the agency officials); and a region's attractiveness in terms of being a tourism and/or adventure destination (reported by 11.9% of the members of the public).

**Table 3.15: Main factors contributing to domestic and external human trafficking**

Main factors contributing to domestic and external human trafficking	Responses in percentage			
	Internal/domestic human trafficking		External human trafficking	
	Members of the public	Agency officials	Members of the public	Agency officials
Poverty-occasioned vulnerabilities	73.7	88.0	53.1	62.9
Unemployment-occasioned vulnerabilities and/or search for greener pastures	16.9	3.7	22.5	18.1
Ignorance and/or illiteracy	4.2	0.9	2.2	1.9
Greed for quick and huge wealth by victims and/or perpetrators	2.3	1.9	2.3	3.8
Insecurity	1.2	-	5.9	4.8
Retrogressive socio-cultural beliefs and practices (including religion)	1.0	2.8	1.0	-
Region's attractiveness in terms of being a tourism and/or adventure destination	0.3	-	11.9	-
Porous border points	0.1	-	0.3	-
Corruption and collusion in both source and transit points	0.1	0.9	0.7	2.9
Peer pressure	0.1		0.1	
Existence of dubious registration and employment agencies and/or cartels	-	-	0.1	1.0

Main factors contributing to domestic and external human trafficking	Responses in percentage			
	Internal/domestic human trafficking		External human trafficking	
	Members of the public	Agency officials	Members of the public	Agency officials
Inadequate Government commitment, weak law enforcement and/or preventive mechanisms to address human trafficking	-	0.9	-	2.9
Media-facilitated misconceptions about opportunities available outside one's locality	-	0.9	-	-
Quest for cheap labour and/or ready market for human trafficking victims	-	-	-	2.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>99.9</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100.1</b>	<b>100.3</b>

According to Kenya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Intelligence Service and the Directorate of Immigration Services, the main drivers or risk factors contributing to human trafficking in Kenya include: political instability and/or volatile security situations in source and destination countries; poverty-occasioned vulnerabilities; unemployment-occasioned vulnerabilities; weak legal framework and enforcement mechanisms; and corruption (especially widespread systemic and institutional corruption by rogue law enforcement and judicial officers). The drivers or risk factors are presented in detail in Table 3.16 below.

**Table 3.16: Drivers or risk factors contributing to human trafficking in Kenya reported by Kenya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Intelligence Service and the Directorate of Immigration Services Head Offices**

Drivers or risk factors contributing to human trafficking in Kenya	Institution providing information			Number of institutions (out of 3) mentioning the driver or risk factor
	Institution No. 1	Institution No. 2	Institution No. 3	
Political instability and/or volatile security situations in source and destination countries	✓	✓	✓	3
Poverty-occasioned vulnerabilities	✓		✓	2
Unemployment-occasioned vulnerabilities	✓		✓	2
Weak legal framework and enforcement mechanisms	✓	✓		2

Drivers or risk factors contributing to human trafficking in Kenya	Institution providing information			Number of institutions (out of 3) mentioning the driver or risk factor
	Institution No. 1	Institution No. 2	Institution No. 3	
Corruption (especially widespread systemic and institutional corruption by rogue law enforcement and judicial officers)	✓	✓		2
Inequality in resource distribution			✓	1
Ignorance or lack of information and awareness about human trafficking issues	✓			1
Peer pressure and pressure from family, relatives and friends	✓			1

**Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs-Kenya (2022, January 18), the National Intelligence Service and the Directorate of Immigration Services-Kenya (2021, November 30).**

The reports from Kenya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Intelligence Service and the Directorate of Immigration Services are consisted with those reported by sample respondents which showed that poverty-occasioned vulnerabilities and unemployment-occasioned vulnerabilities were among the main factors contributing to human trafficking in the country. The findings also corroborate with the responses on the purpose for which persons are trafficked which pointed to trafficking of persons majorly for purposes of labour exploitation, economic and/or financial/monetary gains and for sexual exploitation and/or prostitution. Walk Free (2018) observes that poverty and corruption are two of the principal underlying factors in organ trafficking in countries such as India where Kidneys sourced from the "kidney belt" region of southern India are sold to clients in Sri Lanka, the Gulf States, the UK, and the US. It is therefore imperative that measures are put in place to address the key drivers or risk factors contributing to human trafficking, the main focus being on: political instability and/or volatile security situations in source and destination countries; vulnerabilities associated with poverty; vulnerabilities associated with unemployment; weak legal framework and enforcement mechanisms; and widespread systemic and institutional corruption by rogue law enforcement and judicial officers.

### **3.5.2 Reasons why human trafficking business has persisted in Kenya**

This study also sought to establish why human trafficking business had persisted in the country. Poverty-occasioned vulnerabilities (reported by 29.6% of the members of the public and 25.6% of the Agency officials), corruption among public officials (reported by 24.0% of the Agency officials and 14.1% of the members of the public), unemployment-occasioned vulnerabilities (reported by 21.5% of the members of the public), lucrative nature of human

trafficking business (reported by 13.6% of the Agency officials) and greed for money on the part of both perpetrators and victims (reported by 9.6% of the Agency officials) were reported to be the main reasons for persistence of human trafficking business in Kenya. The detailed findings are presented in Table 3.17 below.

**Table 3.17: Reasons why human trafficking business has persisted in Kenya**

<b>Reasons why human trafficking business has persisted in Kenya</b>	<b>Responses in percentage</b>	
	<b>Members of the public</b>	<b>Agency officials</b>
Poverty-occasioned vulnerabilities	29.6	25.6
Unemployment-occasioned vulnerabilities	21.5	5.6
Corruption among public officials involved in human trafficking issues	14.1	24.0
Lucrative nature of human trafficking business	9.4	13.6
Lack of Government commitment and/or poor implementation of existing laws for addressing human trafficking	6.2	1.6
Greed for money on the part of both perpetrators and victims	5.7	9.6
Ignorance and/or illiteracy	5.1	1.6
Lenient laws on perpetrators	3.8	
Porous border points	2.2	3.2
Perpetrators' use of advanced technology in their human trafficking business	1.9	0.8
Demand and/or market for cheap labour	0.4	1.6
Poor collaboration among stakeholders address human trafficking	-	5.6
Existence of cartels	-	5.6
Instability in neighbouring countries	-	1.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>99.9</b>	<b>100.0</b>

### **3.5.3 Factors facilitating recruitment of victims in domestic and external human trafficking**

Sample respondents were further asked to indicate what facilitated recruitment of victims in human trafficking. The most prominent factors reported by at least 1 out of 10 of either of the members of the public and/or Agency officials as facilitating recruitment of victims in domestic human trafficking were found to be: ignorance and/or illiteracy among the victims (reported by 56.3% of the Agency officials); poverty-occasioned vulnerabilities (reported by 50.2% of the members of the public); ready markets for cheap labour in hospitality and

tourism industry especially in hotel and bar businesses (reported by 21.3% of the Agency officials); and unemployment-occasioned vulnerabilities (reported by 16.0% of the members of the public). The most prominent factors facilitating recruitment of victims in external human trafficking reported by at least 1 out of 10 of either of the members of the public and/or Agency officials were found to be: poverty (reported by 50.0% of the Agency officials and 30.5% of the members of the public); corruption (reported by 25.0% of the Agency officials and 14.1% of the members of the public); unemployment (reported by 21.2% of the members of the public); and ready markets for cheap labour in hospitality and tourism industry especially in hotel and bar businesses (reported by 15.0% of the Agency officials). The detailed findings are presented in Table 3.18 below.

**Table 3.18: Factors facilitating recruitment of victims in domestic and external human trafficking**

Factors facilitating recruitment of victims of human trafficking	Responses in percentage			
	Internal/domestic human trafficking		External human trafficking	
	Members of the public	Agency officials	Members of the public	Agency officials
Poverty occasioning vulnerabilities	50.2	-	30.5	50.0
Unemployment occasioning vulnerabilities	16.0	-	21.2	-
Peer pressure	9.9	-	-	-
Corruption	8.5	-	14.1	25.0
Ignorance and/or illiteracy among the victims	6.5	56.3	7.1	-
Lucrative nature of human trafficking business	4.6	-	6.1	-
Poor remuneration	2.4	-	-	-
Weak law enforcement and/or lenient penalties for perpetrators	1.4	8.8	1.3	1.7
Retrogressive and pro-trafficking societal cultural practices and attitudes	0.7	1.3	-	-
Prospects of better opportunities in foreign countries	-	-	8.0	-
Organized criminal networks (including militia recruitment)	-	-	1.5	-
Greed and/or quest for money	-	7.5	2.8	-
Ideology of better life styles in foreign countries	-	-	3.4	-
Ready markets for cheap labour in hospitality and tourism industry (especially in hotel and bar businesses)	-	21.3	2.6	15.0

Factors facilitating recruitment of victims of human trafficking	Responses in percentage			
	Internal/domestic human trafficking		External human trafficking	
	Members of the public	Agency officials	Members of the public	Agency officials
Porous border points	-	-	1.1	6.7
Deceptive and/or irresponsible electronic and print media advertisements	-	2.5	0.2	1.7
Existence of recruitment agents and agencies	-	2.5	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.2</b>	<b>100.2</b>	<b>99.9</b>	<b>100.1</b>

Based on the findings on main factors contributing to domestic and external human trafficking, drivers or risk factors for human trafficking, reasons why human trafficking business has persisted in Kenya and factors facilitating recruitment of victims in domestic and external human trafficking, the key factors contributing to and facilitating human trafficking in the country which were reported by at least 1 out of 10 of either of the members of the public or Agency officials are: poverty-occasioned vulnerabilities (88.0%); ignorance and/or illiteracy among the victims (56.3%); corruption especially among public officials (25.0%); unemployment-occasioned vulnerabilities and/or search for greener pastures (22.5%); ready markets for cheap labour in hospitality and tourism industry especially in hotel and bar businesses (21.3%); lucrative nature of human trafficking business (13.6%); a region's attractiveness in terms of being a tourism and/or adventure destination (11.9%); and greed for money on the part of both perpetrators and victims (9.6%). Political instability and/or volatile security situations in source and destination countries and weak legal framework and enforcement mechanisms were the other key factors which were reported by Kenya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Intelligence Service and the Directorate of Immigration Services.

Key informants were able to highlight some of the factors contributing to and facilitating human trafficking or making its business to persist in the country. For instance, a senior Police Officer based in Migori County observed that:

*“The main factors contributing to both domestic and external human trafficking in this locality are high poverty and unemployment levels which predispose individuals to look for any kind of a job for a living. The greed for quick money and desire for easy jobs make one to be easily convinced by the perpetrators. The human trafficking business has persisted because of porous borders, availability of bodaboda for easy transportation across the border and weak law enforcement”*

In Kibwezi Sub-county of Makueni County, a Children's Officer reported the following concerning the factors behind both domestic and external human trafficking:

*“The factors contributing to domestic human trafficking include poverty, poor legal framework and lack of community awareness on human trafficking. The business has persisted in Kenya because of lack of policies to curb the menace and ignorance of the victims who are unaware about their Constitutional rights”*

The findings that poverty and unemployment (which are mainly associated with adult population) are some of the key factors facilitating domestic and external human trafficking are consistent with the finding that adult trafficking for labour is the most prominent form of human trafficking in the country. The 2017 report of the Vienna-based World Poverty Clock ranked Kenya eighth globally and sixth in Africa among countries with the largest number of people living in extreme poverty with 29 per cent (14.7 million) of the 49,684,304 people being very poor as they consumed less than \$1.90 (Sh197) per day or Sh5,910 monthly. The country's unemployment rate stood at 11.47% in December, 2017 but this figure dropped to 5.74 in year 2021. However, youth unemployment rate remained higher than the national figure thus standing at 13.85% in 2021 (CEIC Data Company Ltd, 2017; Statista, 2017; Musyoki, 2018; NCRC, 2018; Ochieng, 2018; Macrotrends, n.d). Kamer (2022) argues that the unemployment rate among young people in Kenya increased in the first quarter of 2021, compared to the previous quarter. In the age group between 20 and 24 years, the rate stood at 16.3 percent, up from 15 percent in the fourth quarter of year 2020.

The findings on factors contributing to and facilitating human trafficking are consistent with those of Hartmann (2021) who argues that traffickers exploit weaknesses, unfortunate circumstances, unfamiliarity, and inexperience of victims, with the conditions that create vulnerability to trafficking being poverty, unemployment, displacement, lack of knowledge or experience, broken families and cultural practices. UNODC (2018) has shown that perpetrators abuse severe levels of vulnerability, specifically targeting unemployed rural workers or homeless people who are in desperate situations, and deceive them into trafficking for money that will not be paid at the end. According to UNODC (2021), child trafficking emerges from communities in extreme poverty. According to an assessment by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), employment outside of the coastal region for coastal residents, and employment within the coastal region for residents of other parts of Kenya and other countries are the most significant push and pull factors for people to enter situations with high risk for trafficking. Other factors contributing to human trafficking are attraction to the tourism sector in the coastal region, poverty and the lack of livelihood opportunities among different vulnerable groups, drug abuse, illiteracy, loss of parent (s), harmful cultural practices and radicalization (IOM, 2018).

Therefore, the findings of this study emphasize the need to undertake interventions aimed at addressing all the key factors fuelling and/or sustaining human trafficking, with a special



focus on: poverty-occasioned vulnerabilities; ignorance and/or illiteracy among the victims; corruption especially among public officials; unemployment-occasioned vulnerabilities; ready markets for cheap labour in hospitality and tourism industry especially in hotel and bar businesses; lucrative nature of human trafficking business; greed for money on the part of both perpetrators and victims; political instability and/or volatile security situations in source and destination countries and weak legal framework and enforcement mechanisms.

### **3.6 Modes of Operation of Human Trafficking**

This study was also interested in examining the modus operandi (mode of operation) of human trafficking in the country. The specific concern was on: methods used in recruiting and/or obtaining victims; networks and/or processes involved in the recruitment of victims; and the modes of transportation of victims.

#### **3.6.1 Methods used in recruiting and/or obtaining victims of human trafficking**

A question was posed to sample respondents drawn from the members of the public on whether they had ever heard of or knew how human traffickers recruited and/or obtained their victims. Nearly two-thirds (64.4%) of these respondents responded in the affirmative.

A further question was posed to members of the public and Agency officials to indicate the methods used in recruiting and/or obtaining victims of human trafficking. Findings from at least 1 out of 10 of either of the members of the public and/or Agency officials captured in Table 3.19 below showed that the most prominent methods used in recruiting and/or obtaining victims of human trafficking were: use of deceptive information in the internet and social media and/or networking sites on available economic (including job/work) opportunities (reported by 78.1% of the Agency officials); initial placement of advertisements in the mass media for legitimate economic (including job/work) opportunities (reported by 26.9% of the members of the public); use of recruitment agencies who issue forged or altered documents to register migrants (reported by 15.1% of the members of the public); study-abroad programmes and fictitious educational scholarships (reported by 12.7% of the members of the public); brokers' use of grass roots agents to do recruitment (reported by 12.0% of the members of the public); and collusion with wayward public officials to get travelling documents (reported by 11.2% of the members of the public).

**Table 3.19: Methods used in recruiting and/or obtaining victims of human trafficking**

<b>Methods used in recruiting and/or obtaining victims of human trafficking</b>	<b>Responses in percentage</b>	
	<b>Members of the public</b>	<b>Agency officials</b>
Initial placement of advertisements in the mass media for legitimate economic (including job/work) opportunities	26.9	11.4
Use of deceptive information in the internet and social media and/or networking sites on available economic (including job/work) opportunities	15.1	78.1
Use of recruitment agencies who issue forged or altered	15.1	-

Methods used in recruiting and/or obtaining victims of human trafficking	Responses in percentage	
	Members of the public	Agency officials
documents to register migrants		
Study-abroad programmes and fictitious educational scholarships	12.7	-
Brokers' use of grass roots agents to do recruitment	12.0	-
Collusion with wayward public officials to get travelling documents	11.1	-
Word of mouth and/or referrals from friends and relatives	7.2	3.8
Kidnappings and/or abductions	-	6.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.1</b>	<b>100.0</b>

A key informant who was a senior Police Officer in Migori County had this to say regarding methods used in trafficking persons in the county:

*“Perpetrators of trafficking use success stories of some individuals to convince or even lure individuals using promises of lucrative jobs”*

A senior National Government Administration Officer in Trans Nzoia County argued that:

*“Children are recruited into trafficking through some Charitable Children Institutions (CCIs) and Children Offices which pretend to be genuine. These institutions acquire legal documents in the name of assisting orphans and needy children and end up trafficking them. There is also the use of false promises to lure victims and at times force is used on children in the process of trafficking”*

A senior Immigration Officer in Kajiado in Kajiado Central Constituency in Kajiado County reported that:

*“Traffickers pose as taxi drivers and money changers to recruit victims in Namanga border area. Other victims are recruited through licensed job recruitment bureaus”*

These findings corroborate earlier findings that showed the most prevalent purpose for which people are trafficked is labour exploitation. Further, the findings indicate that the mass media plays a significant role in enabling the process of recruitment of victims of human trafficking. According to HAART Kenya, most traffickers use psychological means such as deceiving, defrauding, manipulating or threatening the victims, which means are facilitated by technology, the internet, social media platforms and the dark web to recruit, exploit and control especially children and young people (Njeru, 2022). Hence counter-trafficking measures need to enlist the support of leading mass media practitioners in ways such as

responsible advertisement of verified and legitimate local and foreign employment opportunities and continuous highlighting of the problem of human trafficking.

### **3.6.2 Networks and/or processes involved in the recruitment of victims of human trafficking**

The findings of this study showed that recruitment brokers and relatives of victims were the main players in the networks and/or processes involved in the recruitment of victims in both domestic and external human trafficking. With regard to domestic human trafficking, the networks and/or processes (based on the highest percentage reported by either the members of the public or Agency officials) were: brokers connected to firms offering jobs contact victims, do recruitment, organize travel documents, offer accommodation, make transport arrangements and then hand over victims to agents in destinations (reported by 55.5% of the Agency officials); relatives collaborate in recruitment, hand over victim to agents in home areas and then to agents in destination (reported by 44.4% of the Agency officials); and individuals and bureaus recruit, another group does transportation, another group offers accommodation and transfer from one place to another (reported by 35.4% of the members of the public). For external human trafficking, the networks and/or processes were: brokers connected to firms offering jobs contact victims, do recruitment, organize travel documents, offer accommodation, make transport arrangements and then hand over victims to agents in destinations (reported by 61.6% of the Agency officials); relatives collaborate in recruitment, hand over victim to agents in home areas and then to agents in destination (reported by 38.5% of the Agency officials); spies do recruitment, hands over to agents, agents prepare travel documents, then transportation to Nairobi or other exit points and then to final destinations (reported by 28.1% of the members of the public); and individuals and bureaus recruit, another group does transportation, another group offers accommodation and transfer from one place to another (reported by 23.5% of the members of the public). These findings are presented in Table 3.20 below.

**Table 3.20: Networks and/or processes involved in the recruitment of victims in domestic and external human trafficking**

<b>Networks and/or processes involved in the recruitment of victims in domestic and external human trafficking in Kenya</b>	<b>Responses in percentage</b>			
	<b>Internal/domestic human trafficking</b>		<b>External human trafficking</b>	
	<b>Members of the public</b>	<b>Agency officials</b>	<b>Members of the public</b>	<b>Agency officials</b>
Individuals and bureaus recruit, another group does transportation, another group offers accommodation and transfer from one place to another	35.4		23.5	-
Relatives collaborate in recruitment, hand over victim to agents in home areas and then to agents in destination	33.5	44.4	-	38.5

Networks and/or processes involved in the recruitment of victims in domestic and external human trafficking in Kenya	Responses in percentage			
	Internal/domestic human trafficking		External human trafficking	
	Members of the public	Agency officials	Members of the public	Agency officials
Recruitment brokers connected to firms offering jobs contact victims, do recruitment, organize travel documents, offer accommodation, make transport arrangements and then hand over victims to agents in destinations	31.1	55.5	48.4	61.6
Spies do recruitment, hands over to agents, agents prepare travel documents, then transportation to Nairobi or other exit points and then to final destinations	-	-	28.1	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>99.9</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.1</b>

These findings agree with comments of a senior National Government Administration Officer in Trans Nzoia County who observed that:

*“The networks/processes involved in the recruitment of victims in both domestic and external human trafficking involve connection with government officials and sometimes cartels operating in the name of sponsorships”*

Another key informant who was a Police Officer in Busia County had this to say:

*“The networks/processes involved in the recruitment of victims in domestic and external human trafficking in Kenya include private networks both in the origin and destination and involves both internal and external cartels depending on whether it is domestic or external trafficking”*

A senior Immigration Officer in Kajiado County observed that:

*“The networks or processes involved in the recruitment of victims in Kenya involve a lot of coordination by cartels in Kenya, Burundi and Tanzania via mobile phones. Travels are organized via bus companies and victims are coached by perpetrators what to say to Immigration Officers”*

A senior Children's Officer in Mbita, Homabay County had this to say:

*“The victims are lured by the perpetrators using the social media platforms. Recruiters have proxies in different areas who are tasked with recruiting and providing logistical support necessary for the victims while on transit”*

The above findings highlight the roles of different parties working in cohort and the complex nature of human trafficking networks and/or processes operated especially by owners of local and international job recruitment and/or employment placement firms, agents, brokers and transporters disguised as legitimate business operators. Hence effective counter-trafficking measures need to focus on enhanced uncompromised multi-agency and intelligence-led mapping, detection, disruption and/or dismantling of the human trafficking networks and/or processes.

### 3.6.3 Modes of transportation of victims of human trafficking

The main mode of transportation of victims of both domestic human trafficking (reported by 99.4% of the members of the public and 98.2% of the Agency officials) and external human trafficking (reported by 87.0% of the Agency officials and 59.8% of the members of the public) was by road (by foot, using public and private vehicles, taxis and motorcycles/bodaboda). Air travel using planes was the second most prominent mode of transportation of victims of external human trafficking (reported by 35.4% of the members of the public and 9.6% of the Agency officials). Rail transport was the least used mode of transportation in both domestic and external human trafficking. These findings are presented in Table 3.21 below.

**Table 3.21: Modes of transportation of victims of human trafficking**

Modes of transportation of victims of domestic human trafficking	Responses in percentage			
	Internal/domestic human trafficking		External human trafficking	
	Members of the public	Agency officials	Members of the public	Agency officials
Road (by foot, using public and private vehicles, taxis and motorcycles/bodaboda)	99.4	98.2	59.8	87.0
Water (using rafts, boats and ship)	0.5	0.9	4.3	3.5
Rail	0.2	-	0.4	-
Air	0.0	0.9	35.4	9.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.1</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>99.9</b>	<b>100.1</b>

A key informant who was a senior National Government Administration Officer in Migori County said the following concerning the modes of transportation of victims of human trafficking in the county:

*“We have a transit route for external trafficking. This is the Uganda- Busia -Kisumu- Homabay- Mbita route. In this route, victims are moved by road using vehicles and by water using boats and ferry in Lake Victoria”*

A senior Children’s Officer in Mt. Elgon area of Bungoma County said that:

*“Here, the modes of transportation of victims of trafficking are by foot, Boda boda and buses. This is common in the trafficking hotspots of Cheptais, Sirisia, Lwakhakha and Chepkue”*

A Children’s Officer working in Soy and Turbo areas of Uasin Gishu County observed that:

*“Long-distance trucks are used to ferry victims of human trafficking”*

A Deputy Officer Commanding Police Division (OCPD) in one of the Police Divisions in Makueni County had this to report:

*“The traffickers transport victims using private vehicles especially Toyota Noah and Toyota Land Cruiser V8 to avoid suspicion. There is also use of lorries and trucks to transport victims who pose as turn boys. The victims attempt to escape most of the time. Nationalities trafficked includes Ethiopians and Somalis and their transit point is Mtito Andei”*

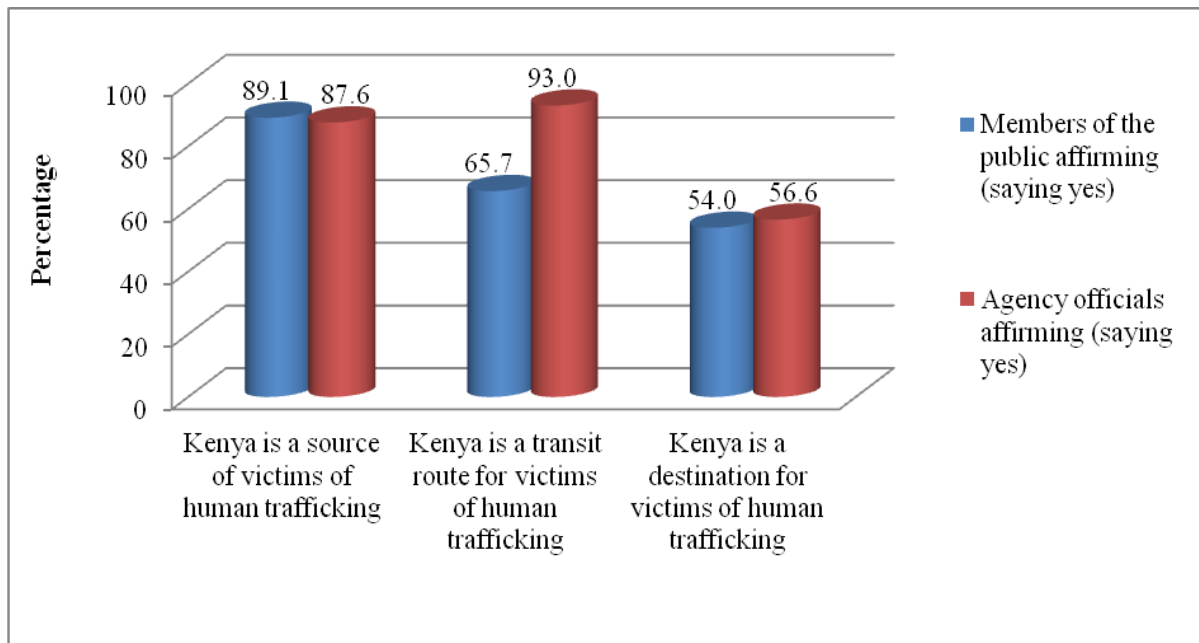
Of all the four modes of transportation established by the study, road transport is the most available, accessible, affordable and easy to avoid policing and regulatory authorities and hence the probable reason why it was the most prominently used by victims of human trafficking and their recruiters. Kenya’s porous borders with its neighbouring countries who are the main contributors in human trafficking further makes the use of road networks a better option. Hence the effective policing of Kenya’s roads especially in border counties as a part measure to curtail human trafficking needs to be prioritized. Enhanced security checks to identify and intercept victims and perpetrators of human trafficking at airports in Kenya and its partner countries is recommended.

### 3.7 Areas and countries and/or regions serving as sources, transit and destinations for victims of human trafficking

One of the concerns of this study was to map the areas and countries and/or regions serving as sources, transit and destinations for victims of human trafficking in the country. Responses to three statements on human trafficking indicated that Kenya was indeed a source, a transit route and a destination for victims of human trafficking. This was confirmed by over 54.0% of both the members of the public and Agency officials who agreed to the statements. The highest affirmative response of 93.0% was from Agency officials who agreed with the statement that Kenya was a transit route for victims of human trafficking, followed by 89.1% of the members of the public who agreed that Kenya was a source of victims of human trafficking and 56.6% of the Agency officials who agreed that Kenya was a destination for victims of human trafficking. These findings are presented in Table 3.22 and Figure 9 below.

**Table 3.22: Perceptions on whether or not Kenya is a source, a transit route and a destination for victims of human trafficking**

Statement	Perception responses in percentage on whether or not Kenya is a source, a transit route and a destination for victims of human trafficking					
	Members of the public			Agency officials		
	Agree	Disagree	I don't know	Agree	Disagree	I don't know
Kenya is a source of victims of human trafficking	89.1	4.5	6.4	87.6	11.6	0.8
Kenya is a transit route for victims of human trafficking	65.7	7.1	27.2	93.0	5.4	1.6
Kenya is a destination for victims of human trafficking	54.0	17.8	28.2	56.6	31.0	12.4



**Figure 9: Percentage responses of members of the public and Agency officials affirming that Kenya is a source, transit and destination for human trafficking**

The above findings confirm those in the 2010 and 2021 Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Reports for Kenya compiled by the U.S. Department of State which indicate that the country is a source, transit, and destination country for men, women, and children trafficked for the purposes of forced labour and sexual exploitation (US Department of State, 2010; 2021). The findings therefore call for three-pronged intervention measures targeted at human trafficking source points, transit routes and destination points.

### **3.7.1 Hot spots, source areas and countries and/or regions of human trafficking**

#### **3.7.1.1 Human trafficking hotspots**

This study inquired from key informants for domestic and external human trafficking hotspots in their localities and/or counties. However, as shown in Table 3.23 below, the key informants were able to highlight additional hotspots in some six (6) un-sampled counties possibly because they were neighbouring counties which also had transit routes passing through the twenty-three (23) sample counties. The findings showed that twenty-nine (29) counties had known hotspot areas.



**Table 3.23: Human trafficking hotspots as reported by key informants**

<b>Counties reported as hotspots</b>	<b>Specific hotspot areas</b>
Kwale	Mackinon, Samburu area of Kwale and Lunga Lunga
Mombasa	Mombasa town
Nairobi	JKIA, Eastleigh area, Majengo, Pangani, South B and South C
Kajiado	Namanga border point, hotels located along 'No man's land in Namanga town, Oloitoktok town and farms along the border point, Rombo town area, Murtot, Lengism and Tarakea
Marsabit	Marsabit town, Moyale town and bushy areas along the Moyale border
Isiolo	Isiolo town, Samburu area of Isiolo, Oldonyiro and Archers Post
Mandera	Border Point 1 and Elwak
Garissa	Garissa town and Dadaab Refugee Camp
Kitui	Tsiekuu, Kitui town and Kitui-Kibwezi road
Turkana	Kakuma town, Kakuma Refugee Camp and Lokichogio
Trans Nzoia	Kitale town and Swam area
Uasin Gishu	Eldoret town (Soy), Maili Saba, Moi's bridge and Kuinet
Nandi	Kapsabet town
Nakuru	Nakuru town and Naivasha area
Migori	Migori town, Isebania and Ikerege
Narok	Kilgoris town, Nyangusi and Lolgorian Centre
Kisumu	Kisumu town, Awasi and Ahero
Homa Bay	Mbita town and along the beaches
Busia	Busia town, Malaba, Maradii area, Sofia area, Mayenje, Amagoro, Amoni, Munongo, Mulwanda, Bunyala, Dongozi route and all the porous border points
Bungoma	Sirisia border point, Chepkue, Lwakhakha and Cheptais at the foot bridge of Chepkue
Meru	Meru town
Embu	Embu town and along Mati Road
Samburu	Baragoi
Nyeri	Karatina
Makueni	All towns in the County that are located along Nairobi-Mombasa highway (especially Sultan Hamud, Salama, Emali, Makindu, Kibwezi and Mtito Andei)
Machakos	Machakos Junction/Makutano
Tana River	Hola
Kiambu	Thika town, Makongeni and Kiandutu
Kilifi	Malindi town

The findings in the Table above are consistent with other reports. For instance, in 2019, the State Department of Labour had identified Kwale County as the leading hotspot for human trafficking in the coastal region (Kenya News Agency, 2019). According to Freedom Collaborative and Stop the Traffik Kenya (2020), Busia, Dadaab Camp, Eldoret, Kitale, Kitui, Kwale, Lunga Lunga, Malaba, Malindi, Mombasa, Nairobi, Namanga and Taita-Taveta have been identified as locations of origins of Kenyan victims of human trafficking and vulnerable migrants. The findings of this study are therefore a call to relevant agencies to put in place anti-trafficking measures targeting the hotspot counties, the specific hotspot areas in the respective counties and their neighbourhoods.

### 3.7.1.2 Catchment areas of victims of human trafficking

The main catchment areas of victims of internal/domestic human trafficking reported by at least I out of 10 of either of the members of the public and/or Agency officials was rural areas (reported by majority of the members of the public (88.1%) and Agency officials (79.8%) followed by urban areas (reported by 10.6% of the Agency Officials). Conversely, the main catchment areas of victims of external human trafficking were urban areas and especially slum areas (reported by most 46.5% of the members of the public), rural areas (reported by 40.4% of the Agency officials), Refugee camps (reported by 38.5% of the Agency Officials) and other countries (reported by 24.9% of the members of the public). These findings are captured in Table 3.24 below.

**Table 3.24: Catchment areas of victims of internal/domestic and external human trafficking**

Catchment areas of victims of domestic and external human trafficking	Responses in percentage			
	Internal/domestic human trafficking		External human trafficking	
	Members of the public	Agency officials	Members of the public	Agency officials
Rural areas	88.1	79.8	24.9	40.4
Urban (especially slum) areas	8.3	10.6	46.5	16.5
Religious and/or children institutions (e.g. Schools and Children Homes)	2.3	3.2	1.3	-
Refugee camps	1.2	3.2	2.5	38.5
Border towns	0.2	-	-	-
Other countries	-	3.2	24.9	4.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

This study found that the main catchment areas of victims of internal/domestic human trafficking were both rural and urban areas. The main catchment areas of victims of external human trafficking were found to be urban areas and especially slum areas, rural areas, Refugee camps and other countries. This implied that there were push and/or pull factors specific to these areas. Therefore, catchment area-specific interventions are needed to address

the push and/or pull factors if human trafficking is to be countered effectively. It is estimated that 45.2% of Kenyans are living in poverty with nearly one in two people in rural Kenya being poor compared to only three in 10 in urban Kenya (NCRC, 2018).

### 3.7.1.3 Source countries and/or regions of persons trafficked into Kenya

The study also sought to establish the specific countries and/or regions of origin for persons trafficked into Kenya based on ever hearing and/or knowledge of such persons.

When the members of the public were asked to mention at least one source country and/or region of persons trafficked into Kenya they had ever heard, the countries and/or regions that were mentioned by at least 1 out of 10 of these sample respondents were Somalia (38.2%), Uganda (19.1%), Tanzania (17.9%) and Ethiopia (8.8%). These countries and/or regions of origin for persons trafficked into Kenya also featured as the most prominently known, that is, Somalia (42.4%), Uganda (22.2%), Tanzania (12.1%) and Ethiopia (7.1%). The details of these findings are captured in Table 3.25 below.

**Table 3.25: Source countries and/or regions of persons trafficked into Kenya as heard and/or known by members of the public**

Source country and/or region of persons trafficked into Kenya	Responses in percentage on ever hearing of persons ever trafficked into Kenya	Responses in percentage on knowledge of persons ever trafficked into Kenya
Somalia	38.2	42.4
Uganda	19.1	22.2
Tanzania	17.9	12.1
Ethiopia	8.8	7.1
Saudi Arabia	3.2	
South Africa	2.6	
The Sudan region (Sudan and South Sudan)	2.6	3.0
India	2.1	3.0
China	1.5	1.0
Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)	1.2	4.0
United States of America (USA)	1.2	1.0
Nigeria	0.6	1.0
Rwanda	0.3	1.0
Sri Lanka	0.3	1.0
Thailand	0.3	
Botswana		1.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>99.9</b>	<b>99.8</b>

The above findings reveal that Somalia, Uganda, Tanzania and Ethiopia which fall under the East African Community (EAC) and Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD) member states, are the leading source countries and/or regions of persons trafficked into

Kenya. Hence the Kenyan Government needs to make and/or heighten counter-trafficking as a standing agenda in the EAC and IGAD forums.

### 3.7.2 Countries and/or regions of origin of trafficked persons on transit through Kenya

With regard to ever hearing of persons trafficked while on transit through Kenya, at least 1 out of 10 members of the public mentioned Ethiopia (31.1%), Somalia (25.4%), South Africa (14.3%) and Uganda (7.9%) as the countries and/or regions of origin of trafficked persons on transit through Kenya. With regard to knowing persons trafficked while on transit through Kenya, the countries and/or regions that featured prominently were Ethiopia (30.6%), Somalia (23.6%), United States of America (9.7%), South Africa (8.3%), Tanzania (6.9%) and Saudi Arabia (5.6%). The detailed list of countries and/or regions of origin of trafficked persons on transit through Kenya is presented in Table 3.26 below.

**Table 3.26: Countries and/or regions of origin of trafficked persons on transit through Kenya as heard and/or known by members of the public**

Countries and/or regions of origin of trafficked persons on transit through Kenya	Responses in percentage on ever hearing of persons ever trafficked on transit through Kenya	Responses in percentage on knowledge of persons ever trafficked on transit through Kenya
Ethiopia	31.1	30.6
Somalia	25.4	23.6
South Africa	14.3	8.3
Uganda	7.9	4.2
Tanzania	5.0	6.9
Saudi Arabia	3.2	5.6
United Kingdom	2.5	4.2
The Sudan region (Sudan and South Sudan)	2.5	2.8
United States of America (USA)	1.8	9.7
Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)	1.4	1.4
Rwanda	1.1	-
Canada	0.7	-
Middle East	0.7	-
Other Kenya's neighbouring countries	0.4	-
North Africa	0.4	-
Norway	0.4	1.4
Italy	0.4	-
United Arab Emirates (UAE)	0.4	-
China	0.4	-
Nigeria	0.4	-
Botswana	-	1.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.4</b>	<b>100.1</b>

Some key informants reported about countries of origin of trafficked persons on transit through the country. For instance, a key informant working with the Directorate of Criminal Investigations in Kibwezi Division of Makueni County had this to say:

*“Between 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2020 and 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2021, we have arrested 45 Ethiopians and 15 Somalis within Kibwezi Division for human trafficking and most of these cases have been finalized in Court”*

Youth constitute 70% of Ethiopia’s total population of 115 million people. With the country’s national unemployment rate standing at 29.7% in 2018-2019, most of these youth remain unemployed (Mulata, 2021). Unemployment rate in Kenya was 6.6 percent in the first quarter of 2021 (Statista, 2021). With this lower unemployment rate and the challenge of ineffectively-policed porous border between Kenya and Ethiopia (NCRC, 2017), it means that Kenya provides a suitable destination and/or transit for Ethiopian youth looking for better economic (including employment) opportunities.

Other findings of this study showed that political instability and/or volatile security situations in source and destination countries was one of the main drivers or risk factors contributing to human trafficking in Kenya. According to the U.S Department of State (2021), Somalia remains a Special Case for the 19th consecutive year and that the country continues to face protracted conflict, insecurity, and ongoing humanitarian crises, with the Al-Shabaab terrorist group continuing to perpetrate human trafficking. Hence Kenya’s security interventions against the Al-Shabaab in Somalia within the African Union Mission to Somalia (AMISON) framework needs to incorporate and/or strengthen aspects of anti-human trafficking.

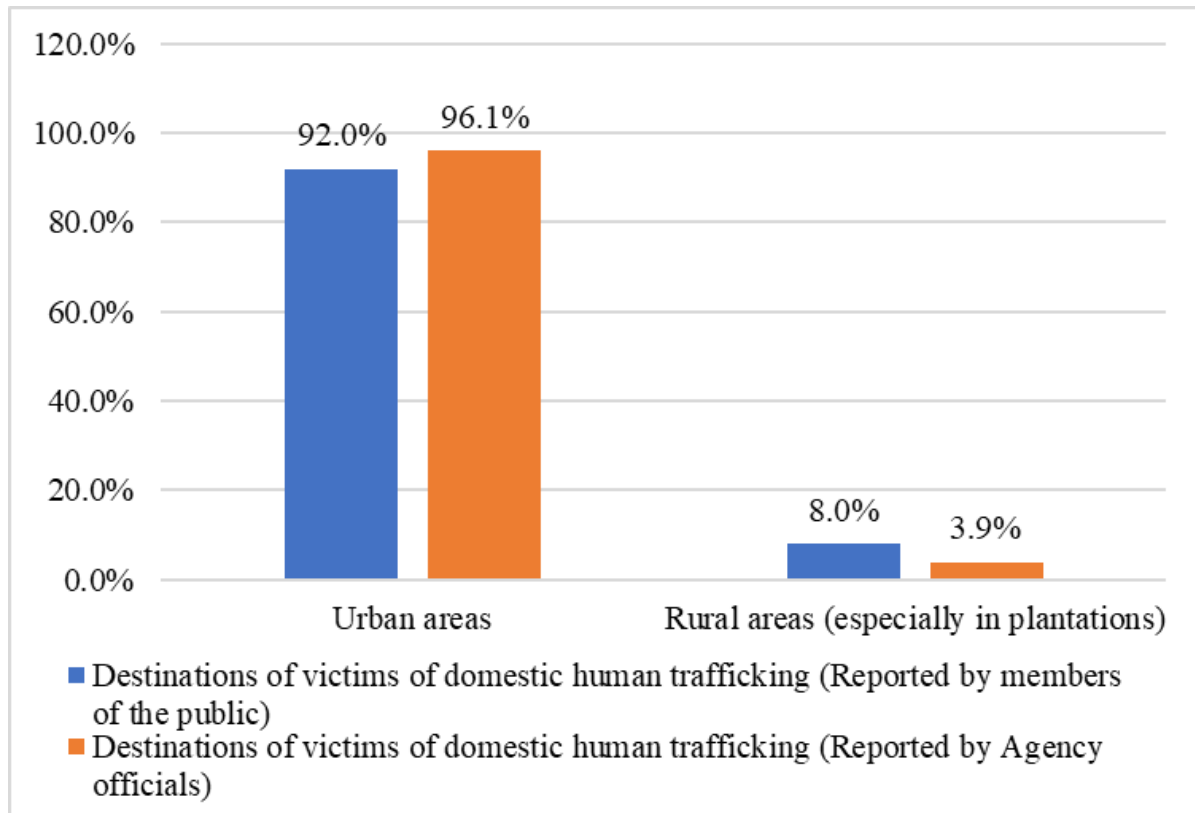
The 2021 Trafficking in Persons Report for Kenya indicates that the country continues to serve as a transit point for migrants seeking work in South Africa thus leaving these populations vulnerable to exploitation. Human traffickers are exploiting transient Ethiopians in forced labour and Burundian and Rwandan women in domestic servitude (U.S Department of State, 2021). According to U.S Department of State (2022), traffickers fraudulently recruit some young adult Burundian women for jobs, but instead subject them to forced labour and sex trafficking in the People’s Republic of China, Kenya, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Qatar, and Yemen.

The United States of America and Saudi Arabia have been identified as destinations for victims of human trafficking (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2009; U.S. Department of State, 2021). Hence their featuring in the list of countries and/or regions of origin of trafficked persons on transit through Kenya could be a pointer to possible re-trafficking of victims returning from the two countries to other new destinations. According to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), there are re-trafficking cases because many existing reintegration programmes for victims of human trafficking are not effectively tackling the socio-economic realities faced by victims in the post-rescue period (IOM, 2022).

### 3.7.3 Destination areas and countries and/or regions for victims of human trafficking

#### 3.7.3.1 Destination areas for victims of domestic human trafficking

The sample respondents were also asked about the destinations of most of the victims of domestic human trafficking. Majority of the members of the public (92.0%) and Agency officials (96.1%) said that urban areas were the main destination points. As shown in Figure 10 below, rural areas (and specifically in plantations located in these areas) were mentioned by the least number of sample respondents.



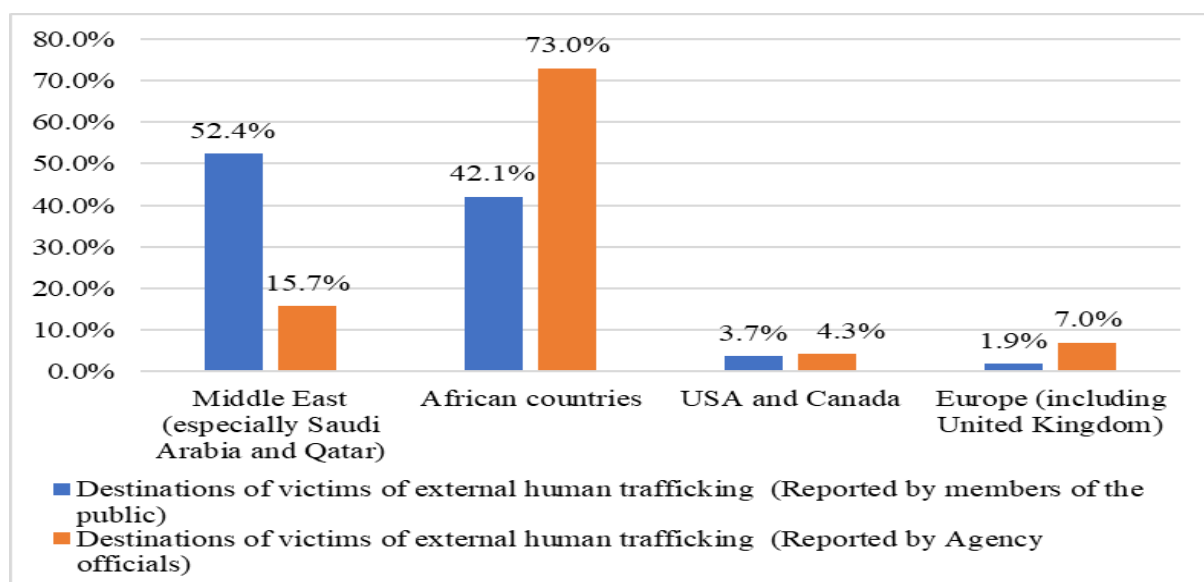
**Figure 10: Destinations of victims of domestic human trafficking**

The above findings are consistent with earlier findings extracted from transit routes which showed that Nairobi, Mombasa and Kwale were the main end points of the transit routes (and hence destination points) in domestic human trafficking. Nairobi County is regarded as the largest industrial hub of the country and hence hosts many industries which provide more economic (including employment) opportunities than the other counties. Mombasa and Kwale counties are some of the main focal points of hospitality and tourism industry in the country and have, at times, been associated with sex trafficking in some of the tourist points. Other destination counties established by the study were urban areas of Busia, Kajiado, Garissa, Kisii and Kisumu counties and plantation zones of Kericho County. According to the U.S Department of State (2021), traffickers exploit women and children in commercial sex, including in sex tourism in Nairobi, Mombasa and Kisumu counties.

### 3.7.3.2 Destination regions and countries for victims of external human trafficking

#### 3.7.3.2.1 Destination regions for victims of external human trafficking

Two main regions featured as the main destinations for victims of external human trafficking and these were African region countries (reported by 73.0% of the Agency officials and 42.1% of the members of the public) and Middle East region countries especially Saudi Arabia and Qatar (reported by 52.4% of the members of the public and 15.7% of the Agency officials). This is clearly shown in Figure 11 below.



**Figure 11: Destination regions for victims of external human trafficking**

The above findings confirm that Kenya's human trafficking problem has both regional and international dimensions, with the African and Middle East regions being the main external trafficking destination players. Hence there is need for effective anti-trafficking cooperation focusing especially on countries in the African and Middle East regions.

#### 3.7.3.2.2 Destination countries of persons trafficked from Kenya

The study sought to know from members of the public the specific destination countries to which persons from Kenya were trafficked. This was based on ever hearing and knowledge of persons trafficked.

Asked to mention at least one destination country of persons trafficked from Kenya they had ever heard, almost half of the members of the public sample respondents (45.2%) intimated ever hearing of persons trafficked from Kenya destined for Saudi Arabia while Tanzania was mentioned by 13.6%. With regard to knowledge of persons ever trafficked from Kenya, Saudi Arabia was leading as was reported by 34.5% of the members of the public, followed by Tanzania (9.7%), United Arab Emirates (9.7%) and South Africa (9.7%). Table 3.27 below shows the various destination countries receiving persons trafficked from Kenya.

**Table 3.27: Destination countries of persons trafficked from Kenya**

<b>Destination country of persons trafficked from Kenya</b>	<b>Members of the public responses in percentage on ever hearing of persons ever trafficked from Kenya</b>	<b>Members of the public responses in percentage on knowledge of persons ever trafficked from Kenya</b>
Saudi Arabia	45.2	34.5
Tanzania	13.6	9.7
United Arab Emirates (UAE)	8.1	9.7
South Africa	5.3	9.7
Other Middle East countries (including Yemen, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestine, the Syrian Arab Republic and Turkey)	4.6	2.4
The Sudan region (Sudan and South Sudan)	4.4	7.3
United States of America (USA)	2.9	4.2
Somalia	2.7	3.0
Uganda	2.7	2.4
Ethiopia	1.6	-
Qatar	1.5	3.0
United Kingdom/Britain	1.5	1.2
Japan	0.7	1.8
Australia	0.5	1.2
Canada	0.5	1.2
Germany	0.5	1.2
Iraq	0.5	0.6
France	0.4	-
Iran	0.4	0.6
Botswana	0.4	1.2
China	0.4	-
Afghanistan	0.2	0.6
Italy	0.2	1.2
Pakistan	0.2	-
Tunisia	0.2	-
Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)	0.2	-
India	0.2	0.6
Nigeria	0.2	-
Thailand	0.2	0.6
Rwanda	-	1.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>99.7</b>



The above findings from members of the public indicate that countries in the Middle East region are the leading destinations for most persons trafficked from Kenya as was reported by over 50.0% of the members of the public. On ever hearing of persons ever trafficked from Kenya, countries in the Middle East region account for 60.3% while those in the African region account for 31.3%. With regard to knowledge of persons ever trafficked from Kenya, countries in the Middle East region account for 50.8% while those in the African region account for 35.1%. Hence these findings are consistent with those on destination regions for victims of external human trafficking reported by members of the public which showed that the Middle East region was leading at 52.4% while the African region was second at 42.1%. The implication of these findings is that there is need for anti-human trafficking interventions specific to the Middle East region in general and its specific countries in particular.

The study findings on source, transit and destinations of victims of external human trafficking are consistent with recorded data. For instance, Kenya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs recorded 1052 cases between January and November, 2020 and 1992 cases between January and November, 2021 of domestic workers repatriated from Saudi Arabia due to servitude, sexual exploitation or other unfavourable conditions (Kenya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2021).

As shown in Table 3.28 below, the Directorate of Immigration Services in Kenya repatriated victims of external human trafficking of different nationalities between 2018 and 2021, with Ethiopians leading the league followed by Burundians and Ugandans in year 2020 and 2021.

**Table 3.28: Number of victims of external human trafficking repatriated by the Directorate of Immigration Services in Kenya**

<b>Nationalities of repatriated victims</b>	<b>Number of cases of human trafficking recorded between January and December, 2021</b>	<b>Number of cases of human trafficking recorded between January and December, 2020</b>	<b>Number of cases of human trafficking recorded between January and December, 2019</b>	<b>Number of cases of human trafficking recorded between January and December, 2018</b>
Ethiopians	576	216	-	9
Burundians	210	14	9	-
Ugandans	75	10	-	19
Eritreans	-	1	-	-
Kenyans	-	-	8	-
Somalis	-	-	-	9
Iranians	-	-	-	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>861</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>39</b>

Source: Directorate of Immigration Services-Kenya (2021, November 30)

The findings in the above Table relate with other findings which showed that the African region is a major destination for victims of external human trafficking. The findings imply that the countries to be included and/or continue to be in the external human trafficking watch list should include Ethiopia, Burundi, Uganda, Kenya and Somalia. The findings further call for human trafficking victim support services offered in partnership between these countries.

The findings of the study on source, transit and destination countries and/or regions of victims of external human trafficking therefore emphasize the need for the Kenyan Government (through the relevant Ministries) to work closely with its partner states in the Middle East and African regions for state-specific and joint-state efforts in addressing the challenge of external human trafficking in the two regions. Special focus in the Middle East region needs to be on Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates (UAE) while in the African region, focus needs to be in the EAC countries and IGAD member states with a special focus on Tanzania, Ethiopia, Burundi, Uganda and Somalia, and other African governments outside the EAC and IGAD membership such as the Republic of South Africa.

To emphasize the importance of regional and international cooperation in anti-human trafficking efforts, in 2021, Kenya's Cabinet Secretary for Labour and Social Protection argued that there was need to improve on the inter-country and cross-border cooperation if the fight against human trafficking was to succeed (Kenya News Agency, 2021).

### **3.7.4 Transit routes of human trafficking**

#### **3.7.4.1 Transit routes for internal/domestic human trafficking**

Based on reports from at least 1 out of 10 of either of the members of the public and/or Agency officials, the most prominent transit routes for internal/domestic human trafficking were eight (8) and these were: Busia-Nairobi- Machakos-Kibwezi (Makueni)-Taita Taveta-Mombasa (reported by 38.2% of the members of the public); Namanga (Kajiado)-Nairobi-Machakos- Kibwezi (Makueni)-Taita Taveta-Mombasa (reported by 28.3%) of the members of the public); Moyale-Garissa-Nairobi- Machakos- Kibwezi (Makueni)-Taita Taveta-Lungalunga in Kwale (reported by 23.3% of the Agency officials); Lodwar (Turkana)-Kitale-Bungoma-Eldoret-Kericho (reported by 16.2% of the members of the public); Mandera-Wajir-Garissa-Mwingi (Kitui)-Kiambu-Nairobi (reported by 14.5% of the members of the public); Mwingi-Machakos-Thika (Kiambu)-Nairobi (reported by 14.0% of the Agency officials); Lodwar (Turkana)-Kitale-Eldoret-Busia (reported by 14.0% of the Agency officials); and Kisumu-Kericho-Nakuru-Nairobi-Loitokitok (reported by 11.6% of the Agency officials). The detailed findings on the transit routes are captured in Table 3.29 below.

**Table 3.29: Transit routes in domestic human trafficking as reported by members of the public and Agency officials**

Transit routes in domestic human trafficking	Responses in percentage	
	Members of the public	Agency officials
Busia-Nairobi- Machakos-Kibwezi (Makueni)-Taita Taveta-Mombasa	38.2	7.0
Namanga (Kajiado)-Nairobi- Machakos-Kibwezi (Makueni)-Taita Taveta-Mombasa	28.3	-
Lodwar (Turkana)-Kitale-Bungoma-Eldoret-Kericho	16.2	-
Mandera-Wajir-Garissa-Mwingi (Kitui)-Kiambu-Nairobi	14.5	-
Malindi-Kilifi-Mombasa	2.3	-
Moyale-Marsabit-Isiolo-Nanyuki-Nairobi	0.6	-
Moyale-Garissa-Nairobi- Machakos-Kibwezi (Makueni)-Taita Taveta-Lungalunga (Kwale)	-	23.3
Mwingi-Machakos-Thika (Kiambu)-Nairobi	-	14.0
Lodwar (Turkana)-Kitale-Eldoret-Busia	-	14.0
Kisumu-Kericho-Nakuru-Nairobi-Loitoktok	-	11.6
Eldoret-Nakuru-Nairobi	-	7.0
Isiolo-Meru-Nairobi	-	4.7
Malaba-Eldoret-Nairobi	-	4.7
Taita Taveta-Mombasa-Kwale	-	2.3
Nairobi- Machakos- Kibwezi (Makueni)-Taita Taveta-Mombasa	-	2.3
Malaba (Busia)-Kisumu	-	2.3
Machakos- Kibwezi (Makueni)-Taita Taveta-Mombasa	-	2.3
Mandera-Wajir-Garissa	-	2.3
Kilgoris-Kisii	-	2.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.1</b>	<b>100.1</b>

Key informants were also asked to indicate some of the transit routes for domestic human trafficking. As shown in Table 3.30 below, eighteen (18) counties were identified to have such routes.

**Table 3.30: Transit routes for domestic human trafficking as reported by key informants**

<b>County where transit route was reported</b>	<b>Transit routes for domestic human trafficking as reported by key informants</b>
Kitui	Garissa- Thika
	Meru-Tharaka Nithi-Tsiekuru-Thika
	Isiolo-Meru-Embu-Mati Road
	Elwak-Wajir-Garissa-Thika
	Moyale-Isiolo-Meru
Kwale	Moyale-Isiolo-Baragoi (Samburu)-Mackinon-Samburu (Kwale)-Lunga Lunga
Mombasa	Kitui-Kibwezi-Mombasa highway
Taita Taveta	Garissa-Tana River-Taru (in Samburu, Kwale)-Lunga Lunga
Uasin Gishu	Lokichogio-Kitale-Eldoret-Nakuru-Nairobi
	Busia-Eldoret-Nairobi-Mombasa
	Busia-Kisumu-Nairobi-JKIA
	Kisii-Eldoret (in Langas)
	Eldoret-Nairobi
Nandi	Moyale-Meru
Kajiado	Nairobi-Namanga
	Nairobi-Oloitoktok
	Athi River-Namanga
	Athi River- Oloitoktok
	Kitui-Makueni-Machakos
	Nairobi-Namanga
	Nairobi-Oloitoktok
	Mandera-Garissa-Nairobi-Mombasa
	Marsabit-Isiolo-Nairobi
	Embu-Mwingi-Garsen-Mombasa
	Kikelelo-Indonet-Entarara (all in Kajiado)-Chumvini (in Taveta)
	Namanga- Oloitoktok
	Murtot-Lengism-Rombo
	Rombo-Tarakea-Murtot
Migori	Isebania-Migori-other parts of the country
Makueni	Nairobi-Kibwezi-Mombasa highway
	Kitui-Kibwezi-Mombasa highway
Isiolo	Isiolo-Oldonyiro-Archers Post
	Isiolo-Nairobi-Busia
Kisumu	Kisumu-Nyando-Nairobi highway
	Kisumu-Homa Bay
	Vihiga-Kisumu-Homa Bay
Trans Nzoia	Swam-Malaba-Chepkube-Sirisia

County where transit route was reported	Transit routes for domestic human trafficking as reported by key informants
Busia	All roads connecting Busia town, Malaba, Maradii area, Sofia area, Mayenje, Amagoro, Amoni, Munongo, Mulwanda, Bunyala and Dongozi
	Dongozi routes next to the Malaba border point
	Malaba-Bungoma-Nairobi
Bungoma	Daraja Mungu bridge route and all roads connecting Cheptais, Sirisia, Lwakhakha and Chepkupe
Kiambu	Kitale-Bungoma-Kakamega-Eldoret-Nakuru-Thika
	Bungoma-Kakamega-Nakuru-Nairobi-Thika
Turkana	Kakuma-Lodwar-Nairobi
Nakuru	Busia-Nakuru-Mombasa
Narok	Kilgoris-Nyangusi-Keroka
	Kaplong-Bomet-Narok

Further analysis of the findings drawn from sample respondents and key informants showed that: 36 counties (that is, 76.6% of the 47 counties in Kenya) were featuring as sources, transit routes and destinations of domestic human trafficking ; out of these 36 counties, 23 of them (that is, 63.9%) were sources of victims (that is, based on the starting point of the routes); of the 23 source counties, 13 of them (that is, 56.5%) were borderline counties; 17 counties were the main destination counties of domestic human trafficking with Nairobi, Mombasa and Kwale leading in this aspect; and 12 counties were both source and destination of victims. These findings are captured in Table 3.31 below.

**Table 3.31: Summary of source, transit route and destination counties of domestic human trafficking**

No.	Counties in Kenya	Counties featuring in source, transit routes and destinations in domestic human trafficking	Source counties of domestic human trafficking	Counties featuring in transit routes	Destination counties of domestic human trafficking	Borderline counties that are a source of victims of domestic human trafficking	Counties that are both source and destination of domestic human trafficking
1.	Nairobi	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
2.	Mombasa	✓		✓	✓		
3.	Kwale	✓			✓		
4.	Taita Taveta	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5.	Machakos	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
6.	Makueni	✓		✓			
7.	Busia	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
8.	Uasin Gishu	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
9.	Kajiado	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
10.	Garissa	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

No.	Counties in Kenya	Counties featuring in source, transit routes and destinations in domestic human trafficking	Source counties of domestic human trafficking	Counties featuring in transit routes	Destination counties of domestic human trafficking	Borderline counties that are a source of victims of domestic human trafficking	Counties that are both source and destination of domestic human trafficking
11.	Marsabit	✓	✓			✓	
12.	Turkana	✓	✓			✓	
13.	Trans Nzoia	✓	✓	✓		✓	
14.	Kericho	✓		✓	✓		
15.	Mandera	✓	✓			✓	
16.	Kilifi	✓	✓			✓	
17.	Isiolo	✓	✓	✓			
18.	Kisumu	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
19.	Nakuru	✓		✓			
20.	Laikipia	✓		✓			
21.	Bungoma	✓	✓	✓		✓	
22.	Kitui	✓	✓	✓			
23.	Meru	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
24.	Wajir	✓		✓			
25.	Narok	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
26.	Kisii	✓	✓		✓		✓
27.	Kiambu	✓		✓	✓		
28.	Tharaka Nithi	✓		✓			
29.	Bomet	✓	✓				
30.	Embu	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
31.	Vihiga	✓	✓				
32.	Homa Bay	✓			✓		
33.	Tana River	✓		✓			
34.	Samburu	✓		✓			
35.	Kakamega	✓		✓			
36.	Migori	✓	✓			✓	
37.	Lamu						
38.	Siaya						
39.	West Pokot						
40.	Baringo						
41.	Kirinyaga						
42.	Nyeri						
43.	Nyandarua						
44.	Murang'a						
45.	Nyamira						
46.	Elgeyo/Marakwet						
47.	Nandi						
	<b>Total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>12</b>

On the basis of the above findings, it can be argued that most counties in Kenya host transit routes because one has to pass through (by road) some counties not mentioned in the study to

reach those mentioned. The implication of the above findings is that relevant Government agencies need to undertake strategic policing of all the mapped transit routes and their corridors (and especially the eight (8) prominent transit routes and their corridors, mentioned by sample respondents) in order to curtail incidents of transportation of victims through these areas in particular and addressing the challenge of domestic human trafficking in the country in general.

Other earlier findings of this study showed that the main factors contributing to domestic human trafficking were poverty and unemployment. Further, some of the most prominent factors reported to be facilitating recruitment of victims in domestic human trafficking included ignorance and/or illiteracy, poverty and unemployment among the victims. Therefore, the findings on counties that are sources of victims of domestic human trafficking emphasize the need to put in place localized and county-specific measures with a special focus on borderline counties in order to address the push factors of poverty, unemployment and ignorance and/or illiteracy among the local community members. It is estimated that nearly one in two people in rural Kenya are poor. Close to 70 per cent of the Kenyan population still lives in rural areas. The border counties are majorly rural thus confirming that poverty is one of the key factors contributing to human trafficking in the country and that border counties are focal in the problem of trafficking in persons (Musyoki, 2018; NCRC, 2018).

There is also need to de-incentivize the pull factor of ready markets for cheap labour in hospitality and tourism industry especially in hotel and bar businesses in the destination counties by, for instance, professionalizing, setting and/or raising the minimum education and/or skill requirements for labour force in the sections of the sector that are risk-prone to sex trafficking. According to Financial Action Task Force (2011), some industries may be at greater risk than others, for example those that rely on cheap or seasonal labour, especially where problems can arise over deficient systems of labour recruitment and involvement of recruitment agents whose activities may be poorly monitored.

#### **3.7.4.2 Transit routes for external human trafficking**

Kenya serves as a transit route for external human trafficking. At least 1 out of 10 of either of the members of the public and/or Agency officials perceived that there were six (6) prominent transit routes for external human trafficking and these were: Ethiopia-Moyale-Isiolo-Nairobi-Namanga (Kajiado)-Tanzania-South Africa (reported by 59.6% of the Agency officials); Somalia- Mandera-Garissa-Nairobi-Europe (reported by 18.6% of the members of the public); Somalia-Marsabit-Turkana-South Sudan-Egypt- Saudi Arabia and Qatar (reported by 16.4% of the members of the public); Tanzania-Loitoktok (Kajiado)-Nairobi-USA (reported by 13.6% of the members of the public); Kenya-Tanzania-South Africa-Saudi Arabia and/or Qatar (reported by 12.7% of the members of the public); and Ethiopia-Moyale-Nairobi-Mombasa-Tanzania-South Africa (reported by 10.5% of the members of the public). The detailed transit routes are presented in Table 3.32 below.

**Table 3.32: Transit routes in external human trafficking**

Transit routes in external human trafficking	Responses in percentage	
	Members of the public	Agency officials
Somalia- Mandera-Garissa-Nairobi-Europe	18.6	-
Somalia-Marsabit-Turkana-South Sudan-Egypt- Saudi Arabia and Qatar	16.4	-
Tanzania-Loitoktok (Kajiado)-Nairobi-United States of America (USA)	13.6	-
Kenya-Tanzania-South Africa- Saudi Arabia and Qatar	12.7	-
Ethiopia-Moyale-Nairobi-Mombasa-Tanzania-South Africa	10.5	-
Uganda-Malaba (Busia)-Nairobi-Mombasa	5.9	1.9
Nairobi-Loitoktok (Kajiado)-Tanzania	4.5	-
Kenya -Tanzania-Zambia-Botswana-South Africa	4.5	-
Mombasa-Nairobi-Saudi Arabia and Qatar	4.1	-
Somalia-Garissa-Nairobi- Namanga (Kajiado)-Tanzania-South Africa-Europe	4.1	5.8
Ethiopia-Moyale-Isiolo-Nairobi-Namanga (Kajiado)-Tanzania-South Africa	2.7	59.6
South Sudan-Lokichar- Kitale-Malaba (Busia)-Kampala	2.3	-
Kisumu-Muhuru Bay-Tanzania	-	5.8
Busia (Kenya)-Busia border point-Uganda	-	1.9
Ethiopia-Moyale (Marsabit)-Isiolo-Nairobi-Taveta-Tanzania-South Africa	-	1.9
Isebania (Kuria-Migori)-Tanzania	-	1.9
Tanzania-Kilgoris (Narok)-Kisii	-	1.9
Malaba (Busia)- Lwakhakha border point-Uganda	-	7.7
Other countries-Mombasa-Nairobi	-	3.8
Somalia-Mandera-Wajir-Garissa-Mwingi (Kitui)-Thika (Kiambu)-Nairobi-Mombasa	-	7.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>99.9</b>	<b>99.9</b>

Based on the findings from members of the public presented in the above Table, it implies that the leading countries involved in external human trafficking (based on total percentages of starting point of transit routes and hence the source of victims) are Somalia (39.1%), Kenya (25.8%), Tanzania (13.6%), Ethiopia (13.2%), Uganda (5.9%) and South Sudan



(2.3%). However, according to Agency officials, the leading countries in external human trafficking (based on total percentages of starting point of transit routes) are Ethiopia (61.5%), Kenya (17.3%), Somalia (13.5%), other unspecified countries (3.8%), Tanzania (1.9%) and Uganda (1.9%). Based on the highest total percentages of the starting points of transit routes reported by both the members of the public and Agency officials, it can be concluded that in the Kenyan external human trafficking problem, the leading contributors of victims are Ethiopia (61.5%), Somalia (39.1%), Kenya (25.8%), Tanzania (13.6%), Uganda (5.9%), other unspecified countries (3.8%) and South Sudan (2.3%).

Further findings from members of the public showed that Kenya (5.9%) was a destination for external human trafficking victims while the leading foreign destinations for victims leaving Kenya were Saudi Arabia and Qatar (33.2%), Europe (22.7%), South Africa (17.7%), United States of America (13.6%), Tanzania (4.5%) and Uganda (2.3%).

Information from sample respondents on transit routes for external trafficking was also repeated by some key informants. For example, an Immigration Officer based in Turbo area of Uasin Gishu County had this to say:

*“Uasin Gishu is a transit route for victims of human trafficking from Ethiopia and Eritrea. Last month, I witnessed 30 Eritreans in Kitale. I was called to address the issue because this office covers up to Kitale in Trans Nzoia county. I have as well witnessed an agent applying for passports of around 20 young women for a job in Saudi Arabia”*

A senior Police Officer working with the Directorate of Criminal Investigations in Kibwezi Sub-county of Makueni County reported the following:

*“I have handled cases of human trafficking in this area. For instance: on 19/3/2020, six (6) Ethiopian male adults were arrested along Mombasa-Nairobi highway at Mtito Andei and the case is pending before Court; on 6/8/2020, five (5) Ethiopian male adults were arrested along Mombasa-Nairobi highway at Mtito Andei and the case is pending before Court; on 12/11/2020, seven (7) Ethiopian male adults were arrested along Mombasa-Nairobi highway at Mtito Andei and the case is finalized in Court; on 27/3/2021, twenty-seven (27) Ethiopian male adults were arrested along Mombasa-Nairobi highway at Mtito Andei and the case is finalized in Court; on 19/5/2021, five (5) Somali adults were arrested along Kitui-Kibwezi highway within Kibwezi area and the case is finalized in Court; and on 9/6/2021, ten (10) Somali adults were arrested along Mombasa-Nairobi highway within Kibwezi area and the case is finalized in Court”*

A summary of the transit routes for external human trafficking that were reported by key informants in twenty (20) of the twenty-three (23) sampled counties are captured in Table 3.33 below. The findings further indicate that Ethiopia, Somalia, Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi, South Sudan and South Africa are some of the main contributors in Kenya's external human trafficking problem.

**Table 3.33: Transit routes for external human trafficking as reported by key informants**

<b>County where transit route was reported</b>	<b>Transit routes for external human trafficking as reported by key informants</b>
Kitui	Somalia-Mandera-Garissa-Thika
	Ethiopia-Moyale-Isiolo-Meru-Tharaka Nithi-Tsiekuru-Thika
	Somalia-Mandera-Elwak-Wajir-Garissa-Thika
Kwale	Moyale-Isiolo-Baragoi (Samburu)-Mackinon-Samburu (Kwale)-Lunga Lunga-Tanzania
Mombasa	Tanzania-Kenya
	Somalia-Kenya-Tanzania
	Uganda-Kenya
Taita Taveta	Garissa-Tana River-Taru (in Samburu, Kwale)-Lunga Lunga-Tanzania
Uasin Gishu	Eldoret-Nairobi- out of Kenya (e.g Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Tanzania)
	Egypt-Ethiopia-Kenya (in Kitale)-Tanzania
Nandi	Ethiopia-Moyale-Meru
Kajiado	Burundi-Kenya-Other countries (e.g Saudi Arabia
	Somalia-Kenya-Tanzania- Other countries
	Rombo-Tanzania
	Lunga Lunga (in Vanga and Shimoni)-Tanzania
	Oloitoktok-Tanzania (through Tanzania routes in Mkuu, Mashati and Njia Panda areas)
Marsabit	Ethiopia-Kenya (in Moyale)
	Ethiopia-Kenya (in Moyale)-Uganda
Nairobi	Ethiopia-Marsabit-Isiolo-Meru-Embu-Karatina-Nairobi-out of Kenya (especially South Africa)
Migori	Tanzania-Migori-Kitale-Kakuma (in Turkana)-out of Kenya
Makueni	Nairobi-Mombasa highway-out of Kenya
	Kitui-Kibwezi-Mombasa highway- out of Kenya
Isiolo	Isiolo-Nairobi-Uganda
	Marsabit-Isiolo-Busia-Uganda
Kisumu	Uganda-Busia-Kisumu-Awasi
	Uganda-Busia-Kisumu-Homa Bay-Mbita
	Mbita-Uganda
	Homa Bay-Migori-Tanzania

<b>County where transit route was reported</b>	<b>Transit routes for external human trafficking as reported by key informants</b>
Trans Nzoia	Kitale-Nairobi-out of Kenya
Busia	Uganda-Busia-Nairobi
	Uganda-Kenya (at JKIA)-out of Kenya
	Sudan-Kenya-out of Kenya
	Tanzania-Kenya-out of Kenya
Bungoma	Uganda-Mt. Elgon, Kitale-Bungoma-Nairobi
Kiambu	Ethiopia-Moyale-Isiolo-Timau-Nyeri-Ngoingwa (in Thika)-Nairobi-out of Kenya
	Ethiopia-Todonyang-Kakuma-Lodwar-Kapenguria-Kitale-Nairobi-South Africa
	Ethiopia-Kakuma Refugee Camp-Moroto-Uganda
	Ethiopia-Moyale-Marsabit-Isiolo-Nanyuki-Nyeri-Thika-Ngoingwa (in Thika)-Juja-Ruiru-Nairobi
	Mandera-Garissa-Mwingi-Makongeni (in Thika)-Eastleigh-out of Kenya
Turkana	South Sudan-Kakuma-Lodwar-Nairobi
	Kakuma-Malaba-Busia-Nairobi-Namanga-out of Kenya
Nakuru	South Sudan-Kenya
	Somalia-Kenya- out of Kenya (e.g, United Arab Emirates)
	Ethiopia-Moyale-Nairobi-out of Kenya
Narok	Bungoma-Uganda
	Uganda-Kenya (JKIA)-out of Kenya
	Moyale-Nairobi-out of Kenya
	Garissa-Nairobi-out of Kenya

Earlier findings on ever hearing or knowledge of persons ever trafficked into Kenya had shown that the leading source countries of persons trafficked into Kenya were Somalia, Uganda, Tanzania and Ethiopia. Ethiopia has been identified as a key source of victims of trafficking. The U.S Department of State (2022) highlights that thousands of Ethiopians transit out of Ethiopia via three main routes and these are: the northeastern route, via Djibouti or Somalia, to Yemen and onward to Saudi Arabia and Europe; the southern route transiting through Kenya and onward to South Africa; and the northwestern route through Sudan to Libya and onward to Europe.

Therefore, based on the findings on transit routes for external human trafficking, enhanced vigilance on irregular and/or suspicious movement of population is required especially in source and destination border counties. This is because of the possibility of: nationals of neighbouring countries who may have illegally and/or un-procedurally acquired Kenyan resident documents entering Kenya and/or living at the Kenyan side of the borders and camouflaging as locals to engage in domestic human trafficking first and later to external trafficking; and Kenyan nationals at the border areas leaving the country as victims of

external human trafficking. Further, there is need for: effective policing and migration management along these transit routes and country borders; and foreign countries' and Kenya's Embassies, High Commissions and Consulates especially in Ethiopia, Somalia, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, South Sudan, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Europe, South Africa and the United States of America to establish external human trafficking victim support service programmes. This is especially important because some victims either sourced from Kenya, transiting to other foreign countries through Kenya and/or destined to and from Kenya have been subjected to human rights violations, de-humanizing conditions and even died in some foreign countries (Atieno, 2021).



**A section of the Ethiopia-Moyale-Isiolo external human trafficking transit route captured during the study on 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2021**

## 3.8 Effects of Human Trafficking in Kenya

### 3.8.1 Socio-economic effects of human trafficking

The study found that majority (80.0%) of the members of the public were aware of the socio-economic effects of human trafficking. From responses of the Agency officials who mentioned socio-economic effects of human trafficking, it was evident that majority (90.7%) of them were also aware of the effects.

Findings from at least 1 out of 10 of either of the members of the public and/or Agency officials showed that human trafficking majorly had socio-economic effects in society and the most prominent ones included: underdevelopment resulting from brain and labour drain and strain on limited government resources (reported by 31.6% of the Agency officials and 21.3% of the members of the public); psychological trauma and depression on victims and their family members (reported by 20.8% of the members of the public); slavery, loss of human dignity and violation of human rights and freedoms (reported by 19.7% of the Agency officials); destabilization of the family leading to breakdown of marriages and families (reported by 17.9% of the Agency officials and 10.8% of the members of the public); and increased risk of insecurity in the country (reported by 17.1% of the Agency officials and 12.5% of the members of the public). The detailed socio-economic effects of human trafficking are presented in Table 3.34 below.

**Table 3.34: Socio-economic effects of human trafficking**

Socio-economic effects of human trafficking	Responses in percentage	
	Members of the public	Agency officials
Psychological trauma and depression on victims and their family members	20.8	-
Underdevelopment resulting from brain and labour drain and strain on limited government resources	21.3	31.6
Increased risk of insecurity in the country	12.5	17.1
Destabilization of the family (leading to breakdown of marriages and families)	10.8	17.9
Death	8.9	3.4
Loss of incomes to victims and increase in poverty levels	6.5	-
Increased school dropout	5.7	1.7
Improvement in family income (as a result of well-paying jobs requiring low academic qualifications)	5.5	3.4
Depopulation in rural areas	4.1	-
Slavery, loss of human dignity and violation of human rights and freedoms	3.6	19.7
Spread of diseases (e.g HIV/AIDS)	0.3	-
Increased foreign exchange	-	2.6
Increase in drug trafficking	-	1.7
Encourages child labour and child prostitution	-	0.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>



Key informants gave their views on the effects of human trafficking. One such informant was a senior Kenya Prisons Service Officer in Taita Taveta County who said that:

*“Human trafficking leads to breakdown of families and slow economic growth. It also leads to breakdown of morals (that is, moral decadence) for it is a degrading treatment and against our constitution”*

In Trans Nzoia County, a National Government Administration Officer said that:

*“Human trafficking has adverse effects on both direct and indirect victims. It leads to stress in the family and loss of livelihoods. Victims are subjected to treatments leading to psychological trauma and health issues arising from the exploitation and inhuman treatment”*

A Children’s Officer in Ildamat Ward, Kajiado Central Sub-county in Kajiado County said that:

*“Human trafficking is behind disruption of education, psychological trauma, physical injuries to the victim (s), psychological trauma to the parents/guardians and high cost of doing search for the lost/trafficked victims”*

From the above findings, it is evident that the negative socio-economic effects of human trafficking (reported by 94.5% of the members of the public and 94.0% of the Agency officials) overwhelm the positive effects. Therefore, the findings of this study emphasize on the need for mitigation measures targeted at the negative socio-economic effects with a special focus on: underdevelopment resulting from brain and labour drain and strain on limited government resources; psychological trauma and depression on victims and their family members; slavery, loss of human dignity and violation of human rights and freedoms; destabilization of the family leading to breakdown of marriages and families; and increased risk of insecurity in the country. These negative effects have also been highlighted by other studies. For instance, U.S Department of State (2022) has indicated that in 2017, Burundian and Kenyan employment recruitment agencies fraudulently recruited several adult Burundian women, who were identified in Kuwait, for work as domestic workers and receptionists. However, upon arrival, the traffickers subjected them to forced labour and confiscated their passports, paid them less than what was agreed, restricted their movement, and forced them to work excessive hours without breaks.

### **3.8.2 Payment costs involved in human trafficking**

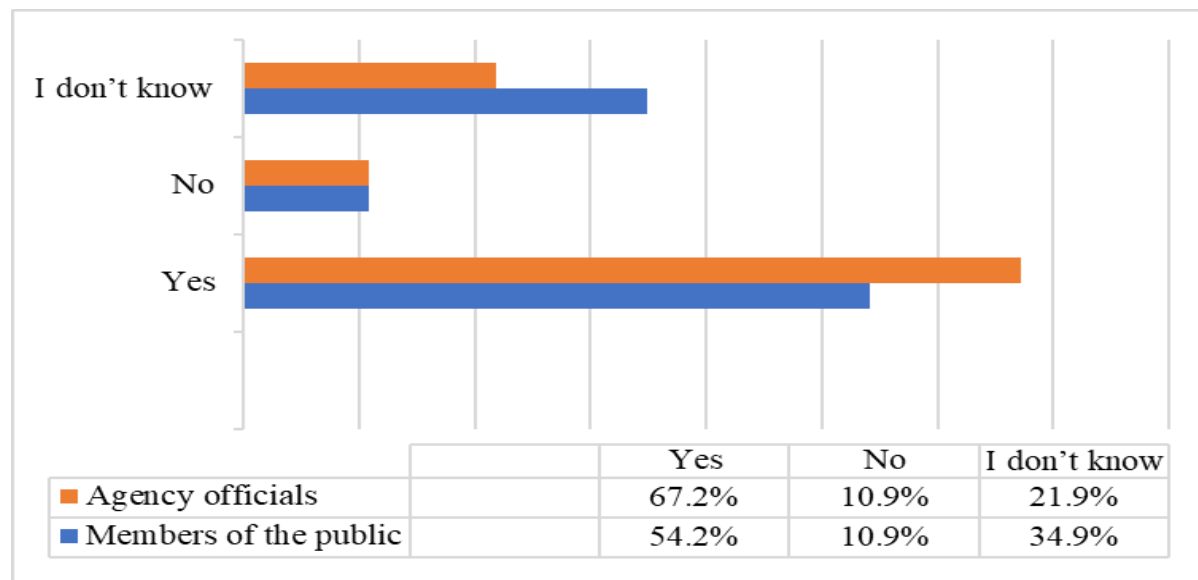
The main payment costs involved in human trafficking were found to be: agent commission (reported by 73.3% of the members of the public and 25.0% of the Agency officials); transportation costs (reported by 44.6% of the Agency officials and 10.8% of the members of

the public); and food and accommodation expenses (reported by 12.5% of the Agency officials). These results are presented in Table 3.35 below.

**Table 3.35: Payment costs involved in human trafficking**

Payment costs involved in human trafficking	Responses in percentage	
	Members of the public	Agency officials
Agent commission	73.3	25.0
Transportation costs	10.8	44.6
Document processing fee	5.2	3.6
Gratitude and/or reward for brokers and agents for the job opportunities	3.5	5.4
Food and accommodation expenses	3.3	12.5
Employment and/or registration fees	2.5	-
Medical-related costs	1.4	8.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

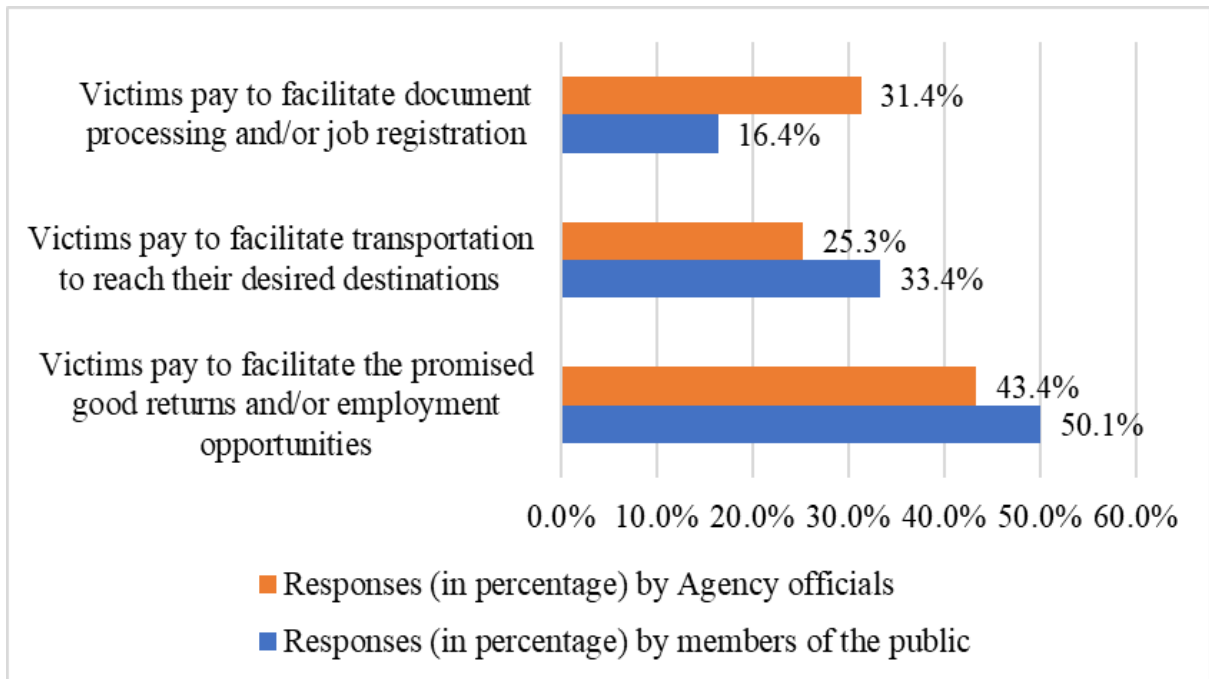
Asked whether there were instances when victims paid to traffickers in anticipation of certain benefits, majority of the members of the public (54.2%) and Agency officials (67.2%) responded in the affirmative (that is, with a Yes). These results are captured in Figure 12 below.



**Figure 12: Responses on whether there are instances when victims pay to traffickers in anticipation of certain benefits**

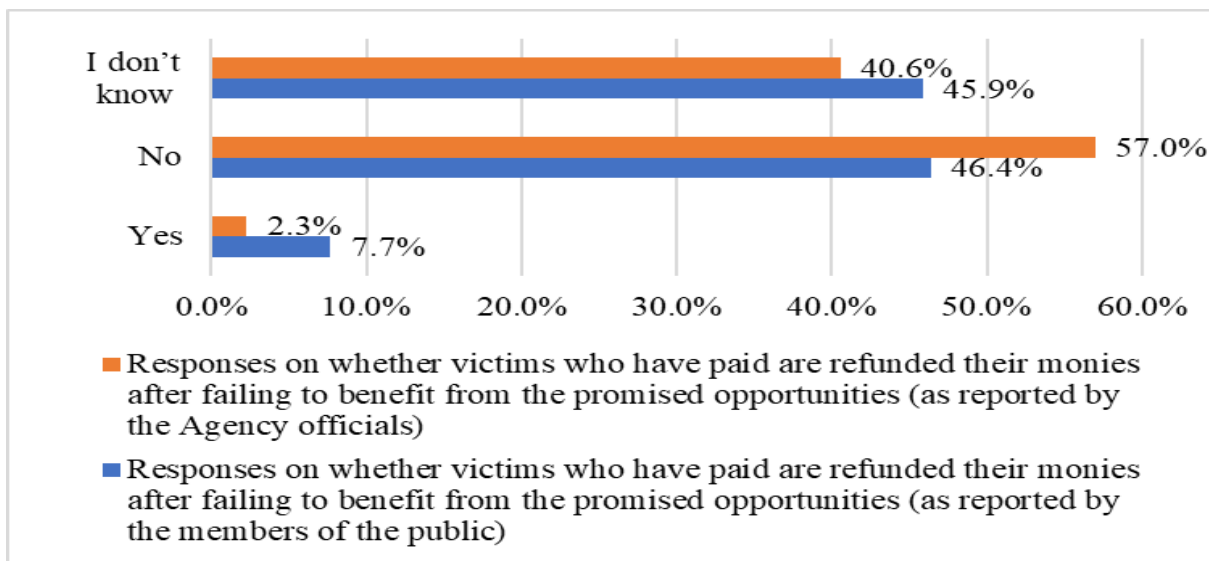
The explanations given by at least 1 out of 10 of either the members of the public or Agency officials with regard to why victims made payments to traffickers in anticipation of certain benefits were: to facilitate the promised good returns and/or employment opportunities (reported by 50.1% of the members of the public); to facilitate transportation to reach their desired destinations (reported by 33.4% of the members of the public); and to facilitate

document processing and/or job registration (reported by 31.4% of the Agency officials). These findings are highlighted in Figure 13 below.



**Figure 13: Explanations with regard to why victims make payments to traffickers**

As shown in Figure 14 below, most of the members of the public (46.4%) and Agency officials (57.0%) argued that victims who had already paid for the promised opportunities would not be refunded their monies upon failure to benefit from the promised opportunities.



**Figure 14: Responses on whether victims who have paid are refunded their monies after failing to benefit from the promised opportunities**

The study found that the victims who had already paid for the promised opportunities would not be refunded their monies upon failure to benefit mainly because: there is no legal framework for refund (reported by 38.5% of the members of the public and 30.6% of the



Agency officials); traffickers are after exploiting victims and making illegal money (reported by 30.6% of the Agency officials and 15.8% of the members of the public); the process involved in human trafficking is illegal and criminal (reported by 21.0% of the Agency officials and 20.1% of the members of the public); most victims do not know all the parties involved in the whole process of trafficking (reported by 17.7% of the Agency officials); and traffickers take advantage of the vulnerability of victims (reported by 13.2% of the members of the public). The explanations that were given for the lack of refunds are summarized in Table 3.36 below.

**Table 3.36: Explanations for lack of refund to victims after failure to benefit from the promised opportunities**

Explanations for lack of refund to victims after failure to benefit from the promised opportunities	Responses in percentage	
	Members of the public	Agency officials
There is no legal framework for refund	38.5	30.6
The process involved in human trafficking is illegal and criminal	20.1	21.0
Traffickers are after exploiting victims and making illegal money	15.8	30.6
Traffickers take advantage of the vulnerability of victims	13.2	-
Fees paid are non-refundable	8.1	-
The payments are part of the voluntary trafficking agreement	4.4	-
Most victims do not know all the parties involved in the whole process of trafficking	-	17.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

### **3.8.3 Treatment and conditions that victims of human trafficking are subjected to**

Asked if they knew the kinds of treatment and conditions that victims of human trafficking were subjected to by the perpetrators, majority of the members of the public (84.5%) said that they knew while the rest said that they did not know. Findings of the study also showed that majority (97.7%) of the Agency officials knew the kinds of treatment and conditions victims of human trafficking were subjected to because they were able to list them.

The kinds of treatment and conditions which victims of human trafficking were subjected to that were reported by at least 1 out of 10 of either the members of the public and/or Agency officials were: sexual abuse and forced prostitution (reported by 25.4% of the members of the public); starvation and confinement in rooms without basic amenities (reported by 22.2% of the Agency officials and 17.6% of the members of the public); hard labour (reported by 22.2% of the Agency officials and 12.1% of the members of the public); assault (reported by 18.7% of the members of the public); and confiscation of travelling documents (reported by

15.1% of the Agency officials). Table 3.37 below captures the detailed findings on the kinds of treatment and conditions which victims of human trafficking were subjected to.

**Table 3.37: Kinds of treatment and conditions that victims of human trafficking are subjected to**

Kinds of treatment and conditions that victims of human trafficking are subjected to	Responses in percentage	
	Members of the public	Agency officials
Sexual abuse and forced prostitution	25.4	8.7
Assault	18.7	3.2
Starvation and confinement in rooms without basic amenities	17.6	22.2
Hard labour	12.1	22.2
Poor remuneration (including underpayment sand free labour)	7.3	6.3
Long working hours	7.0	7.9
Confiscation of travelling documents	5.8	15.1
Death	3.0	2.4
Culture shock	1.5	-
Forced child breast feeding	1.0	-
Denial of medication	0.7	5.6
Being denied communication with family	-	6.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.1</b>	<b>99.9</b>

Some key informants also highlighted some of the treatments and conditions some victims were subjected to. For instance, an Immigration Officer in Kajiado County observed that:

*“Victims suffer inhumane treatment, are under paid for the promised employment, encounter change in the promised employment such as from farm labour instead of promised domestic work, are subjected to long working hours, are not provided with medical services and are sometimes physically abused”*

The above findings are a pointer that victims of human trafficking go through physical and psycho-social abuse in the hands of the perpetrators. According to Hartmann (2021), victims of human trafficking suffer mental trauma during and after their trafficking experience (for instance, they experience post-traumatic stress, difficulty in relationships, depression, memory loss, anxiety, fear, guilt, shame, and other severe forms of mental trauma), physical trauma (for instanced being raped, beaten, higher risk of contracting sexually transmitted diseases and infections, lack of proper medical care, working in dangerous conditions for long hours doing repetitive tasks, exposure to dangerous contaminants or working with heavy equipment, all of which sum up in serious infections, respiratory problems, injuries, impairments and exhaustion), ostracism (especially through isolation from friends, family, and other social circles which may be due to their personal feelings of guilt and shame or because they have relocated and now live far away from their community) and lack of

independent living skills (with many victims who escape a trafficking situation lacking advanced education and the resources needed to live independently or after being confined to the same job for a long period of time and not being allowed to learn new skills). Global Initiative (2021) and Kirwa and Teyie (2022) have cited cases of some Kenyan victims being beaten, overworked, sexually harassed, threatened with death and having their personal property (including phones) confiscated by their employers, following trafficking ordeals, in places such as Beirut, Lebanon, Jordan and Dubai.

#### 3.8.4 Coping and/or survival mechanisms of victims of human trafficking

The sample respondents were asked to comment on the coping and/or survival mechanisms of the victims and survivors of human trafficking during and after the trafficking episodes. As indicated in Table 3.38 below, the most prominent coping and/or survival mechanisms reported by at least 1 out of 10 of either of the members of the public and/or Agency officials were: complying with demands of the traffickers (reported by 30.6% of the Agency officials and 10.5% of the members of the public); engaging in self-employment (reported by 26.8% of the members of the public); taking odd jobs for survival (reported by 22.3% of the members of the public); engaging in crime including joining militia groups and engaging in prostitution and drug and alcohol abuse (reported by 18.5% of the members of the public and 16.3% of the Agency officials); seeking support from relatives and/or well-wishers (reported by 18.4% of the Agency officials and 14.5% of the members of the public); seeking assistance from government and/or NGOs including rescue centre services and resettlement and reintegration services (reported by 14.3% of the Agency officials); and seeking counseling services (reported by 10.2% of the Agency officials). The least reported coping and/or survival mechanism was that of joining religious and/or support groups and/or associations for economic and other welfare support.

**Table 3.38: Coping and/or survival mechanisms of victims and survivors of human trafficking**

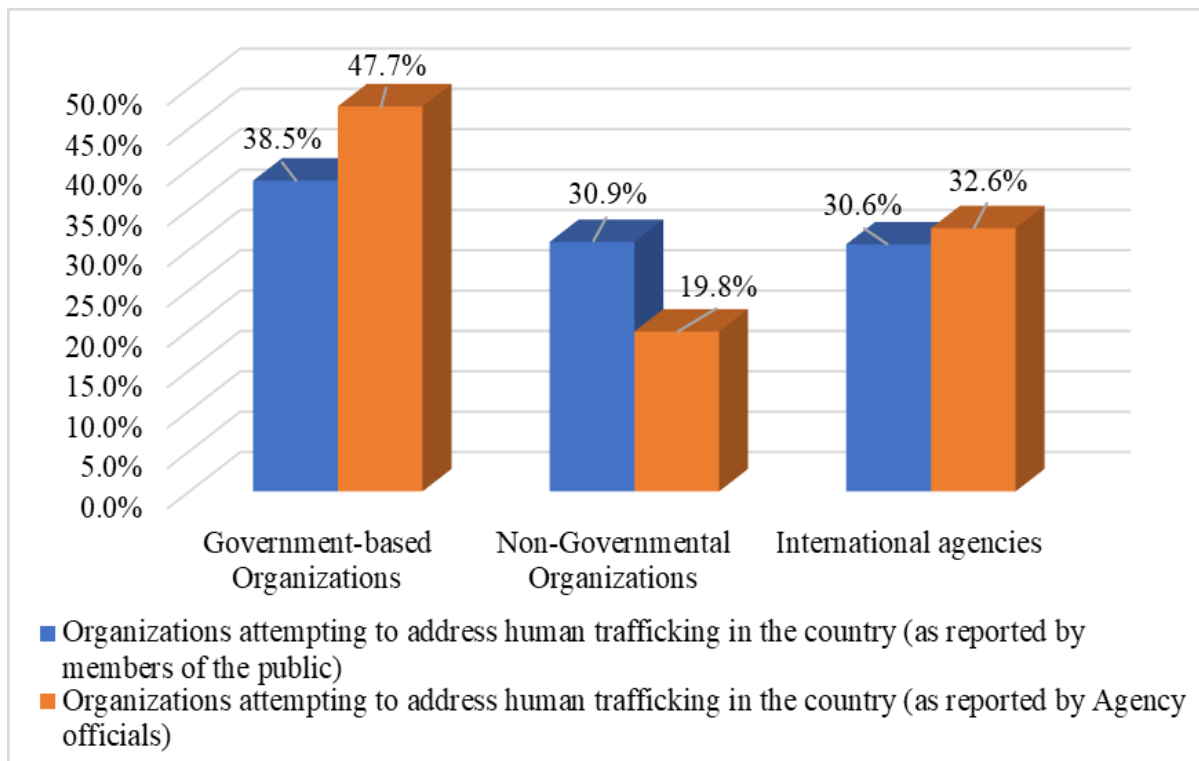
Coping and/or survival mechanisms of victims and survivors of human trafficking	Responses in percentage	
	Members of the public	Agency officials
Engaging in self-employment	26.8	-
Taking odd jobs for survival	22.3	-
Engaging in crime (including joining militia groups and engaging in prostitution and drug and alcohol abuse)	18.5	16.3
Seeking support from relatives and/or well-wishers	14.5	18.4
Complying with demands of the traffickers	10.5	30.6
Living in isolation	2.7	8.2
Seeking assistance from government and/or NGOs including rescue centre services and resettlement and reintegration services	2.4	14.3
Seeking counseling services	1.9	10.2
Joining religious and/or support groups and/or associations for economic and other welfare support	0.5	2.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.1</b>	<b>100.0</b>

### 3.9 Intervention Strategies and their Performance Ratings in Addressing Human Trafficking in Kenya

#### 3.9.1 General classification of organizations attempting to address human trafficking in Kenya

Awareness levels on the organizations that are attempting to address human trafficking in Kenya were low on the part of members of the public compared with Agency officials. Findings of the study showed that majority (62.9%) of the members of the public did not know of any organizations which were attempting to address human trafficking in the country while 37.1% argued that they were in the know. However, majority (58.6%) of the Agency officials reported that they were aware of such organizations with the rest (41.4%) arguing that they were not aware of any organizations which were attempting to address human trafficking in the country.

Findings of the study showed that of the known organizations attempting to address human trafficking in the country, Government-based Organizations were the most known (reported by 47.7% of the Agency Officials and 38.5% of the members of the public), followed by international agencies (reported by 32.6% of the Agency Officials and 30.6% of the members of the public) and Non-Governmental Organizations (reported by 30.9% of the members of the public and 19.8% of the Agency officials as shown in Figure 15 below.



**Figure 15: Organizations attempting to addressing human trafficking**

### 3.9.2 Intervention strategies for addressing human trafficking

#### 3.9.2.1 Knowledge on and intervention strategies that have been used to address human trafficking

Findings of this study showed that majority (56.8%) of the members of the public were not aware of any intervention strategies that had been used to address human trafficking in the country while 43.2% said that they were aware. However, majority (74.4%) of the Agency officials seemed to be aware of the intervention strategies.

Those sample respondents who had reported that they were aware listed a number of strategies, the most prominent ones being: sensitization and capacity building of citizens on human trafficking through civic education programmes by the Government and Media (reported by 31.2% of the Agency officials and 17.6% of the members of the public); enforcement of the Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act, 2010 (Revised 2012) and other relevant laws especially by way of arrest, prosecution, trial, punishment and rehabilitation of perpetrators of human trafficking (reported by 28.6% of the members of the public and 16.7% of the Agency officials); strategic checkpoints for and verification of travel documents (reported by 24.3% of the members of the public); intensified security and immigration-related patrols along Kenya's borders (reported by 17.7% of the Agency officials); ban on night travelling in some areas (reported by 12.6% of the members of the public); and enactment of the Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act, Revised 2012 (reported by 12.5% of the Agency officials). The detailed findings are highlighted in Table 3.39 below.

**Table 3.39: Intervention strategies that have been used to address human trafficking**

Intervention strategies that have been used to address human trafficking	Responses in percentage	
	Members of the public	Agency officials
Enforcement of the Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act, 2010 (Revised 2012) and other relevant laws especially by way of arrest, prosecution, trial, punishment and rehabilitation of perpetrators of human trafficking	28.6	16.7
Strategic checkpoints for and verification of travel documents	24.3	-
Sensitization and capacity building of citizens on human trafficking through civic education programmes by the Government and Media	17.6	31.2
Ban on night travelling in some areas	12.6	-
Ban on travelling to certain destinations especially those associated with torture of Kenyan workers	4.7	5.2
Nyumba Kumi Initiative	4.3	-
Youth empowerment through UWEZO Fund and Government-supported self-employment ventures	3.7	3.1
Putting in place regulations on employment in different sectors of the economy (including the	3.7	-

Intervention strategies that have been used to address human trafficking	Responses in percentage	
	Members of the public	Agency officials
hospitality and tourism sector)		
Vetting of Government Officers (especially those responsible for immigration and border control)	0.7	-
Intensified security and immigration-related patrols along Kenya's borders	-	17.7
Enactment of the Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act, Revised 2012 (2010)	-	12.5
Registration of locals going abroad for work and ensuring labour contracts for jobs outside Kenya are facilitated by the Ministry of Labour	-	5.2
Operation of rescue centres for human trafficking child victims	-	3.1
Vetting of foreign workers and contractors by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs	-	2.1
Computerization of local citizens' information	-	2.1
Declaration of minors at Airports	-	1.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

The interventions to address human trafficking reported by Kenya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Intelligence Service and the Directorate of Immigration Services Head Offices are as presented in Table 3.40 below.

**Table 3.40: Interventions employed to address human trafficking reported by Kenya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Intelligence Service and the Directorate of Immigration Services Head Offices**

Interventions employed to address human trafficking	Institution providing information		
	Institution No. 1	Institution No. 2	Institution No. 3
Sensitization and public awareness campaigns and programmes undertaken physically, virtually and through media channels	✓		
Facilitation of Bilateral Labour Agreements in conjunction with the Ministry of Labour	✓		
Partnership between the Kenya Government, local Civil Society and international organizations such as IOM	✓		✓
Facilitation of medical check-ups and counselling for victims before departure back home	✓		
Safe houses available in some missions	✓		
Issuance of emergency travel documents for rescued victims or those who may be prone to human trafficking	✓		

Interventions employed to address human trafficking	Institution providing information		
	Institution No. 1	Institution No. 2	Institution No. 3
Mapping out and profiling new or emerging organized crime cartels especially from West Africa, Asia and Ethiopia		✓	
Ratification of the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its 2000 Protocols to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in persons and against the smuggling of persons under Palermo Protocol			✓
Enacting and enforcing the Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act 2010, the Sexual Offences Act 2006 and other relevant laws which protect women and children			✓
Establishing a Multi-agency Trafficking in Persons Secretariat mandated to lead the fight against human trafficking			✓
Improving the socio-economic welfare of youth, women and people living with disability (e.g. through devolution, establishment of Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Institutions, Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO), establishment of Youth Development Fund and Kazi Mtaani)			✓
Implementation of girl child protection policy (e.g. through NGO activities and education system)			✓
Establishment of the multi-sectoral Border Management Committee to improve efficiency at border points and to strengthen capacity to respond to issues including trafficking and smuggling of persons			✓
Provision of practical advice on human right-based approaches at border points by the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights			✓
Kenya Government involvement in peace mediation in neighbouring countries			✓

**Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs-Kenya (2022, January 18), the National Intelligence Service and the Directorate of Immigration Services-Kenya (2021, November 30)**

The interventions listed in the Table above resonate with some of the key interventions reported by the sample respondents such as enactment and enforcement of the Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act, 2010 (Revised 2012) and other relevant laws and sensitization and capacity building of citizens on human trafficking through civic education programmes by the Government and Media.

Key informants were also asked about the intervention strategies that had been used to address human trafficking in their localities or counties. A senior Children's Officer in Nakuru County reported that:

*“There has always been enforcement of the law and networking of concerned agencies in matters of trafficking in persons. Further, there has been use of intelligence information and the Government has always responded in the identified cases. I can say that these interventions have been effective especially if I have to cite one case of a three-months old child that was rescued in the month of July, 2021”*

In Kisumu County, a senior Police Officer had this to report concerning counter-trafficking intervention strategies:

*“We have intelligence sharing between the informers, National Government Administration Officers and Police Officers where arrests are made and prosecutions are preferred against the perpetrators”*

A Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI) Officer based in Thika, Kiambu County had this to report:

*“We have majorly undertaken arrest and prosecution of human traffickers. However, the problem is far from over due to illiteracy on the part of the members of the public and lack of employment to the youth who are forced by livelihood problems to try their luck in perceived employment opportunities outside the country. The way out of this problem, I recommend local employment creation, enhanced creation of awareness on human trafficking and expediting prosecution of trafficking cases”*

### **3.9.2.2 Activities undertaken by Agency officials' organizations to address human trafficking in Kenya**

Agency officials were first asked to indicate the activities their organizations were undertaking in addressing human trafficking in Kenya. The findings presented in Table 3.41 below showed that the most prominent activities revolved around: arresting, maintaining custody, prosecution, trial and sentencing of human trafficking culprits/perpetrators (27.7%); capacity building through public meetings/barazas (26.8%); issuance of external travel documents (9.8%); and rehabilitation, correction and empowerment of offenders (9.8%).



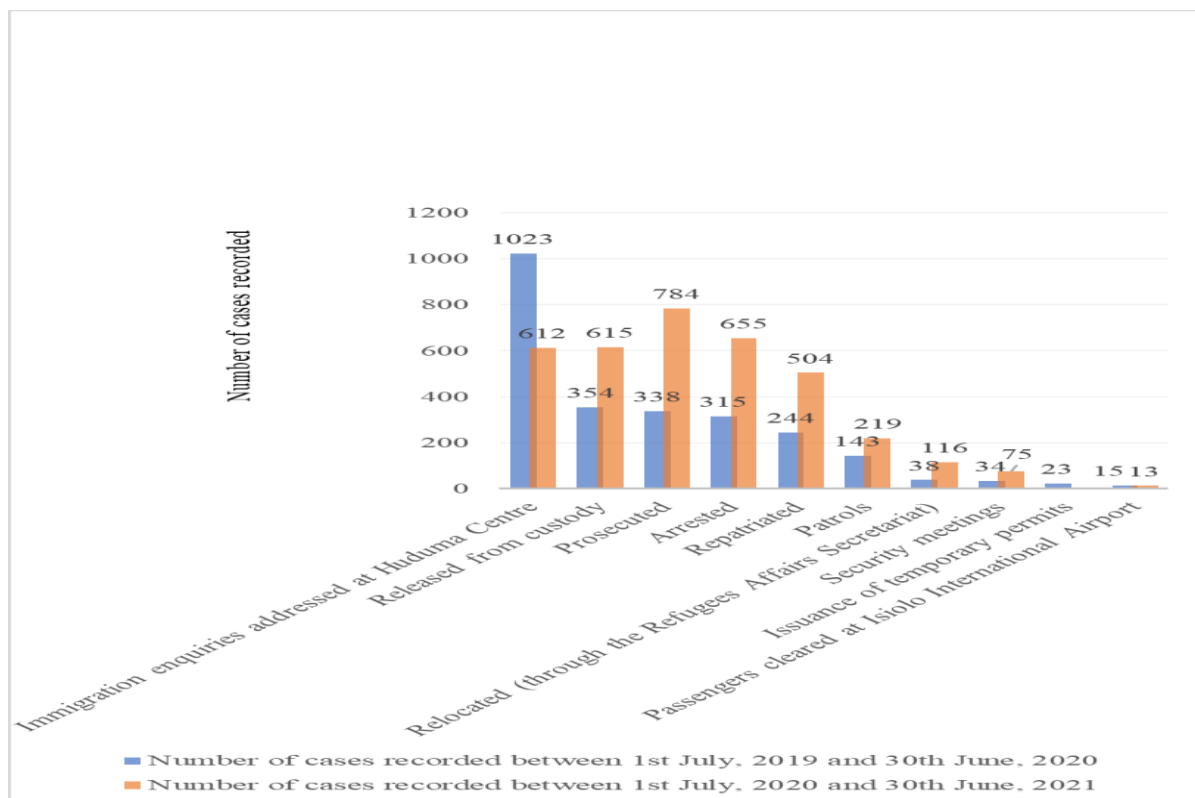
**Table 3.41: Activities undertaken by Agency officials’ organizations to address human trafficking**

Activities undertaken by Agency officials’ organizations to address human trafficking	Responses in percentage
Arresting, maintaining custody, prosecution, trial and sentencing of human trafficking culprits/perpetrators	27.7
Capacity building through public meetings/barazas	26.8
Issuance of external travel documents	9.8
Rehabilitation, correction and empowerment of offenders	9.8
Security patrols	7.3
Recommending policy actions and collaborating with other departments on human trafficking issues	5.7
Advocating for children rights and undertaking rescue of child victims through services offered in Children Homes	4.9
Repatriation of human trafficking victims and/or deportation of foreign culprits after completion of jail terms	4.0
Advocating for rights of workers, undertaking labour inspection and general enforcement of the Employment Act, Revised Edition 2012 (2007) including proper foreign contract of service/employment	4.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>

From the findings, it was evident that the general intervention strategies and/or the activities undertaken by Agency officials’ organizations to address human trafficking had to do with law enforcement with the main interventions and/or activities being arrest and prosecution of offenders. For instance, a Police Commander in Kwale County reported that:

*“Early this year, about 72 Ethiopians were found in Shimoni on the Indian Ocean. They were arrested and jailed for 3 months. In June this year (year 2021), about 18 Ethiopians were found at Kiwengu on your way to Vanga. These Ethiopians were found loitering around kiosks in need of food. We arrested the boat with Tanzanian traffickers. The boat was taking the Ethiopians to South Africa.*

The general intervention strategies and/or the activities undertaken by Agency officials' organizations to address human trafficking are illustrated by the immigration-related statistics (which include external human trafficking cases) recorded by the Isiolo Immigration Office and Border Control. As indicated in Figure 16 below, statistics on prosecution (that is, 784), arrest (that is, 655) and custody (that is, 615) cases were leading during the period between 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2020 and 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2021.



**Figure 16: Immigration-related statistics (which include external human trafficking cases) recorded by Isiolo Immigration Office and Border Control (Source: Isiolo Immigration Office and Border Control, 2021)**

The above statistics from the Isiolo Immigration Office and Border Control are consistent with the primary findings which showed that arresting, maintaining custody, prosecution, trial and sentencing of human trafficking culprits/perpetrators (reported by 27.7% of the Agency officials) was the leading activity undertaken by Agency officials' organizations to address human trafficking.

The findings of this study indicate that the Government of Kenya has put in place some measures to deal with the problem of human trafficking. As highlighted by the Kenya News Agency (2021), some of the Government's achievements include: implementation of the Counter Trafficking in Persons Act, 2010 through establishment of the multi-agency Counter Trafficking in Persons Advisory Committee that coordinates counter trafficking in person's activities; operationalization of the National Assistance Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking; development of a National Referral Mechanism for assisting victims of human trafficking which provides guidelines for a standardized system of identification, assessment,

referral, holistic support, assistance and reintegration of victims of trafficking in Kenya; putting in place social protection programmes that include the Inua Jamii Cash Transfer Programme that targets Older Persons, Orphans and Vulnerable Children and Persons with Severe Disability, some of whom are in the category most vulnerable to trafficking; and vetting all local private employment recruitment agencies through an Inter-Ministerial Committee to make sure that any Kenyan going to work in the foreign market does so within the law and is well protected.

### **3.9.2.3 Collaboration of organizations in the intervention strategies to address human trafficking**

This study sought to understand about collaboration of organizations in addressing human trafficking since the problem of human trafficking was multi-faceted and hence addressing it required the collaboration of different organizations. According to the findings, majority (89.5%) of the Agency officials confirmed that their organizations were collaborating with other organizations in addressing human trafficking in the country. According to these officials, there was positive collaboration on human trafficking with regard to aspects of: human rights and law enforcement including judiciary services (76.5%); civic education (11.8%); sensitization of other stakeholders on reduction of the crime of human trafficking (8.8%); and referral of cases of rehabilitation of perpetrators of human trafficking (2.9%).

The quantitative data on collaboration between organizations was supported by some key informants. For instance, a senior official in a multi-agency team dealing with security issues between in Marsabit County had this to say during an interview in a road block between Marsabit town and Moyale town:

*“I am in a multi-agency team comprising officers drawn from institutions such as the National Intelligence Service, the National Police Service, Immigration Department and Kenya Revenue Authority. The team is responsible for security operations along this Marsabit-Moyale Corridor and the border areas and we have dealt with cases of human trafficking by arresting some perpetrators and victims. However, some rogue officers from the National Police Service, we are working with here are sometimes compromised and have been giving us problems by facilitating perpetrators of borderland-related crimes by giving the latter prior information about our security actions and even sneaking (at a fee) the perpetrators and victims through the hills and forests in this area”*

The above findings help to confirm that there is collaboration between organizations on anti-human trafficking. However, how effective the collaboration framework is remains to be the question. Findings on borderland-related crimes and security threats in Kenya indicate that there are Border Management Committees tasked with security issues in Kenya’s border areas which draw membership from institutions such as the Kenya Revenue Authority, National Police Service, Kenya Wildlife Service, Immigration Department, National Intelligence Service, Ministry of Health, Kenya Ports Authority and National Government

Administration Office. However, these agencies have not been able to work seamlessly thus affecting their performance negatively in terms of crime and security management in the border areas (NCRC, 2018). This probably explains the reason why human trafficking is still high despite the efforts of these organizations. Hence there is need for positive involvement and enhanced and mutual collaboration between the organizations dealing with human trafficking in the country. According to Kenya's Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, the Government is committed to address human trafficking by strengthening of relevant partnerships (Kenya News Agency, 2021).



**A roadblock mounted by a multi-agency security team on the Moyale-Marsabit Road captured during the study on 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2021**

### **3.9.3 Perceived performance ratings of deployed intervention strategies in addressing human trafficking in Kenya**

#### **3.9.3.1 Perceived effectiveness of activities of Agency officials' organizations in addressing human trafficking in Kenya**

When the Agency officials were asked to rate the effectiveness of the activities of their organizations in addressing human trafficking, majority (81.9%) of them argued that the activities were effective, 15.8% said that they were not effective while the rest said that they did not know. Those who argued that the activities were effective gave a number of explanations, with the most prominent ones being that: there is collaboration with other agencies involved in fighting against human trafficking (24.4%); arrest and prosecution of human trafficking is undertaken (18.3%); rehabilitation of human trafficking offenders is

carried out (15.9%); there is verification of travel and employment documents as per the Kenyan laws (13.4%); there is effective repatriation and empowerment of victims of human trafficking (13.4%); and that justice is served to both victims and offenders of human trafficking (11.0%). All the explanations are highlighted in detail in Table 3.42 below.

**Table 3.42: Explanations by Agency officials to support response that activities of their organizations in addressing human trafficking are effective**

<b>Explanations by Agency officials to support responses that activities of their organizations in addressing human trafficking are effective</b>	<b>Responses in percentage</b>
There is collaboration with other agencies involved in fighting against human trafficking	24.4
Arrest and prosecution of human trafficking is undertaken	18.3
Rehabilitation of human trafficking offenders is carried out	15.9
There is verification of travel and employment documents as per the Kenyan laws	13.4
There is effective repatriation and empowerment of victims of human trafficking	13.4
Justice is served to both victims and offenders of human trafficking	11.0
Human trafficking networks have been tracked and destroyed to a large extent	3.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Those who argued that the activities of their organizations were not effective in addressing human trafficking gave the explanations captured in Table 3.43 below. The main explanations included: there is no clear guidance and/or checklist for handling of human trafficking issues (27.8%); there is inadequate capacity building of stakeholders involved in addressing human trafficking (22.2%); the law on counter-trafficking is weak in deterrence (16.7%); there is inadequacy of funds and other resources to fight human trafficking (16.7%); and there exists lack of full disclosure from some domestic and foreign employers concerning status of their employees making it hard to address labour-related human trafficking (11.1%).

**Table 3.43: Explanations by Agency officials to support response that activities of their organizations in addressing human trafficking are not effective**

<b>Explanations by Agency officials to support responses that activities of their organizations in addressing human trafficking are not effective</b>	<b>Responses in percentage</b>
There is no clear guidance and/or checklist for handling of human trafficking issues	27.8
There is inadequate capacity building of stakeholders involved in addressing human trafficking	22.2
The law on counter-trafficking is weak in deterrence	16.7
There is inadequacy of funds and other resources to fight human trafficking	16.7
There exists lack of full disclosure from some domestic and foreign employers concerning status of their employees making it hard to address labour-related human trafficking	11.1
Efforts to address human trafficking encounter high levels of corruption	5.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Although most (81.9%) of the Agency officials asserted that the activities of their organizations in addressing human trafficking were effective, this assertion may be doubted because available recorded data and other findings of this study showed that human trafficking in the country was perceived to be high (54.9%) and that the menace was on an upward trajectory, having increased by 82.4% in year 2021 from the recorded figures of year 2020. Hence the assertion of the Agency officials could have been a biased evaluation of their performance and/or a face-saving attempt against possible criticisms of failure to effectively deliver their mandates in respect to anti-human trafficking.

### **3.9.3.2 Satisfaction levels with the performance of frontline organizations in preventing and combating human trafficking**

Members of the public were asked to state how satisfied they were with the performance of some selected frontline organizations in preventing and combating human trafficking in the country. The findings showed that most of the members of the public were not satisfied with the performance of nine (9) out of eleven (11) frontline organizations (that is, 81.8% of the organizations), with over 50.0% of these sample respondents reporting that they were not satisfied with the performance of the National Police Service (67.2%), Immigration Department (67.0%), Department of Labour (58.6%), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (58.4%), Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (58.3%), the Judiciary (54.9%) and Foreign Embassies (51.0%). Only the Department of Children Services (45.4%) and Faith-Based Organizations (42.5%) were rated as satisfactory in their performance in preventing and combating human trafficking. These findings are captured in Table 3.44 below.

**Table 3.44: General satisfaction levels of members of the public with the performance of frontline organizations in preventing and combating human trafficking**

Frontline organizations in preventing and combating human trafficking	Responses on satisfaction		
	Satisfied	Not satisfied	No comment/not sure
Department of Children Services	45.4	38.0	16.6
Faith-Based Organizations	42.5	40.6	16.9
Non-Governmental Organizations	34.6	42.5	22.9
Judiciary	31.2	54.9	13.9
Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions	23.8	58.3	17.8
National Police Service	22.9	67.2	9.9
Department of Refugee Affairs	21.1	46.6	32.3
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	19.6	58.4	21.9
Department of Labour	19.5	58.6	22.0
Immigration Department	19.1	67.0	13.9
Foreign Embassies	17.8	51.0	31.2

The implication of the above findings is that the effective combat and prevention of human trafficking in the country will require, among other things, deliberate interventions to improve the performance of the organizations perceived as unsatisfactory in the human trafficking challenge as relates to their respective mandates, with a special focus being on the frontline organizations that were leading in dissatisfaction levels, namely, the National Police Service, followed by the Immigration Department, Department of Labour, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions.

### **3.9.3.3 Perceived effectiveness of prevention, protection, prosecution and capacity building intervention strategies in addressing human trafficking**

This study sought to gauge the general perceptions on the effectiveness of prevention, protection, prosecution and capacity building intervention strategies in addressing human trafficking in the country. The findings showed that over 53.0% of the members of the public were of the opinion that all the intervention strategies, except capacity building intervention strategies (which was deemed effective by 46.5%), were not effective in addressing human trafficking in Kenya. On the other hand, over 55.0% of the Agency officials perceived all the intervention strategies, except prosecution intervention strategies (which was deemed effective by 43.7%) as not effective. These findings are captured in Table 3.45 below.

**Table 3.45: General perceptions on the effectiveness of prevention, protection, prosecution and capacity building intervention strategies in addressing human trafficking**

Intervention strategies	Responses on effectiveness					
	Members of the public			Agency officials		
	Effective	Not effective	I don't know	Effective	Not effective	I don't know
Prevention	30.9	56.8	12.3	37.5	60.9	1.6
Protection	33.8	53.3	12.9	38.9	57.9	3.2
Prosecution	25.6	56.8	17.6	54.8	43.7	1.6
Capacity building	35.0	46.5	18.5	42.1	55.6	2.4

The above findings resonate with information from some key informants. For instance, a Village Elder in Mombasa County observed that:

*“The arrest and prosecution of perpetrators of human trafficking in this locality is not effective because very few of them have been jailed”*

A Deputy Prison In charge in one of the prisons in Taita Taveta County argued that:

*“Not much has been done to prosecute traffickers and other perpetrators in this locality and County”*

The above findings which showed that prevention, protection, prosecution and capacity building aspects were majorly not effective negate the earlier assertions of majority (81.9%) of Agency officials who had reported that their organizations’ activities for addressing human trafficking were effective. The findings are also consistent with those in the 2021 Trafficking in Persons Report for Kenya which showed that the government fell short of the required standards in the four aspects of prevention, protection, prosecution and capacity building (U.S. Department of State, 2021). This explains why the Cabinet Secretary for Labour and Social Protection in July, 2021 argued that the Government would continue to strengthen victim protection, prosecution of traffickers, capacity building of law enforcement agencies and creation of awareness to communities, especially the segments at higher risk of trafficking namely children, women, migrants, refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (Kenya News Agency, 2021).

Hartmann (2021) argues that sustainable change in anti-trafficking can happen if survivors are rescued and their perpetrators are arrested and that the more dangerous human trafficking becomes for traffickers, the less likely they will continue human trafficking activities. According to the Human Trafficking Institute (n.d), when justice systems have the tools and training to effectively stop traffickers, they protect the vulnerable and prevent potential



victims from being trafficked in the first place. The Institute's programmes provide prosecutors, law enforcement officers, and social workers with the tools and expertise to decimate trafficking in their home country ([www.traffickinginstitute.org](http://www.traffickinginstitute.org)). Hence the findings of this study imply that effective and efficient law enforcement (that is, the effective and efficient work of the police, courts and corrections) and capacity building of relevant players stand in the core of anti-human trafficking efforts and strategies.

#### **3.9.3.4 Adequacy of existing laws for dealing with human trafficking**

Adequate legislations are critical in dealing with the problem of human trafficking. Therefore, Agency officials were asked whether they thought the existing laws were adequate in dealing with human trafficking in the country. Majority (54.3%) of them argued that the laws were not adequate, 43.3% said that the laws were adequate while 2.2% did not know.

Agency officials who had argued that the laws were not adequate were asked to substantiate their responses and their arguments were that: the laws have many loopholes and enforcing them is a challenge (37.0%); the Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act is shallow (20.0%); the laws are used to prosecute victims (especially of external trafficking) as illegal immigrants (16.9%); there are no laws against human trafficking per se (16.9%); and that the laws are not clear to concerned government officers and hence not very familiar with them (9.2%).

The Agency officials who argued that the laws were adequate said that: the laws are being implemented smoothly (63.0%); penalties against perpetrators of human trafficking are stiff (20.4%); and the Children's Act is clear on child trafficking (16.7%).

Human trafficking in Kenya has been handled through specific local and international policy and/or legislative frameworks which include the: Constitution of Kenya 2010, Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act 2010, Sexual Offences Act 2006, Children's Act 2001, Victim Protection Act 2014, Persons with Disabilities Act 2003, Kenya's 2013-2017 National Action Plan and the Palermo Protocol 2000. The findings that the existing laws were not adequate in dealing with human trafficking in the country are consistent with findings from other studies. For instance, Nyamweya (2019) argues that: there is no law facilitating the establishment of government-owned rescue centres for victims of human trafficking; the Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act 2010 lacks proper representation of the victims of trafficking leading to re-victimization of the victims by being charged for being illegally present in the country; and that the Palermo Protocol as a domestic law fails to prescribe the kind of punishment that should be meted on the perpetrators of human trafficking. Therefore, based on the findings of this study, it is recommended that a review of relevant laws be undertaken especially those concerned with human trafficking aspects of immigration, child protection, sexual abuse and/or exploitation, physical and mental health, victim protection and services and domestic and foreign labour.

### 3.10 Challenges Faced and Suggested Possible Solutions and Recommendations for Addressing Human Trafficking

#### 3.10.1 Challenges faced in preventing and combating human trafficking

This study was also interested in establishing the general challenges faced in preventing and combating human trafficking and those challenges that faced organizations the Agency officials were working in.

##### 3.10.1.1 General challenges faced in preventing and combating human trafficking

Majority of the members of the public (79.0%) and Agency officials (96.9%) confirmed that there were general challenges faced in preventing and combating human trafficking in Kenya. Those who indicated that there were challenges were further asked to list them. Findings from at least 1 out of 10 of either of the members of the public or Agency officials showed that the most prominent general challenges were: corruption (reported by 47.3% of the members of the public); inadequate resources (including untrained personnel) to handle and/or address human trafficking (reported by 28.0% of the Agency officials); economic challenges of unemployment, high demand for cheap labour and poverty and accompanying vulnerability (reported by 17.3% of the members of the public); socio-cultural hindrances especially retrogressive cultural (including religious) beliefs and practices, lack of patriotism and/or selfishness/individualistic tendencies among Kenyans (reported by 15.2% of the Agency officials); inadequate collaboration between stakeholders (reported by 10.4% of the Agency officials); and collusion between locals and perpetrators (reported by 9.9% of the members of the public). These findings are captured in detail in Table 3.46 below.

**Table 3.46: General challenges faced in preventing and combating human trafficking**

General challenges faced in preventing and combating human trafficking	Responses in percentage	
	Members of the public	Agency officials
Corruption	47.3	19.2
Economic challenges of unemployment, high demand for cheap labour and poverty and accompanying vulnerability	17.3	12.0
Collusion between locals and perpetrators	9.9	
Inadequate resources (including untrained personnel) to handle and/or address human trafficking	7.9	28.0
Inadequate political goodwill to tame human trafficking	4.2	
Inadequate collaboration between stakeholders	3.3	10.4
Hostile inter-border relations	3.1	
Ineffective laws for addressing human trafficking	3.0	
Ignorance and illiteracy	2.3	7.2
Socio-cultural hindrances especially retrogressive cultural (including religious) beliefs and practices, lack of patriotism and/or selfishness/individualistic tendencies among Kenyans	1.7	15.2

General challenges faced in preventing and combating human trafficking	Responses in percentage	
	Members of the public	Agency officials
Secret nature and identity concealment of perpetrators	-	4.8
Porosity of Kenya's borders	-	3.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

The above findings were also echoed by some key informants. For example, a Sub-County National Government Administration Officer in Nairobi County intimated that:

*“The major challenges faced in preventing and combating human trafficking in this locality and the county in general is corruption among some public officers such as those at the National Employment Authority (NEA) and the Department of Labour, and illiteracy of the victims especially those living in our urban slum areas”*

A senior Police Officer in Nandi County emphasized the challenge of corruption and reported the following:

*“Because of corruption, some victims pass through the country without being detected. Some Ethiopians, when I was in Meru, were being trafficked and transported in a Police lorry. We were able to arrest the Sergeant In charge of the lorry and it was brought to Court. We therefore need to fight corruption among public officers in order to address human trafficking”*

A senior Police Officer in Kisumu County had this to report concerning the challenges facing counter-trafficking in the locality and the County:

*“The major challenges here include porous border points, increase in cost of living thus pushing people into risky undertakings, laxity in implementation of the law and corruption especially at Immigration offices”*

A Magistrate Taveta Law Courts in Taita Taveta County argued that:

*“Some of the main challenges include porous borders, not-easy to identify traffickers, inadequate arrest of perpetrators and victims who are illiterate and semi-illiterate and who do not easily understand the consequences of human trafficking”*

A senior Children's Officer in Mt. Elgon area of Bungoma County reported that:

*“The major challenges faced in preventing and combating human trafficking in this locality and/or the County in general include retrogressive cultural beliefs, poor infrastructure including roads, inadequate government officials like for example the office of the Directorate of Children Services (for example there is only one member of staff in Mt Elgon), inadequate evidence to sustain conviction and conspiracy to defeat justice by perpetrators, community and the law enforcement”*

A number of challenges faced in addressing human trafficking were reported by Kenya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Intelligence Service and the Directorate of Immigration Services Head Offices with weak counter-trafficking legal and law enforcement frameworks being reported by two of the three institutions (that is, 66.7%). These are presented in Table 3.47 below.

**Table 3.47: Challenges faced in addressing human trafficking as reported by Kenya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Intelligence Service and the Directorate of Immigration Services Head Offices**

Challenges faced in addressing human trafficking	Institution providing information		
	Institution No. 1	Institution No. 2	Institution No. 3
Confiscation of victims' travel documents by the perpetrators	✓		
Confiscation of victims' mobile phones by the perpetrators	✓		
Socio-cultural hindrances such as the 'Human Sacrifice (Kafala) System'	✓		
Weak counter-trafficking legal and law enforcement frameworks	✓		✓
Weak enforcement of counter-trafficking laws	✓		
Less punitive sentences for perpetrators	✓		
Corruption	✓		
Failure and/or fear of victims to report the crime	✓		
Lack of a clear policy framework on human trafficking	✓		
Pro-trafficking influence from friends and relatives	✓		
Use of pseudo names and fake identities by traffickers and victims	✓		
Victims who turn to become perpetrators	✓		

Challenges faced in addressing human trafficking	Institution providing information		
	Institution No. 1	Institution No. 2	Institution No. 3
Deeply entrenched human trafficking criminal syndicates with established networks within and outside Kenya		✓	
Inadequate awareness on human trafficking among the general public			✓
Lack of a clear understanding among criminal justice practitioners on the difference between trafficking in persons and smuggling of immigrants			✓
Over-reliance on victim testimony as evidence against trafficking			✓
Lack of a database on human trafficking			✓

**Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs-Kenya (2022, January 18), the National Intelligence Service and the Directorate of Immigration Services-Kenya (2021, November 30).**

### **3.10.1.2 Challenges faced by Agency officials' organizations in preventing and combating human trafficking**

Agency officials were asked to indicate the challenges their organizations were facing in preventing and combating human trafficking. The most prominent challenges that were reported by at least 1 out of 10 Agency officials were: inadequate resources (including personnel and help desks) to fight human trafficking (53.0%); unwillingness of locals to share information and/or their collusion with perpetrators (14.7%); and inadequate collaboration among organizations in addressing human trafficking (9.6%). The detailed challenges as reported by Agency officials are presented in Table 3.48 below.

**Table 3.48: Challenges faced by Agency officials' organizations in preventing and combating human trafficking**

Challenges faced by Agency officials' organizations in preventing and combating human trafficking	Responses of Agency officials in percentage
Inadequate resources (including personnel and help desks) to fight human trafficking	53.0
Unwillingness of locals to share information and/or their collusion with perpetrators	14.7
Inadequate collaboration among organizations in addressing human trafficking	9.6
Porous border points which make patrol and policing difficult	5.2
Language barriers when handling foreign perpetrators of human trafficking	5.2
Highly secretive nature of human trafficking networks and routes which make detection difficult	4.3

<b>Challenges faced by Agency officials' organizations in preventing and combating human trafficking</b>	<b>Responses of Agency officials in percentage</b>
Lack of professionalism in correction and rehabilitation of perpetrators	3.5
Ignorance of the public with regard to human trafficking	3.5
Insecurity in some parts of the country that interferes with victim rescue missions	0.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>99.9</b>

This study confirmed the presence of numerous and inherent challenges confounding efforts to address human trafficking in the country. The main challenges faced in addressing and/or preventing and combating human trafficking reported by at least 1 out of 10 of either of the members of the public or Agency officials and more than one of the three reporting institutions (that is, Kenya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Intelligence Service and the Directorate of Immigration Services Head Offices) are: weak counter-trafficking legal and law enforcement frameworks (that is, 66.7%); inadequate resources affecting counter-trafficking efforts (53.0%); corruption among concerned public officials (47.3%); economic challenges of unemployment, high demand for cheap labour and poverty and accompanying vulnerability (17.3%); socio-cultural hindrances especially retrogressive cultural (including religious) beliefs and practices, lack of patriotism and/or selfishness/individualistic tendencies among Kenyans (15.2%); unwillingness of locals to share information and/or their collusion with perpetrators (14.7%); and inadequate collaboration between stakeholders (10.4%).

The above findings are consistent with other reports. As highlighted by IOM (2018a), the challenges faced by stakeholders in the coastal region of Kenya in counter-trafficking include: general poverty within the region; long and porous borders coupled with limited resources and technology to monitor borders make it difficult to properly control all the border points; an increasing trend of accomplices within the National Police Service and other relevant authorities and such collusion with traffickers and smugglers; community members' limited knowledge on the laws, regulations and international conventions related to human trafficking and hence fail to prioritize the issue; unfavourable legal frameworks which do not allow investigation and prosecution of exploitation (especially of children) happening in cottages and villas; high profitability nature of trafficking in persons' businesses which are controlled by sophisticated and highly networked (and sometimes dreaded) syndicates which human right defenders, counter trafficking actors and opinion leaders fear to disrupt because of possible victimization; inadequate cross-border cooperation which affects the effective control of inflow and outflow of persons; absence of well-established referral mechanism for victims of trafficking; insufficient funding to provide adequate facilities including but not limited to shelters for victims of trafficking; lack of or inadequate up-to-date reports on human trafficking; language barriers; attractive-looking opportunities in the Middle East which continue to draw Kenyans despite the risks involved; and lack of clear coordination among stakeholders in countering human trafficking.

According to the Business Daily (2019), the challenges Kenya faces in prosecuting human trafficking cases include: language barriers; lack of safe houses for victims; inadequate implementation of the Victims Protection Act which is accused of delaying prosecutions and not offering support services; complex and high level organizational nature of human trafficking crime hinging on digital technology advancement and the internet; lack of data with regards to human trafficking making it difficult to tell the magnitude, impact, progress or efforts made to curb the vice; inadequate sharing of human trafficking data across agencies; public ignorance on how human trafficking is done; and victims' refusal to testify in court due to threats from their traffickers. Njeru (2022) argues that technology is both a curse and a blessing as it can enable and frustrate efforts to end human trafficking. The 2021 Trafficking in Persons Report for Kenya indicates that anti-trafficking law enforcement efforts remained weak and that some Kenyan Police Officers continued to accept bribes to warn traffickers of impending operations and investigations while some perpetrators escaped conviction by bribing magistrates and court officials or intimidated or paid witnesses to make false statements (U.S. Department of State, 2021).

### **3.10.2 Suggested possible solutions to the challenges faced in preventing and combating human trafficking**

These solutions fell under two categories, that is, the perceived possible solutions to the general challenges faced in preventing and combating human trafficking and the perceived solutions to the challenges faced by Agency officials' organizations in preventing and combating human trafficking.

#### **3.10.2.1 Suggested main possible solutions to the general challenges faced in preventing and combating human trafficking**

Findings of the study reported by at least 1 out of 10 members of the public and/or Agency officials showed that the main possible solutions to the general challenges faced in preventing and combating human trafficking were: corruption eradication and regular vetting of concerned Public Officers (reported by 32.8% of the members of the public and 10.7% of the Agency officials); civic education aimed at raising national consciousness especially against socio-cultural hindrances and/or retrogressive cultural beliefs and practices facilitating human trafficking (reported by 24.6% of the Agency officials and 12.5% of the members of the public); economic reforms especially targeted on poverty eradication, youth empowerment (for example through soft loans), employment creation opportunities and equitable distribution of national resources (reported by 23.9% of the members of the public); strategic counter-trafficking law enforcement especially through deployment of a specialized counter-trafficking police unit, increased surveillance of border and/or transit points, deployment of strengthened community policing and Nyumba Kumi Initiatives, prosecution and punitive punishment of perpetrators (reported by 23.7% of the Agency officials and 17.2% of the members of the public); enhanced financial, human and physical infrastructural resourcing of counter-trafficking activities (reported by 13.2% of the Agency officials); and enhanced collaboration and/or reporting among local and international counter-human

trafficking stakeholders, including the involvement of Faith-Based Organizations (reported by 10.6% of the Agency officials). These results are captured in Table 3.49 below.

**Table 3.49: Suggested main possible solutions to the general challenges faced in preventing and combating human trafficking**

<b>Suggested main possible solutions to the general challenges faced in preventing and combating human trafficking</b>	<b>Responses in percentage</b>	
	<b>Members of the public</b>	<b>Agency officials</b>
Corruption eradication and regular vetting of concerned Public Officers	32.8	10.7
Economic reforms especially targeted on poverty eradication, youth empowerment (for example through soft loans), employment creation opportunities and equitable distribution of national resources	23.9	7.4
Strategic counter-trafficking law enforcement especially through deployment of a specialized counter-trafficking police unit, increased surveillance of border and/or transit points, deployment of strengthened community policing and Nyumba Kumi Initiatives, prosecution and punitive punishment of perpetrators	17.2	23.7
Civic education aimed at raising national consciousness especially against socio-cultural hindrances and/or retrogressive cultural beliefs and practices facilitating human trafficking	12.5	24.6
Enhanced financial, human and physical infrastructural resourcing of counter-trafficking activities	8.2	13.2
Enactment of punitive counter-trafficking legislations	3.0	2.5
Enhanced collaboration and/or reporting among local and international counter-human trafficking stakeholders, including the involvement of Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs)	2.3	10.6
Promotion of inter-border relations to address human trafficking	-	4.1
Reforms in education system tailored to meet skilled-labour market demands	-	3.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>



Key informants gave a number of suggestions towards solving the challenges faced in addressing human trafficking. A senior Police Officer in Kisumu County said that:

*“There is need for effective manning of the Kenyan borders, fighting corruption among public officers, enhancing standard of living, strict verification of documents before one is allowed into the country or travelling out of the country for migrant labour, enhanced patriotism and sensitization of the members of the public about the ills of trafficking in person. To address trafficking, I would also recommend constant communication about trafficking, recruiting agents be vetted thoroughly since some pose as genuine recruiters while facilitating the human trafficking and the Kenyan Embassy in Saudi Arabia be at the fore-front in fighting for the welfare of Kenyans working in that country”*

In Nakuru County, a DCI Officer observed that:

*“The possible solutions to the challenges faced in preventing and combating human trafficking include establishing a special unit of police to handle counter human trafficking, the Government to enhance operationalization of the Counter-trafficking Act and training and capacity building Police Officers across the country to counter the vice”*



**A security team manning one of the external human trafficking transit routes captured during the study on 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2021**

### 3.10.2.2 Perceived possible solutions to the challenges faced by Agency officials' organizations in preventing and combating human trafficking

Findings from Agency officials showed that the challenges faced by Agency officials' organizations in preventing and combating human trafficking could be addressed mainly through: enhanced financial, human and physical infrastructural resourcing of organizations involved in counter-trafficking activities especially for effective patrolling of borders and human trafficking transit routes (51.2%); enhanced collaboration and networking among local and international counter-human trafficking stakeholder organizations for instance through collaboration agreements (21.8%); and enhanced counter-trafficking law enforcement especially with a prioritized focus on deployment of community policing and Nyumba Kumi initiatives, enhanced detection of human trafficking activities, enhanced travel clearance and security checks at Immigration Department service points and efficient deportation of foreign perpetrators and victims (19.4%). These findings are highlighted in Table 3.50 below.

**Table 3.50: Perceived possible solutions to the challenges faced by Agency officials' organizations in preventing and combating human trafficking**

<b>Perceived possible solutions to the challenges faced by Agency officials' organizations in preventing and combating human trafficking</b>	<b>Responses of Agency officials in percentage</b>
Enhanced financial, human and physical infrastructural resourcing of organizations involved in counter-trafficking activities especially for effective patrolling of borders and human trafficking transit routes	51.2
Enhanced collaboration and networking among local and international counter-human trafficking stakeholder organizations (for instance through collaboration agreements)	21.8
Enhanced counter-trafficking law enforcement especially with a prioritized focus on deployment of community policing and Nyumba Kumi Initiatives, enhanced detection of human trafficking activities, enhanced travel clearance and security checks at Immigration Department service points and efficient deportation of foreign perpetrators and victims	19.4
Civic education aimed at raising public awareness and community support to organizations involved in counter-trafficking	7.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>

The above findings on the main possible solutions to the general challenges faced in preventing and combating human trafficking and the possible solutions to the challenges faced by Agency officials' organizations in preventing and combating human trafficking showed that the main possible solutions to challenges faced in preventing and combating human trafficking in the country were six-fold, and these were: enhanced financial, human

and physical infrastructural resourcing of organizations involved in counter-trafficking activities especially for effective patrolling of borders and human trafficking transit routes (51.2%); corruption eradication and regular vetting of concerned Public Officers (32.8%); civic education aimed at raising national consciousness especially against socio-cultural hindrances and/or retrogressive cultural beliefs and practices facilitating human trafficking (24.6%); economic reforms especially targeted on poverty eradication, youth empowerment (for example through soft loans), employment creation opportunities and equitable distribution of national resources (23.9%); strategic counter-trafficking law enforcement especially through deployment of a specialized counter-trafficking police unit, increased surveillance of border and/or transit points, deployment of strengthened community policing and Nyumba Kumi Initiatives, prosecution and punitive punishment of perpetrators (23.7%); and enhanced collaboration and networking among local and international counter-human trafficking stakeholder organizations for instance through collaboration agreements (21.8%).

From the findings on challenges and possible solutions, it is evident that addressing human trafficking will, among others, require prioritized measures to address the: challenge of corruption among concerned public officials; challenge of resource gaps affecting counter-trafficking efforts; economic challenges of unemployment and poverty in society; socio-cultural hindrances especially retrogressive cultural (including religious) beliefs and practices; inadequate collaboration between stakeholders; and the unwillingness of locals to share information and/or their collusion with perpetrators.

#### **3.10.2.3 Perceived best practices for preventing and combating human trafficking**

The sample respondents were asked to provide the best practices they thought would effectively help in preventing and combating human trafficking. The practices which stood out most prominently (based on reports of at least 1 out of 10 of either the members of the public and/or Agency officials) were: civic education on human trafficking (reported by 37.0% of the Agency officials and 22.1% of the members of the public); strategic counter-trafficking law enforcement especially in ways such as establishment of human trafficking Help Desks, deployment of a specialized counter-trafficking police unit, improved surveillance and security of border and/or transit points, protection of informers, improved verification of travel documents, deployment of citizen participation in security through the community policing and Nyumba Kumi Initiatives, prosecution and meting out of stiff penalties to perpetrators (reported by 35.2% of the Agency officials and 22.0% of the members of the public); enhanced financial, human and physical infrastructural resourcing of counter-trafficking activities (reported by 25.5% of the members of the public); and economic reforms especially targeted on poverty eradication, youth empowerment and creation of employment opportunities (reported by 13.9% of the members of the public and 10.2% of the Agency officials). All the perceived best practices are shown in Table 3.51 below.

**Table 3.51: Perceived best practices for preventing and combating human trafficking**

Perceived best practices for preventing and combating human trafficking	Responses in percentage	
	Members of the public	Agency officials
Enhanced financial, human and physical infrastructural resourcing of counter-trafficking activities	25.5	9.3
Civic education on human trafficking	22.1	37.0
Strategic counter-trafficking law enforcement especially in ways such as establishment of human trafficking Help Desks, deployment of a specialized counter-trafficking police unit, improved surveillance and security of border and/or transit points, protection of informers, improved verification of travel documents, deployment of citizen participation in security through the community policing and Nyumba Kumi Initiatives, prosecution and meting out of stiff penalties to perpetrators	22.0	35.2
Economic reforms especially targeted on poverty eradication, youth empowerment and creation of employment opportunities	13.9	10.2
Eradication of corruption among state and non-state officials involved in human trafficking issues	8.1	2.8
Enacting effective counter-trafficking legislations	5.3	-
Enhanced relations, collaboration and networking among local and international counter-human trafficking stakeholders	3.1	5.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

The findings of this study reveal that there are best practices and main possible solutions to the challenges faced in preventing and combating human trafficking. The ones reported by at least 1 out of 10 members of the public or Agency officials are: enhanced financial, human and physical infrastructural resourcing of organizations involved in counter-trafficking activities (51.2%); civic education aimed at raising national consciousness against human trafficking (37.0%); enhanced and strategic counter-trafficking law enforcement especially through deployment of a specialized counter-trafficking police unit, increased surveillance of border and/or transit points, deployment of strengthened community policing and Nyumba Kumi Initiatives, prosecution and punitive punishment of perpetrators (35.2%); corruption eradication and regular vetting of Public Officers concerned with the problem of human trafficking (32.8%); economic reforms especially targeted on poverty eradication, youth empowerment (such as soft loans), employment creation opportunities and equitable distribution of national resources (23.9%); and enhanced collaboration, networking and/or reporting among local and international counter-human trafficking stakeholders (21.8%). These proposed solutions and best practices for preventing and combating human trafficking are consistent with and relevant to the challenges faced in addressing human trafficking in the country.

Enhancement of resources to organizations dealing with anti-trafficking is critical especially with regard to access to and provision of services to victims (OSCE, 2009). Equipping population groups at risk of trafficking with the right information is also another critical trafficking prevention measure. For instance, UNODC (2018) argues that targeted information material that explains the risks of and possible responses to trafficking could be included in practical information given to migrants in refugee camps and along migratory routes. According to UNODC (2021), to prevent trafficking, governments need to address poverty, underdevelopment and a lack of equal opportunity, and raise awareness. That means making significant investments in people by way of education and jobs as part of systemic solutions pursued in solidarity. The systemic solutions need to rely on broad, cross-border partnerships between governments, with the support of international and regional organizations. Civil society and private sector cooperation are also critical as well as more sharing of information and intelligence.

### **3.10.3 Proposed recommendations for addressing human trafficking in Kenya**

The respondents' recommendations for addressing human trafficking in Kenya were solicited in the aspects of: detection and investigations; prosecution; trial and sentencing; rehabilitation and correction of human trafficking offenders; and resettlement and reintegration of survivors of human trafficking.

#### **3.10.3.1 Recommendations for addressing human trafficking in the aspect of detection and investigations**

The most prominent recommendations for addressing human trafficking in the aspect of detection and investigations that were proposed by at least 1 out of 10 members of the public and/or Agency officials were: intensifying border control operations (reported by 34.9% of the members of the public); strengthening collaboration between police and other local and international agencies in addressing human trafficking (reported by 30.2% of the Agency officials); improving investigation skills on human trafficking and general police service delivery (reported by 27.9% of the members of the public and 25.2% of the Agency officials); strengthening and/or embracing community policing and Nyumba Kumi Initiative in counter-trafficking (reported by 17.6% of the members of the public and 12.6% of the Agency officials); strengthening special police units handling human trafficking (reported by 16.0% of the Agency officials); and deployment of modern technology in tracking and detecting perpetrators of human trafficking (reported by 10.1% of the Agency officials). These findings are captured in detail in Table 3.52 below.

**Table 3.52: Recommendations for addressing human trafficking in the aspect of detection and investigations**

Recommendations for addressing human trafficking in the aspect of detection and investigations	Responses in percentage	
	Members of the public	Agency officials
Intensifying border control operations	34.9	-
Improving investigation skills on human trafficking and general police service delivery	27.9	25.2
Strengthening and/or embracing community policing and Nyumba Kumi Initiative in counter-trafficking	17.6	12.6
Enhanced audit of systems at Immigration Department and improved scrutiny and verification of travel documents	8.5	-
Strengthening collaboration between police and other local and international agencies in addressing human trafficking	5.9	30.2
Strengthening special police units handling human trafficking	5.1	16.0
Addressing corruption in detection and investigation of human trafficking	-	5.9
Deployment of modern technology in tracking and detecting perpetrators of human trafficking	-	10.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

A senior Immigration Officer based in Malaba, Busia County, recommended as follows:

*“To address human trafficking in this locality especially with regard to investigation and detection: there is need to intensify police patrols along the Kenya-Uganda; a desk should be put at the border point to screen travellers; a multi-agency team should be strengthened to deal with the vice; there is need for capacity building of investigation officers on matters of trafficking; and there is need for adequate facilitation of investigation activities”*

Other findings of this study that showed that border counties in Kenya contributed significantly in the problem of external human trafficking. The counties acted as sources of victims, with trafficking transit routes also stemming from the same counties. IOM (2018a)

has indicated that Kenya's long and porous borders are inadequately policed. The 2021 Trafficking in Persons Report for Kenya also indicates that traffickers continued to easily obtain fraudulent identity documents from complicit officials, particularly at border checkpoints (U.S. Department of State, 2021).

Law enforcement officers play important roles such as intercepting attempted human trafficking offences, identifying and screening victims and perpetrators. International cooperation and joint investigation teams and coordination between law enforcement and other local agencies (such as prosecution) are critical especially for ensuring that the appropriate investigative actions are taken to help increase the chances of the case against the suspected traffickers going to trial and evidence being strong enough to secure a conviction. Since investigations lie at the core of counter-trafficking, investigation skills anchored on reliable types and sources of intelligence, evidence gathering focused on establishing the act, means and purpose of exploitation, and reactive, proactive and disruptive investigation approaches are emphasized (IOM, 2018b). According to Clawson, Dutch, Lopez and Tiapula (2008), successful human trafficking cases (measured as a conviction in a law court) depend on, among others, trained investigators and collaborative relationships between the different players (including the victims).

Human trafficking is essentially a community human security challenge in that the victims and perpetrators are members of local communities. Findings of this study revealed that unwillingness of locals to share information and/or their collusion with perpetrators and weak counter-trafficking law enforcement were some of the main challenges faced in addressing human trafficking vice in the country. Further, the negative effects of the vice affect the same members. The Nyumba Kumi Initiative was introduced in the country and incorporated into the community policing structures, that is, Community Policing Committees and Community Policing Forums with a view of encouraging citizen participation especially in bolstering neighbourhood security. These structures consist of local leaders, residents, and community-based organizations who meet to identify and solve problems in their area. By 2015, there were over 200,000 Nyumba Kumi clusters in the country (Were and Opondo, 2021). Hence strengthening and/or embracing community policing and Nyumba Kumi Initiatives in the counter-trafficking efforts could have a positive contribution in the aspect of detection and investigation of this crime.

Recent efforts of the Government of Kenya to address human trafficking have included increasing the number of investigations of trafficking crimes and increasing personnel dedicated to specialized anti-trafficking police units. However, these units have remained without adequate staffing and financial resources thus hindering the overall progress on the anti-trafficking efforts (U.S. Department of State, 2021).

The study revealed that one of the reasons why human trafficking business has persisted in Kenya was perpetrators' use of advanced technology in their mode of operation, a factor also highlighted by Njeru (2022) who argues that human traffickers in Kenya use technology to



lure youth to exploitative bondage. This finding was consistent with Business Daily (2019) which indicated that the complexity of the vice was facilitated by its hinging on digital technology advancement and the internet. This implied that counter-trafficking measures had also to deploy more advanced technology than is used by the perpetrators. According to IOM (2018a), limited technology to monitor borders makes it difficult to properly control all the country's border points. IOM (2018b) emphasizes that detecting and investigating human trafficking needs to prioritize the use of information technology equipment such as computers, mobile phones, fax machines and personal organizers in objective evidence gathering.

### **3.10.3.2 Recommendations for addressing human trafficking in the aspect of prosecution**

According to the sample respondents, the most prominent recommendations for addressing human trafficking in the aspect of prosecution were: recruitment of additional and/or adequate training of human trafficking-specialized prosecutors (reported by 46.6% of the Agency officials); timely prosecution of human trafficking offenders (reported by 46.0% of the members of the public); closer working relationships, collaboration and networking between prosecutors, investigators and other relevant agencies (reported by 23.7% of the Agency officials); improved collection and presentation of human trafficking evidence (reported by 23.1% of the members of the public); and eradication of corruption in prosecution of human trafficking cases (reported by 14.7% of the members of the public). The detailed recommendations are highlighted in Table 3.53 below.

**Table 3.53: Recommendations for addressing human trafficking in the aspect of prosecution**

<b>Recommendations for addressing human trafficking in the aspect of prosecution</b>	<b>Responses in percentage</b>	
	<b>Members of the public</b>	<b>Agency officials</b>
Timely prosecution of human trafficking offenders	46.0	-
Improved collection and presentation of human trafficking evidence	23.1	-
Eradication of corruption in prosecution of human trafficking cases	14.7	6.8
Recruitment of additional and/or adequate training of human trafficking-specialized prosecutors	7.9	46.6
Proper bonding of witnesses in court and strict bail and bond terms for human trafficking offenders	6.7	6.8
Expansion of list of agencies with capacity and authority to prosecute human trafficking	1.5	6.8



<b>Recommendations for addressing human trafficking in the aspect of prosecution</b>	<b>Responses in percentage</b>	
	<b>Members of the public</b>	<b>Agency officials</b>
including the Immigration Department		
Closer working relationships, collaboration and networking between prosecutors, investigators and other relevant agencies	-	23.7
Enhanced witness protection in human trafficking cases	-	9.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

The recommendations in the aspect of prosecution resonate with other findings of this and other studies. For instance, findings of this study showed that majority (58.3%) of the members of the public were not satisfied with the performance of the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions in preventing and combating human trafficking. The 2021 Trafficking in Persons Report for Kenya indicates that although corruption and official complicity in trafficking crimes remained significant concerns during the reporting period, the government did not report any investigations, prosecutions, or convictions of government employees complicit in human trafficking offenses. The Report further confirms delays in prosecution of human trafficking cases in that at the end of the previous reporting period (that is, for year 2020), at least 38 prosecutions remained ongoing with the government not reporting updates on these cases during the 2021 reporting period (U.S. Department of State, 2021). Clawson, Dutch, Lopez and Tiapula (2008) argue that some of the challenges and barriers to prosecuting human trafficking cases include inadequate collaboration, lack of resources and lack of training and hence the possible promising practices or strategies for successfully prosecuting human trafficking cases include: prioritizing collaboration between prosecutors and other stakeholders; having sufficient prosecution resources; and the importance of training of prosecutors to raise awareness of the problem. According to IOM (2018b), successful prosecution human trafficking cases is hinged on two main factors, that is, preparation of victims and witnesses for trials and preparation of evidence, with emphasis to prosecutors on the importance of assembling, securing and presenting the best evidence in trial courts.

### **3.10.3.3 Recommendations for addressing human trafficking in the aspect of trial and sentencing**

The most prominent recommendations for addressing human trafficking in the aspect of trial and sentencing were: meting out stringent penalties to human trafficking offenders (reported by 86.9% of the Agency officials and 86.2% of the members of the public); and strict bail and bond terms and expeditious trial of human trafficking suspects (reported by 13.1% of the Agency officials). As indicated in Table 3.54 below, the least number of members of the public recommended for leniency to victims of human trafficking.

**Table 3.54: Recommendations for addressing human trafficking in the aspect of trial and sentencing**

<b>Recommendations for addressing human trafficking in the aspect of trial and sentencing</b>	<b>Responses in percentage</b>	
	<b>Members of the public</b>	<b>Agency officials</b>
Meting out stringent penalties to human trafficking offenders	86.2	86.9
Deportation of foreign human trafficking culprits	5.6	-
Eradication of corruption in the trial and sentencing of human trafficking cases	5.2	-
Leniency to victims of human trafficking	3.0	-
Strict bail and bond terms and expeditious trial of human trafficking suspects	-	13.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Kenya's Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2010 criminalizes sex trafficking and labour trafficking and prescribes that a person who traffics another person, for the purpose of exploitation, commits an offence and is liable to imprisonment for a term of not less than thirty years or to a fine of not less than thirty million shillings or to both and upon subsequent conviction, to imprisonment for life (National Council for Law Reporting, 2012a). According to the U.S. Department of State (2021), these penalties are sufficiently stringent but it is the allowing for a fine in lieu of imprisonment for sex trafficking which makes the penalties not commensurate with those for other serious crimes such as rape. This therefore calls for the need to sentence convicted human traffickers to adequate penalties, which should involve significant custodial and/or non-custodial sentences to serve the purposes of punishment, rehabilitation and deterrence.

#### **3.10.3.4 Recommendations for addressing human trafficking in the aspect of rehabilitation and correction of human trafficking offenders**

The most prominent recommendations for addressing human trafficking in the aspect of rehabilitation and correction of human trafficking offenders that were proposed by at least 1 out of 10 members of the public and/or Agency officials were: improving rehabilitation programmes for human trafficking offenders with a special focus on provision of vocational training to low-income offenders and intensive guidance and counselling (reported by 56.8% of the members of the public and 54.4% of the Agency officials); setting up rehabilitation centres for human trafficking offenders (reported by 38.4% of the Agency officials and 11.4% of the members of the public); effective supervision of correctional punishment meted out on human trafficking offenders (reported by 16.3% of the members of the public); and conducting civic education and sensitizations on the impact of the human trafficking vice (reported by 13.4% of the members of the public). As shown in Table 3.55 below, undertaking offender rehabilitation and correction exchange programme for deported foreign human trafficking offenders was the least popular recommendation (reported by 0.9% of the Agency officials).

**Table 3.55: Recommendations for addressing human trafficking in the aspect of rehabilitation and correction of human trafficking offenders**

<b>Recommendations for addressing human trafficking in the aspect of rehabilitation and correction of human trafficking offenders</b>	<b>Responses in percentage</b>	
	<b>Members of the public</b>	<b>Agency officials</b>
Improving rehabilitation programmes for human trafficking offenders with a special focus on provision of vocational training to low-income offenders and intensive guidance and counselling	56.8	54.4
Effective supervision of correctional punishment meted out on human trafficking offenders	16.3	-
Conducting civic education and sensitizations on the impact of the human trafficking vice	13.4	-
Setting up rehabilitation centres for human trafficking offenders	11.4	38.4
Post-release monitoring and follow-up of human trafficking offenders	2.2	6.2
Undertaking offender rehabilitation and correction exchange programme for deported foreign human trafficking offenders	-	0.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Human trafficking is not one of the capital offences in Kenya and hence traffickers who are first-time offenders may therefore qualify for non-custodial sentences such as Community Service Orders and Probation Orders (National Council for Law Reporting, 2012b; 2012c). Further, other findings of this study showed that human trafficking has, at times, been facilitated by close family members (such as bread-winning parents and/or relatives of victims) some of who are driven by vulnerabilities of poverty and/or unemployment to engage in the vice. Therefore, existing custodial facilities, Community Service Orders and Probation Orders stations with improved offender rehabilitation, supervision and socio-economic empowerment (such as formal education and vocational skills training; guidance and counselling; and anti-criminal behaviour civic education and sensitizations) programmes, as espoused by NCRC (2017; 2019), could be instrumental in anti-human trafficking efforts.

### **3.10.3.5 Recommendations for addressing human trafficking in the aspect of resettlement and reintegration of survivors of human trafficking**

The most prominent recommendations for addressing human trafficking in the aspect of resettlement and reintegration of survivors of human trafficking that were proposed by the sample respondents were: provision of intensive and professional counselling services to survivors (reported by 42.7% of the Agency officials and 33.0% of the members of the public); provision of economic empowerment to victims/survivors of human trafficking with

a special focus on provision of business grants and/or start-up financial support, employment opportunities and vocational training (reported by 37.5% of the members of the public and 17.9% of the Agency officials); deportation and/or repatriation of foreign and local survivors (reported by 17.7% of the members of the public and 12.8% of the Agency officials); and establishment of pre-resettlement and reintegration Rescue Centres and/or Half-Way Homes for survivors (reported by 17.1% of the Agency officials). These findings are presented in detail in Table 3.56 below.

**Table 3.56: Recommendations for addressing human trafficking in the aspect of resettlement and reintegration of survivors of human trafficking**

Recommendations for addressing human trafficking in the aspect of resettlement and reintegration of survivors of human trafficking	Responses in percentage	
	Members of the public	Agency officials
Provision of economic empowerment to victims/survivors of human trafficking with a special focus on provision of business grants and/or start-up financial support, employment opportunities and vocational training	37.5	17.9
Provision of intensive and professional counselling services to survivors	33.0	42.7
Deportation and/or repatriation of foreign and local survivors	17.7	12.8
Engaging survivors in campaigns against human trafficking	7.3	9.4
Establishment of pre-resettlement and reintegration Rescue Centres and/or Half-Way Homes for survivors	4.6	17.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>99.9</b>

The above findings are consistent with other findings of this study and by other scholars. For instance, findings of this study showed that poverty-occasioned vulnerabilities (88.0%) and unemployment-occasioned vulnerabilities and/or search for greener pastures (22.5%) were key factors predisposing vulnerable populations to conditions of trafficking. Traffickers were reported to subject their victims to dehumanizing and/or traumatizing conditions and treatments, the major ones being: sexual abuse and forced prostitution (25.4%); starvation and confinement in rooms without basic amenities (22.2%); hard labour (22.2%); assault (18.7%); and confiscation of travelling documents (15.1%). According to Awareness Against Human Trafficking (HAART)-Kenya (n.d), human trafficking generally takes place in dangerous and degrading conditions and involves a range of human rights violations and abuses, with some of the forms of severe exploitation being abduction, incarceration, rape,

sexual enslavement, enforced prostitution, forced labour, removal of organs, physical beatings, starvation, and the deprivation of medical treatment ([www.haartkenya.org](http://www.haartkenya.org)). Hence the provision of economic empowerment and intensive and professional counselling services would be instrumental in the resettlement and reintegration of survivors/victims of human trafficking.

Nyamweya (2019) argues that there are no government-owned rescue centres in the country for victims of human trafficking because there is no law to facilitate their establishment and that the Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act 2010 lacks proper representation of the victims of trafficking leading to their re-victimization when they are charged for being in the country illegally.

The findings of this study confirmed that rural and urban areas of Kenya and the country at large were sources and destinations of victims of human trafficking. This meant that there was need for a programme to assist victims who needed to return to their home areas and countries. Assistance to victims forms the rationale for the operationalization of the National Assistance Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking ([www.haartkenya.org](http://www.haartkenya.org)), with repatriation of victims to and from Kenya being an important undertaking (KNA, 2021).

#### **3.10.3.6 Policy and programmatic recommendations suggested by some key government institutions**

The Head Offices of Kenya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Intelligence Service and the Directorate of Immigration Services were asked to propose some policy and programmatic recommendations to effectively address human trafficking in the country. The recommendations highlighted by at least two of the three institutions were: continued awareness creation and public sensitization campaigns and programmes on the dangers of human trafficking through channels such as social media, seminars and press releases; instituting support services such as reintegration and counselling programmes for victims of human trafficking upon their return back home; strengthening and/or amending counter-trafficking legal frameworks (for example, the Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act 2010 to clarify sexual exploitation and forced labour); and establishing and/or maintaining an updated database on human trafficking with details on victims, perpetrators, nationalities, trafficking routes, sentencing verdicts and other information on counter-trafficking in persons and smuggling. The detailed recommendations are captured in Table 3.57 below.

**Table 3.57: Policy and programmatic recommendations suggested by Kenya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Intelligence Service and the Directorate of Immigration Services Head Offices**

Policy and programmatic recommendations for addressing human trafficking	Institution providing information		
	Institution No. 1	Institution No. 2	Institution No. 3
Temporary ban on labour migration to Saudi Arabia	✓		
Encouraging and supporting Kenyans to engage in self employment	✓		
Enhanced youth empowerment	✓		
Continued awareness creation and public sensitization campaigns and programmes on the dangers of human trafficking through channels such as social media, seminars and press releases	✓	✓	✓
Enhanced partnerships and collaborations with other countries, regional and international organizations in combating human trafficking	✓		
Instituting support services such as reintegration and counselling programmes for victims of human trafficking upon their return back home	✓	✓	
Efficient arrest, prosecution and severe punishment of perpetrators	✓		
Strengthening and/or amending counter-trafficking legal frameworks (e.g the Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act 2010 to clarify sexual exploitation and forced labour)	✓		✓
Enhanced local multi-agency collaboration in counter-trafficking matters	✓		
Establishing a Centre and/or hotlines for reporting human trafficking cases	✓		
Establishing and/or maintaining an updated database on human trafficking with details on victims, perpetrators, nationalities, trafficking routes, sentencing verdicts and other information on counter-trafficking in persons and smuggling	✓		✓

Policy and programmatic recommendations for addressing human trafficking	Institution providing information		
	Institution No. 1	Institution No. 2	Institution No. 3
Strengthening understanding among criminal justice practitioners on internal human trafficking and on the difference between trafficking and smuggling of persons			✓
Strengthening the capacity of law enforcers in general and investigators in particular to proactively investigate and gather alternative and corroborative evidence for the purpose of reducing reliance on victim testimony			✓
Institute asset recovery on perpetrators of human trafficking		✓	

**Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs-Kenya (2022, January 18), the National Intelligence Service and the Directorate of Immigration Services-Kenya (2021, November 30)**

The recommendations of the key government institutions presented in the Table above relate to the recommendations of the study respondents on improvements in: detection and investigations; prosecution; trial and sentencing; rehabilitation and correction of human trafficking offenders; and resettlement and reintegration of survivors of human trafficking. Specifically, the recommendations revolve around the need to strengthen and/or enhance: counter-trafficking law enactment and enforcement to reduce the confidence of real and potential human traffickers to engage in the crime; economic empowerment in society and especially of the vulnerable youth; effective synergies, collaborations and partnerships among stakeholders involved in counter-trafficking; awareness creation and public sensitization campaigns and programmes on human trafficking; the capacity of public officials handling human trafficking; human trafficking victim support services; and database on human trafficking.

The recommendation on establishing and/or maintaining of an updated database on human trafficking as a focal and key component of counter-trafficking efforts in the country appears to be gaining prominence. Freedom Collaborative and Stop the Traffik Kenya (2020) have argued that: a 2019 peer review of the human rights records of all 193 UN member states cited the lack of comprehensive, consolidated and credible data and information on trafficking in Kenya as one of the main challenges in current anti-trafficking work; and that the gaps identified in legal and policy frameworks on human trafficking were exacerbated by the lack of a unified system to collect, document, analyse and share data.

## CHAPTER FOUR: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### 4.1 Introduction

This study aimed at examining the problem of human trafficking in the country with a view to informing relevant policy formulation, planning and programming. The specific objectives were to: establish the prevalent, prominent and/or popular types/forms of human trafficking; identify the victims and perpetrators of human trafficking; examine the factors contributing to and facilitating human trafficking; examine the modes of operation of human trafficking; map the areas and countries and/or regions serving as sources, transit and destinations for victims of human trafficking; appraise the effects of human trafficking; ascertain the intervention strategies and their performance ratings in addressing human trafficking in the country; and identify the challenges faced and suggested possible solutions and recommendations for addressing human trafficking.

### 4.2 Summary of Major Findings

#### 4.2.1 Prevalent, prominent and/or popular types/forms of human trafficking

Findings from majority (54.9%) of the members of the public showed that human trafficking in the country was high. Secondary data obtained from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Intelligence Service and the Kenya Prisons Service showed that there was an **82.4% increase** in the number of human trafficking cases in year 2021, with the number of cases of labour trafficking having **increased by 86.6%** between year 2020 and 2021 and accounting for 96.0% and 98.3% of all the human trafficking cases in year 2020 and 2021 respectively.

Prevalence, prominence and/or popularity of human trafficking was gauged based on three aspects of: internal/domestic and external human trafficking; comparison based on destination, source and transit aspects; and the demographic characteristics of victims and main purposes of trafficking. With regard to the most prominent and/or popular between internal/domestic and external human trafficking, the findings of the study showed that external human trafficking (that is, trafficking of victims outside Kenya's borders) was the most prominent and/or popular at 64.7% while internal/domestic human trafficking (that is, trafficking of victims within regions in Kenya) was rated at 35.3%.

On the most prominent and/or popular between destination, source and transit human trafficking, trafficking of victims from Kenya as a source to other countries was rated as the most prominent and/or popular at 67.3%, followed by trafficking of victims to other countries through Kenya as a transit (17.4%) and trafficking of victims from other countries to Kenya as a destination (15.3%).

Majority of the members of the public agreed that there was trafficking for labour exploitation/domestic servitude (89.4%), trafficking for sex exploitation (74.0%) and trafficking for cultural reasons (53.4%) in the country. Trafficking for labour (83.5%) and



trafficking for sex-related and/or prostitution purposes (12.4%) were also the types/forms of trafficking mainly known by members of the public. Further, based on the main purposes of trafficking and the demographic characteristics of victims, the most prevalent specific types/forms of human trafficking in the country were trafficking for labour (accounting for 83.3%, that is, adult trafficking for labour (50.6%) and child trafficking for labour (32.7%)) and sex trafficking (accounting for 14.0%, that is, women trafficking for prostitution).

#### **4.2.2 Victims and perpetrators of human trafficking**

Findings of the study showed that adults were the most trafficked and they accounted for 55.7% in internal/domestic human trafficking (with children accounting for 44.4%), 84.8% in trafficking from Kenya to other countries (with children accounting for 15.3%) and at least 93.2% in trafficking from other countries to Kenya. Women were the most trafficked in internal/domestic human trafficking (40.0%) and trafficking from Kenya to other countries (62.2%) while men (43.5%) were the most trafficked in trafficking from other countries to Kenya. However, the main categories of victims of internal/domestic human trafficking were those of: children (reported by 63.2% of the Agency officials); women (reported by 40.0% of the members of the public); and youth (reported by 15.5% of the members of the public). The main categories of victims of external human trafficking were those of: women (reported by 40.4% of the members of the public); youth (reported by 21.7% of the Agency officials); men (reported by 20.8% of the Agency officials); children (reported by 19.3% of the Agency officials); and the physically challenged persons including albinos (reported by 9.9% of the members of the public).

With regard to the socio-economic profiles of victims of human trafficking at the time of trafficking (and underscoring the age, gender, nationality, marital status, highest level of formal education, occupations and levels of income characteristics of the victims), the findings reported by at least 5 out of 10 sample respondents showed that most victims of domestic human trafficking were adult: youthful female Kenyans aged 18-34 years; single/never married; holding pre-primary and/or primary school level education; majorly unemployed; and with low level incomes. Children and juveniles aged below 18 years accounted for about 3 out of 10 victims of domestic human trafficking. In external human trafficking, most victims were adult: youthful female Kenyans aged 18-34 years; single/never married; holding at least secondary level education; unemployed and/or engaged in casual temporary employment; and earning low level incomes.

The main perpetrators of internal/domestic human trafficking were found to be business people who included owners of Employment Bureaus, agents and brokers (reported by 60.2% of the Agency officials); acquaintances especially family members/relatives, barren couples, friends and neighbours (reported by 27.6% of the members of the public); organized criminal gangs and cartels including drug traffickers (reported by 14.8% of the Agency officials); and wayward and/or corrupt public officials who included Refugee Department and Camp officials, Security Officers, Immigration and other border officials (reported by 12.6% of the members of the public). The key perpetrators of external human trafficking were: business

people who included owners of Employment Bureaus, agents and brokers (reported by 67.1% of the Agency officials); wayward and/or corrupt public officials who included Refugee Department and Camp officials, Security Officers, Immigration and other border officials (reported by 32.9% of the members of the public); and organized criminal gangs and cartels including drug traffickers (reported by 13.2% of the Agency officials).

The main recruiters of victims of internal/domestic human trafficking were found to be unscrupulous business people who included owners of Employment Bureaus, agents and brokers (reported by 60.4% of the Agency officials) and acquaintances especially family members/relatives, barren couples, friends and neighbours (reported by 37.7% of the members of the public). On the other hand, the main recruiters of external human trafficking were: business people who included owners of Employment Bureaus, agents and brokers (reported by 82.6% of the Agency officials); wayward and/or corrupt public officials who included Refugee Department and Camp officials, Security Officers, Immigration and other border officials (reported by 48.2% of the members of the public); unscrupulous tourists and other foreigners (reported by 26.9% of the members of the public); acquaintances especially family members/relatives, barren couples, friends and neighbours (reported by 11.6% of the Agency officials); and unscrupulous Civil Society Organizations and officials including Non-Governmental Organizations, religious and community leaders (reported by 10.0% of the members of the public).

With regard to the socio-economic profiles of perpetrators of human trafficking (with the focus being on the age, gender, nationality, marital status, highest level of formal education, occupations and levels of income characteristics of the perpetrators), the findings from at least 5 out of 10 sample respondents were that most perpetrators of domestic human trafficking were: youthful female Kenyans aged 18-34 years; married; holding secondary and middle level college education; engaged in business; and earning medium level incomes. However, most perpetrators of external human trafficking were: youthful male Kenyans aged 18-34 years; married; holding secondary and middle level college education; engaged in business; and earning high level incomes.

#### **4.2.3 Factors contributing to and facilitating human trafficking**

The findings of the study which were reported by at least 1 out of 10 of either of the members of the public or Agency officials with regard to the main factors contributing to domestic and external human trafficking, drivers or risk factors for human trafficking, reasons why human trafficking business has persisted in Kenya and factors facilitating recruitment of victims in domestic and external human trafficking showed that the key factors contributing to and facilitating human trafficking in the country were: poverty-occasioned vulnerabilities (88.0%); ignorance and/or illiteracy among the victims (56.3%); corruption especially among public officials (25.0%); unemployment-occasioned vulnerabilities and/or search for greener pastures (22.5%); ready markets for cheap labour in hospitality and tourism industry especially in hotel and bar businesses (21.3%); lucrative nature of human trafficking business (13.6%); a region's attractiveness in terms of being a

tourism and/or adventure destination (11.9%); and greed for money on the part of both perpetrators and victims (9.6%). Political instability and/or volatile security situations in source and destination countries and weak legal framework and enforcement mechanisms were the other key factors which were reported by Kenya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Intelligence Service and the Directorate of Immigration Services.

#### **4.2.4 Modes of operation of human trafficking**

Modes of operation of human trafficking were examined in respect of: methods used in recruiting and/or obtaining victims; networks and/or processes involved in the recruitment of victims; and the modes of transportation of victims.

Findings of the study showed that the most prominent methods used in recruiting and/or obtaining victims of human trafficking were: use of deceptive information in the internet and social media and/or networking sites on available economic (including job/work) opportunities (reported by 78.1% of the Agency officials); initial placement of advertisements in the mass media for legitimate economic (including job/work) opportunities (reported by 26.9% of the members of the public); use of recruitment agencies who issue forged or altered documents to register migrants (reported by 15.1% of the members of the public); study-abroad programmes and fictitious educational scholarships (reported by 12.7% of the members of the public); brokers' use of grass roots agents to do recruitment (reported by 12.0% of the members of the public); and collusion with wayward public officials to get travelling documents (reported by 11.2% of the members of the public).

The findings of this study indicated that recruitment brokers and relatives of victims were the main players in the networks and/or processes involved in the recruitment of victims in both domestic and external human trafficking. With regard to domestic human trafficking, the networks and/or processes were: brokers connected to firms offering jobs contact victims, do recruitment, organize travel documents, offer accommodation, make transport arrangements and then hand over victims to agents in destinations (reported by 55.5% of the Agency officials); relatives collaborate in recruitment, hand over victim to agents in home areas and then to agents in destination (reported by 44.4% of the Agency officials); and individuals and bureaus recruit, another group does transportation, another group offers accommodation and transfer from one place to another (reported by 35.4% of the members of the public). With regard to external human trafficking, the networks and/or processes were: brokers connected to firms offering jobs contact victims, do recruitment, organize travel documents, offer accommodation, make transport arrangements and then hand over victims to agents in destinations (reported by 61.6% of the Agency officials); relatives collaborate in recruitment, hand over victim to agents in home areas and then to agents in destination (reported by 38.5% of the Agency officials); spies do recruitment, hands over to agents, agents prepare travel documents, then transportation to Nairobi or other exit points and then to final destinations (reported by 28.1% of the members of the public); and individuals and bureaus recruit, another group does transportation, another group offers accommodation and transfer from one place to another (reported by 23.5% of the members of the public).

The main mode of transportation of victims of both domestic human trafficking (reported by 99.4% of the members of the public) and external human trafficking (reported by 87.0% of the Agency officials) was by road (by foot, using public and private vehicles, taxis and motorcycles/bodaboda) while air travel using planes was the second most prominent mode of transportation of victims of external human trafficking (reported by 35.4% of the members of the public).

#### **4.2.5 Areas and countries and/or regions serving as sources, transit and destinations for victims of human trafficking**

Findings of the study confirmed that Kenya was a transit route (reported by 93.0% of the Agency officials), a source (reported by 89.1% of the members of the public) and a destination (reported by 56.6% of the Agency officials) for victims of human trafficking.

The findings showed that twenty-nine (29) counties had known hotspot areas. The main catchment areas of victims of internal/domestic human trafficking are rural areas (reported by 88.1% of the members of the public) while the main catchment areas of victims of external human trafficking are urban areas and especially slum areas (reported by 46.5% of the members of the public), rural areas (reported by 40.4% of the Agency officials), Refugee camps (reported by 38.5% of the Agency Officials) and other countries (reported by 24.9% of the members of the public).

The most prominently known specific countries and/or regions of origin for persons trafficked into Kenya reported by at least 1 out of 10 of the members of the public were Somalia, Uganda, Tanzania and Ethiopia while the main countries and/or regions of origin of trafficked persons on transit through Kenya were Ethiopia, Somalia, South Africa and Uganda. The persons trafficked while on transit through Kenya were mainly from Ethiopia (30.6%) and Somalia (23.6%).

The study found that urban areas were the main destination points for most victims of domestic human trafficking (reported by 92.0% of the members of the public and 96.1% of the Agency officials). The Middle East region (especially Saudi Arabia and Qatar) was reported to be the leading destination for most victims of external human trafficking at 52.4% followed by the African region at 42.1%. On ever hearing of persons ever trafficked from Kenya, countries in the Middle East region account for 60.3% while those in the African region account for 31.3%. With regard to knowledge of persons ever trafficked from Kenya, countries in the Middle East region account for 50.8% while those in the African region account for 35.1%. With regard to knowledge of persons ever trafficked from Kenya, Saudi Arabia was leading as was reported by 34.5% of the members of the public, followed by Tanzania (9.7%), United Arab Emirates (9.7%) and South Africa (9.7%).

The most prominent transit routes for internal/domestic human trafficking are eight (8) and these are: Busia-Nairobi- Machakos-Kibwezi (Makueni)-Taita Taveta-Mombasa (38.2%); Namanga (Kajiado)-Nairobi- Machakos- Kibwezi (Makueni)-Taita Taveta-Mombasa

(28.3%); Moyale-Garissa-Nairobi- Machakos- Kibwezi (Makueni)-Taita Taveta-Lungalunga in Kwale (23.3%); Lodwar (Turkana)-Kitale-Bungoma-Eldoret-Kericho (16.2%); Mandera-Wajir-Garissa-Mwingi (Kitui)-Kiambu-Nairobi (14.5%); Mwingi-Machakos-Thika (Kiambu)-Nairobi (14.0%); Lodwar (Turkana)-Kitale-Eldoret-Busia (14.0%); and Kisumu-Kericho-Nakuru-Nairobi-Loitokitok (11.6%). With regard to external human trafficking, there are six (6) prominent transit routes for external human trafficking and these are: Ethiopia-Moyale-Isiolo-Nairobi-Namanga (Kajiado)-Tanzania-South Africa (59.6%); Somalia-Mandera-Garissa-Nairobi-Europe (18.6%); Somalia-Marsabit-Turkana-South Sudan-Egypt-Saudi Arabia and Qatar (16.4%); Tanzania-Loitokitok (Kajiado)-Nairobi-USA (13.6%); Kenya-Tanzania-South Africa- Saudi Arabia and/or Qatar (12.7%); and Ethiopia-Moyale-Nairobi-Mombasa-Tanzania-South Africa (10.5%).

The study findings showed that 36 out of 47 counties (that is, 76.6%) were noticeably sources, transit routes and destinations of domestic human trafficking thus implying that most counties in Kenya hosted transit routes because one has to pass through (by road) some counties not mentioned in the study to reach those mentioned. Further analysis of the findings also showed that: out of the 36 counties which were conspicuously reported in sources, transit routes and destinations of domestic human trafficking, 23 of them (that is, 63.9%) were sources of victims (that is, based on the starting point of the routes); of the 23 source counties, 13 of them (that is, 56.5%) were borderline counties; 17 counties were the main destination counties of domestic human trafficking with Nairobi, Mombasa and Kwale leading in this aspect; and 12 counties were both source and destination of victims.

The leading contributors of victims in the Kenyan external human trafficking problem were found to be Ethiopia (61.5%), Somalia (39.1%), Kenya (25.8%) and Tanzania (13.6%). The leading foreign destinations for victims leaving Kenya were Saudi Arabia and Qatar (33.2%), Europe (22.7%), South Africa (17.7%) and the United States of America (13.6%).

#### **4.2.6 Effects of human trafficking**

Human trafficking was reported to have mainly negative socio-economic effects in society and the most prominent ones were: underdevelopment resulting from brain and labour drain and strain on limited government resources (31.6%); psychological trauma and depression on victims and their family members (20.8%); slavery, loss of human dignity and violation of human rights and freedoms (19.7%); destabilization of the family leading to breakdown of marriages and families (17.9%); and increased risk of insecurity in the country (17.1%). There were payment costs involved in human trafficking and these included: agent commission (73.3%); transportation costs (44.6%); and food and accommodation expenses (12.5%).

Further findings of the study showed that victims indeed made certain payments to traffickers in anticipation of certain benefits. The payments made were to: facilitate the promised good returns and/or employment opportunities (50.1%); facilitate transportation to reach their desired destinations (33.4%); and to facilitate document processing and/or job registration

(31.4%). Most of the members of the public (46.4%) and Agency officials (57.0%) argued that most victims who had already paid for the promised opportunities would not be refunded their monies upon failure to benefit mainly because: there was no legal framework for refund (38.5%); traffickers were after exploiting victims and making illegal money (30.6%); the process involved in human trafficking was illegal and criminal (21.0%); most victims did not know all the parties involved in the whole process of trafficking (17.7%); and traffickers took advantage of the vulnerability of victims (13.2%).

The kinds of treatment and conditions that victims of human trafficking were subjected to by the perpetrators were mainly: sexual abuse and forced prostitution (25.4%); starvation and confinement in rooms without basic amenities (22.2%); hard labour (22.2%); assault (18.7%); and confiscation of travelling documents (15.1%).

#### **4.2.7 Intervention strategies and their performance ratings in addressing human trafficking**

The study showed that majority (62.9%) of the members of the public did not know of any organizations which were attempting to address human trafficking in the country. Of the known ones, Government-based Organizations were the most known (47.7%), followed by international agencies (32.6%) and Non-Governmental Organizations (30.9%).

Majority (56.8%) of the members of the public were not aware of any intervention strategies that had been used to address human trafficking in the country. The most prominent strategies listed by those who were aware included: sensitization and capacity building of citizens on human trafficking through civic education programmes by the Government and Media (reported by 31.2% of the Agency officials); enforcement of the Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act, 2010 (Revised 2012) and other relevant laws especially by way of arrest, prosecution, trial, punishment and rehabilitation of perpetrators of human trafficking (reported by 28.6% of the members of the public); strategic checkpoints for and verification of travel documents (reported by 24.3% of the members of the public); intensified security and immigration-related patrols along Kenya's borders (reported by 17.7% of the Agency officials); ban on night travelling in some areas (reported by 12.6% of the members of the public); and enactment of the Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act, Revised 2012 (reported by 12.5% of the Agency officials).

With regard to the activities undertaken by Agency officials' organizations to address human trafficking in the country, the most prominent activities revolved around: arresting, maintaining custody, prosecution, trial and sentencing of human trafficking culprits/perpetrators (27.7%); capacity building through public meetings/baraza (26.8%); issuance of external travel documents (9.8%); and rehabilitation, correction and empowerment of offenders (9.8%).

Majority (89.5%) of the Agency officials confirmed that their organizations were collaborating with other organizations in addressing human trafficking in the country and that there was positive collaboration on human trafficking mainly with regard to aspects of:

human rights and law enforcement including judiciary services (76.5%); civic education (11.8%); and sensitization of other stakeholders on reduction of the crime of human trafficking (8.8%).

The activities of Agency officials' organizations in addressing human trafficking in Kenya were perceived by majority (81.9%) of the Agency officials as effective, with the main explanations being that: there was collaboration with other agencies involved in fighting against human trafficking (24.4%); arrest and prosecution of human trafficking was being undertaken (18.3%); rehabilitation of human trafficking offenders was being carried out (15.9%); there was verification of travel and employment documents as per the Kenyan laws (13.4%); there was effective repatriation and empowerment of victims of human trafficking (13.4%); and that justice was being served to both victims and offenders of human trafficking (11.0%). However, those who argued that the activities of their organizations were not effective in addressing human trafficking argued that: there was no clear guidance and/or checklist for handling of human trafficking issues (27.8%); there was inadequate capacity building of stakeholders involved in addressing human trafficking (22.2%); the law on counter-trafficking was weak in deterrence (16.7%); there was inadequacy of funds and other resources to fight human trafficking (16.7%); and there existed lack of full disclosure from some domestic and foreign employers concerning status of their employees making it hard to address labour-related human trafficking (11.1%).

With regard to the satisfaction levels with the performance of frontline organizations in preventing and combating human trafficking, the findings showed that most of the members of the public were not satisfied with the performance of nine (9) out of eleven (11) frontline organizations (that is, 81.8% of the organizations), with over 50.0% of these sample respondents reporting that they were not satisfied with the performance of the National Police Service (67.2%), Immigration Department (67.0%), Department of Labour (58.6%), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (58.4%), Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (58.3%), the Judiciary (54.9%) and Foreign Embassies (51.0%). Only the Department of Children Services (45.4%) and Faith-Based Organizations (42.5%) were rated as satisfactory in their performance in preventing and combating human trafficking.

On perceived effectiveness of prevention, protection, prosecution and capacity building intervention strategies in addressing human trafficking in the country, over 53.0% of the members of the public were of the opinion that all the intervention strategies, except capacity building intervention strategies (which was deemed effective by 46.5%), were not effective. On the other hand, over 55.0% of the Agency officials perceived all the intervention strategies, except prosecution intervention strategies (which was deemed effective by 43.7%) as not effective.

With regard to the adequacy of existing laws for dealing with human trafficking in the country, majority (54.3%) of the Agency officials argued that the laws were not adequate citing that: the laws had many loopholes and enforcing them was a challenge (37.0%); the

Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act was shallow (20.0%); the laws were used to prosecute victims (especially of external trafficking) as illegal immigrants (16.9%); there were no laws against human trafficking per se (16.9%); and that the laws were not clear to concerned government officers and hence not very familiar with them (9.2%).

#### **4.2.8 Challenges faced and suggested possible solutions and recommendations for addressing human trafficking**

Majority of the members of the public (79.0%) and Agency officials (96.9%) confirmed that there were general challenges faced in preventing and combating human trafficking in Kenya. The main challenges faced in addressing and/or preventing and combating human trafficking reported by at least 1 out of 10 of either of the members of the public or Agency officials and more than one of the three reporting institutions (that is, Kenya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Intelligence Service and the Directorate of Immigration Services Head Offices) were: weak counter-trafficking legal and law enforcement frameworks (that is, 66.7%); inadequate resources affecting counter-trafficking efforts (53.0%); corruption among concerned public officials (47.3%); economic challenges of unemployment, high demand for cheap labour and poverty and accompanying vulnerability (17.3%); socio-cultural hindrances especially retrogressive cultural (including religious) beliefs and practices, lack of patriotism and/or selfishness/individualistic tendencies among Kenyans (15.2%); unwillingness of locals to share information and/or their collusion with perpetrators (14.7%); and inadequate collaboration between stakeholders (10.4%).

The findings of this study revealed that there were best practices and main possible solutions to the challenges faced in preventing and combating human trafficking. The ones reported by at least 1 out of 10 members of the public or Agency officials were: enhanced financial, human and physical infrastructural resourcing of organizations involved in counter-trafficking activities (51.2%); civic education aimed at raising national consciousness against human trafficking (37.0%); enhanced and strategic counter-trafficking law enforcement especially through deployment of a specialized counter-trafficking police unit, increased surveillance of border and/or transit points, deployment of strengthened community policing and Nyumba Kumi Initiatives, prosecution and punitive punishment of perpetrators (35.2%); corruption eradication and regular vetting of Public Officers concerned with the problem of human trafficking (32.8%); economic reforms especially targeted on poverty eradication, youth empowerment (such as soft loans), employment creation opportunities and equitable distribution of national resources (23.9%); and enhanced collaboration, networking and/or reporting among local and international counter-human trafficking stakeholders (21.8%).

A number of key recommendations for addressing human trafficking in Kenya were proposed by respondents with respect to: detection and investigations; prosecution; trial and sentencing; rehabilitation and correction of human trafficking offenders; and resettlement and reintegration of survivors of human trafficking.

The most prominent recommendations for addressing human trafficking in the aspect of detection and investigations that were proposed by at least 1 out of 10 of either the members



of the public or Agency officials were: intensifying border control operations (34.9%); strengthening collaboration between police and other local and international agencies in addressing human trafficking (30.2%); improving investigation skills on human trafficking and general police service delivery (27.9%); strengthening and/or embracing community policing and Nyumba Kumi Initiative in counter-trafficking (17.6%); strengthening special police units handling human trafficking (16.0%); and deployment of modern technology in tracking and detecting perpetrators of human trafficking (10.1%).

With regard to addressing human trafficking in the aspect of prosecution, the most prominent recommendations were: recruitment of additional and/or adequate training of human trafficking-specialized prosecutors (46.6%); timely prosecution of human trafficking offenders (46.0%); closer working relationships, collaboration and networking between prosecutors, investigators and other relevant agencies (23.7%); improved collection and presentation of human trafficking evidence (23.1%); and eradication of corruption in prosecution of human trafficking cases (14.7%).

The most prominent recommendations for addressing human trafficking in the aspect of trial and sentencing were: meting out stringent penalties to human trafficking offenders (reported by 86.9% of the Agency officials and 86.2% of the members of the public); and strict bail and bond terms and expeditious trial of human trafficking suspects (reported by 13.1% of the Agency officials).

In the aspect of rehabilitation and correction of human trafficking offenders, the most prominent recommendations were: improving rehabilitation programmes for human trafficking offenders with a special focus on provision of vocational training to low-income offenders and intensive guidance and counselling (56.8%); setting up rehabilitation centres for human trafficking offenders (38.4%); effective supervision of correctional punishment meted out on human trafficking offenders (16.3%); and conducting civic education and sensitizations on the impact of the human trafficking vice (13.4%).

The most prominent recommendations for addressing human trafficking in the aspect of resettlement and reintegration of survivors of human trafficking that were proposed by the sample respondents were: provision of intensive and professional counselling services to survivors (reported by 42.7% of the Agency officials and 33.0% of the members of the public); provision of economic empowerment to victims/survivors of human trafficking with a special focus on provision of business grants and/or start-up financial support, employment opportunities and vocational training (reported by 37.5% of the members of the public and 17.9% of the Agency officials); deportation and/or repatriation of foreign and local survivors (reported by 17.7% of the members of the public and 12.8% of the Agency officials); and establishment of pre-resettlement and reintegration Rescue Centres and/or Half-Way Homes for survivors (reported by 17.1% of the Agency officials).

Some of the main policy and programmatic recommendations suggested by Kenya's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Intelligence Service and the Directorate of Immigration Services to effectively address human trafficking in the country were: continued awareness creation and public sensitization campaigns and programmes on the dangers of human trafficking through channels such as social media, seminars and press releases; instituting support services such as reintegration and counselling programmes for victims of human trafficking upon their return back home; strengthening and/or amending counter-trafficking legal frameworks (for example, the Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act 2010 to clarify sexual exploitation and forced labour); and maintaining updated database on human trafficking with details on victims, perpetrators, nationalities, trafficking routes, sentencing verdicts and other information on counter-trafficking in persons and smuggling.

### **4.3 Conclusion**

This study aimed at examining the problem of human trafficking in the country with a view to informing relevant policy formulation, planning and programming. Based on the findings, it is therefore concluded that: the problem of human trafficking in the country is real, high and on an upward trajectory; the country experiences both internal/domestic and external human trafficking although the latter is the most prominent and/or popular; different areas and countries and/or regions serve as sources, transit and destinations for victims of human trafficking with Kenya serving majorly as a source even though it is also a transit route and destination point for victims mainly trafficked for labour exploitation; human trafficking is fuelled and/or sustained by an array of factors with the central one being poverty and/or unemployment-occasioned vulnerabilities; most victims and perpetrators of human trafficking are adult youthful Kenyans aged 18-34, with the latter being mainly business people operating as owners of Employment Bureaus, agents and brokers who, to a large extent, subject the former to negative socio-economic effects, inhuman and degrading treatment; the mode of operation of human trafficking is anchored in the methods used in recruiting and/or obtaining victims, networks and/or processes involved in the recruitment of the victims and the modes of transportation of the victims; there are organizations deploying numerous strategies to address human trafficking in the country but these appear unknown to most members of the public, with a significant proportion of those who know them rating most of the organizations and the strategies as ineffective and unsatisfactory; numerous challenges bedevil efforts to address human trafficking in the country with the practical solutions seen to lie especially in: enhanced financial, human and physical infrastructural resourcing of organizations involved in counter-trafficking activities; civic education aimed at raising national consciousness against human trafficking; and enhanced and strategic counter-trafficking law enforcement.

### **4.4 Key Recommendations**

#### **4.4.1 Key Policy Recommendations**

Generally, there is need for strengthened and/or enhanced: counter-trafficking law enforcement to reduce the confidence of real and potential human traffickers to engage in

the crime; economic empowerment in society and especially of the vulnerable youth; effective synergies, collaborations and partnerships among stakeholders involved in counter-trafficking; awareness creation and public sensitization campaigns and programmes on human trafficking; capacity of organizations and public officials handling human trafficking; human trafficking victim support services; and database on human trafficking.

The specific key policy recommendations are:

1. The Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government, the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions and the National Police Service need to spearhead an enhanced counter-trafficking: multi-agency collaboration; technology-assisted and intelligence-led mapping; detection (especially of disguised perpetrators), investigation and evidence gathering and preservation; prosecution of cases in courts; and disruption and/or dismantling of the complex trafficking networks and/or processes involved.

The findings of the study highlighted: the complex nature of human trafficking networks and/or processes operated especially by owners of local and international job recruitment and/or employment placement firms, agents, brokers and transporters disguised as legitimate business operators; and the challenges of weak counter-trafficking legal and law enforcement frameworks, and inadequate collaboration between stakeholders. Hence the ‘whole of government’ and public-private partnership approaches in tackling human trafficking are emphasized since the problem of trafficking spans various sectors and mandates of numerous agencies.

2. The Ministry of Devolution needs to lead other agencies especially with mandates relating to education, economic development and youth employment in spearheading counter-human trafficking localized, catchment area-specific interventions and county-specific measures to address the push factors of poverty, unemployment and ignorance and/or illiteracy in all counties, but with a prioritized focus on the borderline counties.

The study showed that the main catchment areas of victims of internal/domestic human trafficking were both rural and urban areas. The main catchment areas of victims of external human trafficking included urban areas (and especially slum areas), rural areas and Refugee Camps thus implying that there were push and/or pull factors specific to these areas. The findings of the study indicated that 27 counties conspicuously featured as either sources, transit routes or destinations of victims of domestic human trafficking. At least 14 of the 27 counties were sources of victims with 10 of the 14 counties (that is, 71.4%) being borderline counties. The key factors contributing to and facilitating human trafficking and also acting as major challenges in addressing the vice in the country included: poverty-occasioned

vulnerabilities; ignorance and/or illiteracy among the victims; and unemployment-occasioned vulnerabilities and/or search for greener pastures. Victims of domestic human trafficking were mainly youthful Kenyans aged 18-34 years, holding pre-primary and/or primary school level education, unemployed and with low level incomes. Their counterparts in external trafficking were of the same socio-demographic characteristics in all respects except in education in that they were mainly holders of secondary school education. Hence raising the education levels of all Kenyans beyond the primary and secondary school levels to equip them with life and/or survival skills, and enhancing economic opportunities (including employment) especially for the youth is critical in addressing human trafficking in the country.

3. The Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, in partnership with the Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, needs to undertake effective vetting, registration and regular accreditation, monitoring and inspection of local and international employment, study-abroad and educational scholarship programmes recruitment, and philanthropy-founded agencies with a view of enhancing their oversight and accountability and reigning on fake and/or unscrupulous agencies perpetuating human trafficking.

The main recruiters of victims and perpetrators of both internal/domestic and external human trafficking were found to include unscrupulous business people (who operated as owners of Employment Bureaus, agents and brokers) and unscrupulous Civil Society Organizations and officials (including Non-Governmental Organizations, religious and community leaders). Hence effective vetting, registration and regular accreditation, monitoring and inspection of local and international employment, study-abroad and educational scholarship programmes recruitment, and philanthropy-founded agencies with a view of enhancing their oversight and accountability and reigning on fake and/or unscrupulous agencies perpetuating human trafficking is recommended.

4. It is recommended that the National Intelligence Service, the National Police Service and the Directorate of Immigration Services lead other agencies in the strategic policing of all transportation networks and especially the roads in the mapped twenty-nine (29) hotspot counties (and their specific hotspot areas), eight (8) prominent domestic trafficking and six (6) external trafficking transit routes and their corridors, and enhance vigilance on irregular and/or suspicious movement of population especially in human trafficking source, transit and destination border counties. The mapped eight (8) prominent domestic trafficking transit routes are: Busia-Nairobi- Machakos-Kibwezi (Makueni)-Taita Taveta-Mombasa; Namanga (Kajiado)-Nairobi- Machakos- Kibwezi (Makueni)-Taita Taveta-Mombasa; Moyale-Garissa-Nairobi- Machakos- Kibwezi (Makueni)-Taita Taveta-Lungalunga in Kwale; Lodwar (Turkana)-Kitale-Bungoma-Eldoret-Kericho; Mandera-Wajir-

Garissa-Mwingi (Kitui)-Kiambu-Nairobi; Mwingi-Machakos-Thika (Kiambu)-Nairobi; Lodwar (Turkana)-Kitale-Eldoret-Busia; and Kisumu-Kericho-Nakuru-Nairobi-Loitoktok. The mapped six (6) prominent external trafficking transit routes are: Ethiopia-Moyale-Isiolo-Nairobi-Namanga (Kajiado)-Tanzania-South Africa; Somalia- Mandera-Garissa-Nairobi-Europe; Somalia-Marsabit-Turkana-South Sudan-Egypt- Saudi Arabia and Qatar; Tanzania-Loitoktok (Kajiado)-Nairobi-USA; Kenya-Tanzania-South Africa- Saudi Arabia and/or Qatar; and Ethiopia-Moyale-Nairobi-Mombasa-Tanzania-South Africa.

The study found that Kenya's porous borders with its neighbouring countries (who are the main contributors in human trafficking) made the use of road networks a better option of movement of victims and perpetrators. Hence, the main mode of transportation of victims of both domestic and external human trafficking was by road (by foot, using public and private vehicles, taxis and motorcycles/bodaboda) while air travel using planes was the second most prominent mode of transportation of victims of external human trafficking. Further, the study: mapped twenty-nine (29) hotspot counties and specific hotspot areas in these counties; mapped eight (8) most prominent domestic and six (6) external human trafficking transit routes and their corridors in the country; and indicated that border counties were the main source, transit and destination points of victims of human trafficking. Hence the effective policing of Kenya's roads especially in border counties as a part measure to curtail human trafficking needs to be prioritized. Enhanced security checks to identify and intercept victims and perpetrators of human trafficking at airports in Kenya and its partner countries is also recommended.

5. It is recommended that the Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government leads programmes to enhance citizen participation in security in matters anti-human trafficking through the community policing and Nyumba Kumi initiatives.

The findings of the study showed that: relatives of victims were among the main players in the networks and/or processes involved in the recruitment of victims in both domestic and external human trafficking; in both domestic and external human trafficking, part of the networks and/or processes involved relatives collaborating in recruitment and handing over the victims to agents in home areas and then to agents in destination; one of the main challenges faced in addressing and/or preventing and combating human trafficking vice was the unwillingness of locals to share information and/or their collusion with human trafficking perpetrators; and the main recruiters of victims and perpetrators of human trafficking included acquaintances especially family members/relatives, barren couples, friends and neighbours. Hence enlisting the support and/or participation of local community members in addressing the human trafficking vice is critical.

6. There is need for the Kenyan Government (through the relevant Ministries) to work closely with partner member states in the East African Community (EAC) and Intergovernmental Authority for Development (with a special focus on Ethiopia, Burundi, Uganda, Somalia and Tanzania) and other governments especially in the Middle East (especially Saudi Arabia, Qatar and United Arab Emirates) and southern Africa region (especially the Republic of South Africa), for state-specific and joint-state efforts centred on effective policing, migration and migrant labour management in addressing the challenge of external human trafficking in the region.

The findings of the study indicated that: external human trafficking was more prominent and/or popular than internal/domestic human trafficking; the most prominently known specific countries and/or regions of origin for persons trafficked into Kenya were Somalia, Uganda, Tanzania and Ethiopia; the main countries and/or regions of origin of trafficked persons on transit through Kenya were Ethiopia, Somalia, South Africa and Uganda; the persons trafficked while on transit through Kenya were mainly from Ethiopia; the Middle East region (especially Saudi Arabia and Qatar) was the leading destination for most victims of external human trafficking followed by the African region; with regard to knowledge of persons ever trafficked from Kenya, Saudi Arabia was leading, followed by Tanzania, United Arab Emirates and South Africa; overall, Ethiopia, Somalia, Kenya and Tanzania were the leading contributors of victims in the Kenyan external human trafficking problem while the leading foreign destinations for victims leaving Kenya were Saudi Arabia and Qatar, Europe, South Africa and the United States of America; and political instability and/or volatile security situations in source countries was one of the key drivers or risk factors contributing to human trafficking in Kenya.

7. The National Treasury and Planning and its development partners need to prioritize enhanced anti-human trafficking funding geared towards improving the financial, human and infrastructural resourcing especially of the frontline organizations with the main focus being on the Children's Department, the National Police Service, Immigration Department, Department of Labour, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, the Judiciary and Foreign Embassies.

The findings of the study showed that: inadequate resources affecting counter-trafficking efforts was one of the leading challenges faced in addressing human trafficking in the country; most of the members of the public were not satisfied with the performance of nine (9) out of eleven (11) anti-trafficking frontline organizations (that is, 81.8% of the organizations), with over 50.0% of these sample respondents reporting that they were not satisfied with the performance of the National Police Service, Immigration Department, Department of Labour, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, the Judiciary and Foreign Embassies; and over 53.0% of the members of the public were of the

opinion that three (that is, prevention, protection and prosecution) out of four intervention strategies for addressing human trafficking in the country (except capacity building intervention strategies) were not effective.

8. It is recommended that the Judiciary and the Office of the Attorney General and Department of Justice and the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection lead other agencies in spearheading the strengthening of the foreign labour management, the Victim Protection Board and the National Assistance Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking. Prioritized undertakings need to include: a mandatory medical and repatriation scheme (that includes an open pre-paid return transport ticket) for any Kenyan before their being allowed to leave the country for any privately-arranged migrant labour/employment; the establishment of an adequately-resourced rescue centres/safe houses; and a well-planned and resourced programme of repatriation, reintegration and resettlement of identified human trafficking victims.

The study showed that victims of human trafficking were subjected to inhuman and degrading treatment by their perpetrators, circumstances which sometimes led to re-victimization. Further, the most prominent recommendations for addressing human trafficking in the aspect of resettlement and reintegration of survivors of human trafficking were the: provision of intensive and professional counselling services to survivors; provision of economic empowerment to victims/survivors of human trafficking with a special focus on provision of business grants and/or start-up financial support, employment opportunities and vocational training; deportation and/or repatriation of foreign and local survivors; and establishment of pre-resettlement and reintegration Rescue Centres and/or Half-Way Homes for survivors. Hence witness protection and victim assistance programmes especially targeting all vulnerable categories of persons (with a special focus on women, children, youth and the physically challenged) are recommended.

9. It is recommended that the Ministry of ICT, Innovations and Youth Affairs, the Ministry of Public Service, Gender, Senior Citizens Affairs and Special Programmes, and the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection lead other actors in rolling out aggressive media campaigns with messages targeting at vulnerable social groups especially youthful females in society, with a special focus on the human trafficking catchment areas. A **“Stay Informed and Alert Programme on Human Trafficking”** which is gender-specific could therefore be pursued.

The findings of the study showed that youthful Kenyan females aged 18-34 years, single/never married, and unemployed and/or engaged in casual temporary employment and earning low level incomes formed the largest proportion of victims of both internal/domestic human trafficking and external trafficking from Kenya to other countries. Based on the purpose for trafficking, women trafficking for sex and/or prostitution purposes was the second most prevalent type/form of human

trafficking in the country. Among the trafficked children, girls were the most trafficked victims. Further, perpetrators lured gullible victims to trafficking by use of: deceptive information in the internet and social media and/or networking sites concerning available economic (including job/work) opportunities; initial placement of advertisements in the mass media for legitimate economic (including job/work) opportunities; and study-abroad programmes and fictitious educational scholarships. Hence heightening sensitization targeted at enlightening the public in general and female members of the community in human trafficking catchment areas in particular on how modern slavery is orchestrated and can be prevented is recommended.

10. It is recommended that the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) puts in place elaborate measures to counter corruption among public officials especially those working at entry/exit points and within the Foreign National Management Department, the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection and the National Employment Authority who could be facilitating human trafficking. The measures need to include the vetting and auditing of lifestyles and unaccounted accumulation of wealth by these officials.

The lucrative nature of human trafficking (linked to the various payments made to traffickers by unsuspecting victims in anticipation of the promised economic benefits) was reported to be one of the major factors contributing to and facilitating the vice in that it enticed some public officials of low moral principles into the business. Widespread systemic and institutional corruption by rogue law enforcement (especially among Police Officers and other border control and labour officers) and judicial officers was also cited as one of the main challenges faced in addressing and/or preventing and combating human trafficking.

11. The National Assembly and the National Executive need to strengthen the legal framework for handling human trafficking crimes especially as it relates to aspects of immigration, child protection, sexual abuse and/or exploitation, physical and mental health, victim protection and services and domestic and migrant labour.

A weak legal framework for handling human trafficking crimes was cited as one of the key drivers or risk factors contributing to human trafficking and also a key challenge in addressing the vice in the country. The existing laws were also reported to be majorly inadequate with arguments that: the laws had many loopholes and enforcing them was a challenge; the Counter-Trafficking in Persons Act was shallow; the laws were used to prosecute victims (especially of external trafficking) as illegal immigrants; and that the laws were not clear to concerned government officers and hence not very familiar with them.



12. Effective management of human trafficking will require the Criminal Justice System agencies to put in place evidence-based screening, assessment protocols and treatment approaches that are specific to the different categories of perpetrators of human trafficking.

Findings of the study highlighted the involvement of different and varied categories of perpetrators of human trafficking. Therefore, the effective prevention and/or combating of human trafficking in the country will require evidence-based interventions that are perpetrator-specific.

13. It is recommended that the Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government, the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the National Employment Authority lead the establishment, maintenance and sharing of an updated databank and information on human trafficking across relevant agencies to inform relevant policy and programming. The establishment and/or maintenance of a regularly-updated databank of Kenyan citizens working abroad (which contains the necessary information such as nature of employment, contact details and locations) at the National Employment Authority and in respective Kenyan Embassies and/or foreign missions needs to be prioritized.

Human trafficking data-related challenges identified by the study included: general lack of a database on human trafficking; lack of or inadequate up-to-date reports on human trafficking making it difficult to tell the magnitude, impact, progress or efforts made to curb the vice; and inadequate sharing of human trafficking data across agencies. Hence the establishment, maintenance and sharing of an updated database and information (with details on human trafficking victims, perpetrators, nationalities, trafficking routes, sentencing verdicts and other information on counter-trafficking in persons and smuggling) across relevant agencies to inform relevant policy and programming is recommended.

14. The Department of Culture needs to put in place programmes for inculcating and/or enhancing national values (especially national unity and patriotism) among Kenyans and for addressing retrogressive cultural practices and beliefs that appear to fuel and/or sustain human trafficking.

The findings of the study indicated that: human trafficking for cultural reasons existed in the country and that it happened for religious and other cultural purposes including rituals, marriages and for extraction of body parts especially of people with albinism; lack of patriotism and/or selfishness/individualistic tendencies among Kenyans was one of the general challenges faced in preventing and combating human trafficking in Kenya; and that one of the main possible solutions to the general challenges was civic education aimed at raising national consciousness especially against socio-cultural hindrances and/or retrogressive cultural beliefs and

practices facilitating human trafficking. Therefore, prioritized measures targeted at inculcating and/or enhancing national values (especially national unity and patriotism) among Kenyans and addressing socio-cultural hindrances facilitating human trafficking (especially the retrogressive cultural (including religious) beliefs and practices) are recommended.

15. It is recommended that the Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government and the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection lead a programme for the constant training and review of training curriculum for relevant officers in line with the dynamics of commission of the human trafficking crime.

The recommendation for constant training and review of training curriculum for officers involved in anti-human trafficking is consistent with the reported complex nature of the crime in terms of the victims (some of who are children and other vulnerable persons) and perpetrators involved (some of who are disguised and/or professionals in different fields), the modus operandi of perpetrators (that is, the networks and processes involved) and transnational and organized nature of the crime.

16. The Ministry of Labour and Social Protection and that of Tourism and Wildlife need to de-incentivize the human trafficking pull factor of ready markets for cheap labour in the hospitality and tourism industry sector especially in the coastal region of Kenya by putting in place relevant intervention measures that include professionalizing, setting and/or raising the minimum education and/or skill requirements for labour force in the sections of the sector that are risk-prone to sex trafficking.

The study indicated that the most prevalent types/forms of human trafficking in the country were trafficking for labour and for sex. Other findings of the study showed that ready markets for cheap labour in hospitality and tourism industry especially in hotel and bar businesses was one of key factors contributing to and facilitating human trafficking in the country. Mombasa and Kwale Counties, which host most of the tourism destination points in the country, were found to be among the leading destinations of victims of domestic human trafficking who are majorly primary school education holders.

#### **4.4.2 Recommendations for further Research**

This study examined human trafficking in the country in general without going into adequate details of the various forms/types of trafficking. It is alleged that child trafficking as one of the facets of trafficking is gaining prominence, hence an in-depth study on its magnitude is recommended.

The study looked at the treatment and conditions the victims of human trafficking were subjected to by the perpetrators and the general effects of the vice, albeit scanty and with respondents who were largely not direct victims. It is therefore recommended that an in-depth study be undertaken specifically on the socio-psychological and economic effects of human trafficking, with the main focus being on direct victims as the key study respondents.

There are limited studies that have been carried out on challenges specific to organizations involved in anti-trafficking. Therefore, a further research in this area is viable.

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## APPENDICES

### NATIONAL CRIME RESEARCH CENTRE

#### A STUDY ON THE PROBLEM OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN KENYA

#### **Appendix 1 - Interview Schedule for members of the public sample respondents**

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Sub- County: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Administrative Location \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Interviewer \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Interview \_\_\_\_\_

Time of Interview \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Introduction**

Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am working with the National Crime Research Centre (NCRC). We are conducting a national study on “**The Problem of Human Trafficking in Kenya**”. Human Trafficking has now become a serious problem not only to victims but also to the whole country and therefore requires remedy. As a member of the community, you have every reason to want to remove this scourge from the society. Therefore, your assistance is kindly requested in making this research a success. The study is expected to shed light on issues such as types/forms of human trafficking and their prevalence in Kenya, the effects of human trafficking, the factors contributing to human trafficking, how human traffickers recruit and/or obtain their victims, the intervention strategies that have been used to address human trafficking and their effectiveness and the major challenges faced in preventing and combating human trafficking in Kenya.

As part of the study, we would like to ask you some questions about your knowledge and/or direct/indirect experience with human trafficking. All of the answers you give will be confidential. Participation in the study is completely voluntary. If we should come to any question you do not wish to respond to, just let me know and I will go on to the next question; or you can stop the interview at any time. However, we very much appreciate your participation in this study since your views are important.

At this time, do you have any questions about the study?

May I begin the interview now?

Please allow me to pose to you two sets of questions, first, with regard to your background information and second, with regard to the subject of human trafficking.

## **Respondent's Background Information**

### **1. Gender**

1. Male
2. Female

### **2. Age of Respondent in years.**

1. 18-25
3. 26-33
4. 34-41
5. 42-49
6. 50-57
7. 58-65
8. 66 and above

### **3. Marital Status:**

1. Single/Never Married
2. Married
3. Separated
4. Divorced
5. Widowed

### **4. Level of Education:**

1. None
2. Pre-primary
3. Primary
4. Secondary 1-4
5. Secondary 5-6
6. Middle level College (Specify)\_\_\_\_\_
7. University
8. Adult Literacy
9. Other (Specify)\_\_\_\_\_

### **5. Religion:**

1. Traditional
2. Christian
3. Islam
4. Other (Specify)\_\_\_\_\_

### **6. Nationality**

1. Kenyan
2. Non-Kenyan (Specify)\_\_\_\_\_

7. Occupation

1. Permanent employment – Private Sector
2. Permanent employment – Public Sector
3. Casual/temporary employment (Specify whether in public or private)\_\_\_\_\_
4. Business and/or farming
5. Other (specify-e.g. pupil/student/housewife) \_\_\_\_\_
6. None of the above (specify)\_\_\_\_\_

**Information on Human Trafficking in Kenya**

8. What do you understand by human trafficking?

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9. (a) Have you ever heard of persons being trafficked in Kenya? 1. Yes 2. No

(b) If yes, please indicate whether or not the trafficking of victims happened as indicated in the given options.

1. Within areas in your county in Kenya? 1. Yes 2. No
2. From your county to another county within Kenya? 1. Yes 2. No
3. From another county within Kenya to your county? 1. Yes 2. No
4. From Kenya to other country (ies)?
  1. Yes - specify only one country\_\_\_\_\_
  2. No
5. From other country (ies) to Kenya?
  1. Yes - specify only one country \_\_\_\_\_
  2. No
6. On transit through Kenya?
  1. Yes - specify only one country of origin of persons on transit \_\_\_\_\_
  2. No

10. (a) Do you know of people who have ever been trafficked in Kenya? 1. Yes 2. No

(b) If yes, please indicate whether or not the trafficking of victims happened as indicated in the given options.

1. Within areas in your county in Kenya? 1. Yes 2. No
2. From your county to another county within Kenya? 1. Yes 2. No
3. From another county within Kenya to your county? 1. Yes 2. No
4. From Kenya to other nation (s)/country (ies)?
  1. Yes - specify one nation/country\_\_\_\_\_
  2. No



5. From other nation (s)/country (ies) to Kenya?
  1. Yes - specify one nation/country\_\_\_\_\_
  2. No
6. On transit through Kenya?
  3. Yes – specify one country\_\_\_\_\_
  - No
11. Based on your knowledge, how prevalent is human trafficking in Kenya? (Rate in terms of high, medium and low)\_\_\_\_\_
12. (a) Do you know of different types/forms of human trafficking in Kenya? 1. Yes 2. No
 

(b) If yes, please list the types/forms of human trafficking in Kenya.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(c) Please list the most prevalent types/forms of human trafficking in Kenya.\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_
13. Which one of the types/forms of human trafficking listed below is most prominent and/or popular?
  1. Trafficking of victims within regions in Kenya (Internal/domestic human trafficking)
  2. Trafficking of victims outside Kenya's borders
  3. I don't know
14. Which one of the types/forms of trafficking listed below is most prominent and/or popular in Kenya?
  1. Trafficking of victims from Kenya to other nation (s)/country (ies)
  2. Trafficking of victims from other nation (s)/country (ies) to Kenya
  3. Trafficking of victims to other countries through Kenya
  4. I don't know
15. Are the following types of human trafficking found in Kenya?
  1. Trafficking for labour exploitation (especially domestic servitude) 1. Yes 2. No. 3. I don't know
  2. Trafficking for sex exploitation 1. Yes 2. No. 3. I don't know
  3. Trafficking for cultural reasons 1. Yes 2. No. 3. I don't know

16. (a) Please mention one main factor contributing to domestic human trafficking in Kenya?\_\_\_\_\_
- (b) Please mention one main factor contributing to external human trafficking in Kenya?\_\_\_\_\_
17. (a) Who are the victims of domestic human trafficking in Kenya?\_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- (b) Who are the victims of external human trafficking in Kenya?\_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
18. (a) What are the socio-economic profiles of most victims of domestic human trafficking in Kenya at the time of trafficking in terms of the following?
1. Their nationality:\_\_\_\_\_
  2. Their gender (that is, male and female)\_\_\_\_\_
  3. Their age:\_\_\_\_\_
  4. Their marital status:\_\_\_\_\_
  5. Their highest level of formal education:\_\_\_\_\_
  6. Their occupations:\_\_\_\_\_
  7. Their levels of income (Specify whether High, Medium, Low):\_\_\_\_\_
- (b) What are the socio-economic profiles of most victims of external human trafficking in Kenya at the time of trafficking in terms of the following?
1. Their nationality:\_\_\_\_\_
  2. Their gender (that is, male and female)\_\_\_\_\_
  3. Their age:\_\_\_\_\_
  4. Their marital status:\_\_\_\_\_
  5. Their highest level of formal education:\_\_\_\_\_
  6. Their occupations:\_\_\_\_\_
  7. Their levels of income (Specify whether High, Medium, Low):\_\_\_\_\_
19. What are the coping/survival mechanisms of victims and survivors of human trafficking in Kenya during and after the trafficking episodes?\_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
20. (a) For what purposes are persons trafficked in domestic human trafficking?\_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

(b) For what purposes are persons trafficked in external human trafficking? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

21. Which category of victims is most trafficked in domestic human trafficking in Kenya?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

22. Which gender of children victims is most trafficked in domestic human trafficking? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

23. Which gender of children victims is most trafficked outside Kenya?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

24. Who are most trafficked from Kenya to other nation (s)/country (ies)? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

25. Who are most trafficked from other nation (s)/country (ies) to Kenya? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

26. Please respond to the following statements.

(a) Kenya is a source of victims of human trafficking 1. Agree 2. Disagree 3. I don't know

(b) Kenya is a transit route for victims of human trafficking 1. Agree 2. Disagree 3. I don't know

(c) Kenya is a destination for victims of human trafficking 1. Agree 2. Disagree 3. I don't know

27. (a) Who are the key perpetrators of domestic human trafficking in Kenya? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(b) Who are the recruiters in domestic human trafficking in Kenya? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(c) What are the socio-economic profiles of most traffickers of domestic human trafficking in Kenya at the time of trafficking in terms of the following?

1. Their nationality:\_\_\_\_\_
2. Their gender (that is, male and female)\_\_\_\_\_
3. Their age:\_\_\_\_\_
4. Their marital status:\_\_\_\_\_
5. Their highest level of formal education:\_\_\_\_\_
6. Their occupations:\_\_\_\_\_
7. Their levels of income (Specify whether High, Medium, Low):\_\_\_\_\_

28. (a) Who are the key perpetrators of human trafficking across Kenya's borders (external trafficking)? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(b) Who are the recruiters in external human trafficking in Kenya?\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(c) What are the socio-economic profiles of most traffickers of external human trafficking in Kenya at the time of trafficking in terms of the following?

1. Their nationality:\_\_\_\_\_
2. Their gender (that is, male and female)\_\_\_\_\_
3. Their age:\_\_\_\_\_
4. Their marital status:\_\_\_\_\_
5. Their highest level of formal education:\_\_\_\_\_
6. Their occupations:\_\_\_\_\_
7. Their levels of income (Specify whether High, Medium, Low):\_\_\_\_\_

29. (a) Have you ever heard or do you know how human traffickers recruit and/or obtain their victims? 1. Yes 2. No

(b) If yes, please indicate the methods used in recruiting and/or obtaining victims?\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

30. (a) What facilitates recruitment of victims in domestic human trafficking in Kenya?\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(b) What facilitates recruitment of victims in external human trafficking in Kenya?\_\_\_\_\_

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31. (a) What networks/processes are involved in the recruitment of victims in domestic human trafficking in Kenya?\_\_\_\_\_

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(b) What networks are involved in the recruitment of victims in external human trafficking in Kenya?\_\_\_\_\_

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32. Please provide information on the following aspects of human trafficking in Kenya.

**(a) Domestic Human Trafficking**

Sources of victims:\_\_\_\_\_

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Transit routes:\_\_\_\_\_

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Modes of transportation of victims:\_\_\_\_\_

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Destinations of trafficked human beings:\_\_\_\_\_

---

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**(b) External Human Trafficking**

Sources of victims:\_\_\_\_\_

---

---

Transit routes:\_\_\_\_\_

---

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Modes of transportation of victims:\_\_\_\_\_

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Destinations of trafficked human beings: \_\_\_\_\_

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33. (a) Do you know of any effects of human trafficking in Kenya? 1. Yes 2. No.

(b) If yes, what are the effects? \_\_\_\_\_

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34. (a) What payment costs are involved in human trafficking? \_\_\_\_\_

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(b) Are there instances when victims pay to traffickers in anticipation of certain benefits?

1. Yes 2. No. 3. I don't know

Please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

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(c) Are victims refunded their monies after failing to benefit from the promised opportunities?

1. Yes 2. No 3. I don't know

Please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

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35. (a) Do you know the kinds of treatment and conditions victims of human trafficking are subjected to? 1. Yes 2. No

(b) If yes, please list them. \_\_\_\_\_

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36. (a) Are you aware of any intervention strategies that have been used to address human trafficking in Kenya? 1. Yes 2. No

(b) If yes, please list them. \_\_\_\_\_

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37. Generally speaking, how effective are the following intervention strategies in addressing human trafficking in Kenya? Use the following codes and circle your selected response for each intervention strategy. 1. Effective 2. Not effective 3. I don't know

<u>Intervention strategy</u>	<u>Response</u>		
1. Prevention	1	2	3
2. Protection	1	2	3
3. Prosecution	1	2	3
4. Capacity Building	1	2	3

38. (a) Do you know of any organizations attempting to address human trafficking in Kenya?

1. Yes 2. No

(b) If yes, please list them. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

39. How satisfied are you with the performance of the following front runner organizations in preventing and combating human trafficking? Use the following codes and circle your one selected response for each organization. 1. Satisfied 2. Not satisfied 3. No comment/not sure

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Satisfaction level</u>		
- National Police Service	1	2	3
- Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions	1	2	3
- Judiciary	1	2	3
- Immigration Department	1	2	3
- Foreign Affairs Ministry	1	2	3
- Labour Department	1	2	3
- Faith-based organizations	1	2	3
- Non-governmental organizations	1	2	3
- Foreign Embassies	1	2	3
- Department of Refugee Affairs	1	2	3

40. Why has the human trafficking business persisted in Kenya? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

41. (a) In your opinion, are there challenges faced in preventing and combating Human Trafficking in Kenya? 1. Yes 2. No. 3. I don't know

(b) If yes, please list them. \_\_\_\_\_

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(c) What are the possible solutions to the major challenges faced in preventing and combating human trafficking in Kenya?\_\_\_\_\_

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42. What are the best practices in preventing and combating trafficking in human beings?\_\_\_\_

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43. What recommendations would you give with regard to addressing human trafficking in Kenya in the following aspects?

1. Detection and investigation:\_\_\_\_\_

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2. Prosecution:\_\_\_\_\_

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3. Trial and sentencing:\_\_\_\_\_

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4. Rehabilitation and correction of human trafficking offenders:\_\_\_\_\_

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5. Resettlement and reintegration of survivors of human trafficking\_\_\_\_\_

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44. Please comment freely on any experiences with human trafficking not already addressed

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**Thank you very much for your co-operation and stay well.**



# NATIONAL CRIME RESEARCH CENTRE

## A STUDY ON THE PROBLEM OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN KENYA

### Appendix 2 - Questionnaire for Agency officials sample respondents

Name of County: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Sub- County: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Interviewer \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Interview \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Introduction**

The National Crime Research Centre (NCRC) is conducting a national study on “**The Problem of Human Trafficking in Kenya**”. Human Trafficking has now become a serious problem not only to victims but also to the whole country and therefore requires remedy. As a practitioner, you have every reason to want to remove this scourge from the society. Therefore, your assistance is kindly requested in making this research a success. The study is expected to shed light on issues such as types/forms of human trafficking and their prevalence in Kenya, the effects of human trafficking, the factors contributing to human trafficking, how human traffickers recruit and/or obtain their victims, the intervention strategies that have been used to address human trafficking and their effectiveness and the major challenges faced in preventing and combating human trafficking in Kenya.

As part of the study, we would like you to respond some questions about your knowledge and/or direct/indirect experience with human trafficking. All of the answers you give will be confidential. Participation in the study is completely voluntary. If there is any question you do not wish to respond to, just skip. However, we very much appreciate your participation in this study since your views are important.

There are two sets of questions, first, with regard to your background information and second, with regard to the subject of human trafficking.

### **Agency official's Background Information**

1. Which organization/institution do you serve? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What is your position/designation in the organization (e.g Police Officer, Program Officer, etc)? \_\_\_\_\_
3. How long have you stayed in this locality? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Information on Human Trafficking in Kenya**

4. Do you know of any victims of domestic human trafficking in this locality? 1. Yes 2. No
5. Do you know of any victims of external human trafficking in this locality? 1. Yes 2. No
6. (a) For what purposes are persons trafficked in domestic human trafficking? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
  
(b) For what purposes are persons trafficked in external human trafficking? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
  
7. Do you know any trafficker who has ever been involved in domestic human trafficking in this locality? 1. Yes 2. No
8. Do you know any trafficker who has ever been involved in external human trafficking in this locality? 1. Yes 2. No
9. Please mention one most prevalent type/form of human trafficking in Kenya? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. (a) Please mention one main factor contributing to domestic human trafficking in Kenya? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
  
(b) Please mention one main factor contributing to external human trafficking in Kenya? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
11. (a) Who are the victims of domestic human trafficking in Kenya? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(b) Who are the victims of external human trafficking in Kenya?\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

12. (a) What are the socio-economic profiles of most victims of domestic human trafficking in Kenya at the time of trafficking in terms of the following?

1. Their nationality:\_\_\_\_\_

2. Their gender (that is, male and female)\_\_\_\_\_

3. Their age:\_\_\_\_\_

4. Their marital status:\_\_\_\_\_

5. Their highest level of formal education:\_\_\_\_\_

6. Their occupations:\_\_\_\_\_

7. Their levels of income (Specify whether High, Medium, Low):\_\_\_\_\_

(b) What are the socio-economic profiles of most victims of external human trafficking in Kenya at the time of trafficking in terms of the following?

1. Their nationality:\_\_\_\_\_

2. Their gender (that is, male and female)\_\_\_\_\_

3. Their age:\_\_\_\_\_

4. Their marital status:\_\_\_\_\_

5. Their highest level of formal education:\_\_\_\_\_

6. Their occupations:\_\_\_\_\_

7. Their levels of income (Specify whether High, Medium, Low):\_\_\_\_\_

13. What are the coping/survival mechanisms of victims and survivors of human trafficking in Kenya during and after the trafficking episodes?\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

14. Please respond to the following statements.

(a) Kenya is a source of victims of human trafficking 1. Agree 2. Disagree 3. I don't know

(b) Kenya is a transit route for victims of human trafficking 1. Agree 2. Disagree 3. I don't know

(c) Kenya is a destination for victims of human trafficking 1. Agree 2. Disagree 3. I don't know

15. (a) Who are the key perpetrators of domestic human trafficking in Kenya?\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(b) Who are the recruiters in domestic human trafficking in Kenya? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(c) What are the socio-economic profiles of most traffickers of domestic human trafficking in Kenya at the time of trafficking in terms of the following?

1. Their nationality: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Their gender (that is, male and female) \_\_\_\_\_

3. Their age: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Their marital status: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Their highest level of formal education: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Their occupations: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Their levels of income (Specify whether High, Medium, Low): \_\_\_\_\_

16. (a) Who are the key perpetrators of human trafficking across Kenya's borders (external trafficking)? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(b) Who are the recruiters in external human trafficking in Kenya? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(c) What are the socio-economic profiles of most traffickers of external human trafficking in Kenya at the time of trafficking in terms of the following?

1. Their nationality: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Their gender (that is, male and female) \_\_\_\_\_

3. Their age: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Their marital status: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Their highest level of formal education: \_\_\_\_\_

6. Their occupations: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Their levels of income (Specify whether High, Medium, Low): \_\_\_\_\_

17. Please indicate the methods used by traffickers in recruiting and/or obtaining their victims? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

18. (a) What facilitates recruitment of victims in domestic human trafficking in Kenya? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(b) What facilitates recruitment of victims in external human trafficking in Kenya?\_\_\_\_\_

---

---

19. (a) What networks/processes are involved in the recruitment of victims in domestic human trafficking in Kenya?\_\_\_\_\_

---

---

(b) What networks are involved in the recruitment of victims in external human trafficking in Kenya?\_\_\_\_\_

---

---

20. Please provide information on the following aspects of human trafficking in Kenya.

**(c) Domestic Human Trafficking**

Sources of victims:\_\_\_\_\_

---

Transit routes:\_\_\_\_\_

---

Modes of transportation of victims:\_\_\_\_\_

---

Destinations of trafficked human beings:\_\_\_\_\_

---

**(d) External Human Trafficking**

Sources of victims:\_\_\_\_\_

---

Transit routes:\_\_\_\_\_

---

Modes of transportation of victims:\_\_\_\_\_

---

Destinations of trafficked human beings:\_\_\_\_\_

---

21. (a) What are the effects of human trafficking in Kenya?\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

22. (a) What payment costs are involved in human trafficking?\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(b) Are there instances when victims pay to traffickers in anticipation of certain benefits?

1. Yes 2. No 3. I don't know

Please explain:\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(c) Are victims refunded their monies after failing to benefit from the promised opportunities? 1. Yes 2. No 3. I don't know

Please explain:\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

23. What kinds of treatment and conditions are victims of human trafficking subjected to?\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

24. What intervention strategies have been used to address human trafficking in Kenya?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

25. Generally speaking, how effective are the following intervention strategies in addressing human trafficking in Kenya? Use the following codes and circle your selected response for each intervention strategy. 1. Effective 2. Not effective 3. I don't know

<u>Intervention strategy</u>	<u>Response</u>		
1. Prevention	1	2	3
2. Protection	1	2	3
3. Prosecution	1	2	3
4. Capacity Building	1	2	3

26. (a) Do you know of any organizations attempting to address human trafficking in Kenya?

1. Yes 2. No

(b) If yes, please list them. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

27. Why has the human trafficking business persisted in Kenya? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

28. (a) What are the major challenges faced in preventing and combating Human Trafficking in Kenya? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(b) What are the possible solutions to the major challenges faced in preventing and combating human trafficking in Kenya? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

29. What are the best practices in preventing and combating trafficking in human beings? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

30. What activities does your organization undertake in addressing human trafficking in Kenya? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

31. Generally speaking, how effective are the activities your organization undertakes in addressing human trafficking in Kenya?

1. Effective
2. Not effective
3. I don't know

Please explain your answer: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

32. (a) What challenges does your organization face in preventing and combating human trafficking? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(b) How can the challenges be addressed? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(c) Please comment about collaboration between your organization and other organizations in addressing human trafficking in Kenya? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

33. Do you think the existing laws are adequate in dealing with human trafficking in Kenya?  
1. Yes 2. No 3. I don't know  
Please explain your answer: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

34. What recommendations would you give with regard to addressing human trafficking in Kenya in the following aspects?

1. Detection and investigation: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Prosecution: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Trial and sentencing: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Rehabilitation and correction of human trafficking offenders: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Resettlement and reintegration of survivors of human trafficking: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

35. Please comment freely on any experiences with human trafficking not already addressed  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you very much for your cooperation and stay well.**



# NATIONAL CRIME RESEARCH CENTRE

## A STUDY ON THE PROBLEM OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN KENYA

### Appendix 3 - Key Informant Guide

Name of County: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Sub- County: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Institution where Respondent works: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Interview \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Interviewer \_\_\_\_\_

#### INTRODUCTION

How are you today? My name is.....and I am working with the National Crime Research Centre (NCRC), a State Corporation established by the National Crime Research Centre Act (CAP, 62 L.o.K). We are conducting a study on “**The Problem of Human Trafficking in Kenya**”. The study is expected to shed light on issues such as types/forms of human trafficking and their prevalence in Kenya, the effects of human trafficking, the factors contributing to human trafficking, how human traffickers recruit and/or obtain their victims, the intervention strategies that have been used to address human trafficking and their effectiveness and the major challenges faced in preventing and combating human trafficking in Kenya. Therefore, the findings of the study will inform policies and programmes towards addressing the problem of human trafficking in the country. We would therefore like to ask you some questions related to the subject. All the information you give will be treated in utmost confidence and your identity will not be revealed. We would highly appreciate if you spared some time to respond to the following questions.

**Thank you in advance.**

**Signature of interviewer** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**[ ] RESPONDENT AGREES TO BE INTERVIEWED**

**[ ] RESPONDENT DOES NOT AGREE TO BE INTERVIEWED —————→ END**

At this time, do you have any questions about the study?

May I begin the interview now?

## Information on Human Trafficking in Kenya

As we begin our discussion, let me first hear from you about human trafficking in this locality and/or the County in general.

1. Have you heard and/or experienced and/or witnessed incidents of human trafficking in this locality and/or the County in general in the last 2 years? Please explain.

Next, I would like to discuss with you about victims and perpetrators of human trafficking.

2. (a) Based on your knowledge and/or experience, please comment on the following with regard to main victims of internal/domestic human trafficking in this locality and/or the County in general:

- i. Who are the main victims?
- ii. What are their socio-economic profiles in terms of nationality, gender, age, marital status, level of formal education and livelihood occupations?

- (b) Based on your knowledge and/or experience, please comment on the following with regard to main victims of external human trafficking in this locality and/or the County in general:

- i. Who are the main victims?
- ii. What are their socio-economic profiles in terms of nationality, gender, age, marital status, level of formal education and livelihood occupations?

3. (a) Based on your knowledge and/or experience, please comment on the following with regard to main recruiters and perpetrators of internal/domestic human trafficking in this locality and/or the County in general:

- i. Who are the main recruiters and perpetrators?
- ii. What are their socio-economic profiles in terms of nationality, gender, age, marital status, level of formal education and livelihood occupations?

- (b) Based on your knowledge and/or experience, please comment on the following with regard to main recruiters and perpetrators of external human trafficking in this locality and/or the County in general:

- i. Who are the main recruiters and perpetrators?
- ii. What are their socio-economic profiles in terms of nationality, gender, age, marital status, level of formal education and livelihood occupations?

Next, I am interested in knowing the purposes for which persons are trafficked and the factors contributing to human trafficking and its persistence.

4. (a) For what purposes are persons trafficked in:
  - i. Domestic human trafficking?

ii. External human trafficking?

(b) Please comment on the following with regard to human trafficking in this locality and/or the County in general:

i. Main factors contributing to domestic human trafficking?

ii. Main factors contributing to external human trafficking?

(c) Why has the human trafficking business persisted in Kenya?

(d) Types/forms of human trafficking.

5. In your opinion, what are the most prevalent types/forms of human trafficking in Kenya?

6. Please comment on the coping/survival mechanisms of victims and survivors of human trafficking in Kenya?

What is your opinion about the following?

7. (a) Kenya is a source of victims of human trafficking.

(b) Kenya is a transit route for victims of human trafficking.

(c) Kenya is a destination for victims of human trafficking.

I now wish to indulge you on the modus operandi (mode of operation) of human trafficking.

8. Please comment about

i. Methods used by traffickers in recruiting and/or obtaining their victims in this locality and/or the County in general.

ii. Networks/processes involved in the recruitment of victims in domestic human trafficking in Kenya.

iii. Networks involved in the recruitment of victims in external human trafficking in Kenya.

iv. Hotspots of human trafficking in this locality and/or the County in general.

v. Transit routes for domestic human trafficking in this locality and/or the County in general.

vi. Modes of transportation of victims of domestic human trafficking in this locality and/or the County in general.

vii. Transit routes of external human trafficking in this locality and/or the County in general.

viii. Modes of transportation of victims of external human trafficking in Kenya.

Now let us focus our attention on the effects of human trafficking.

9. (a) What are the socio-economic effects of human trafficking in Kenya?

(b) What kinds of treatment and conditions are victims of human trafficking subjected to?

Next in this discussion are the intervention strategies used and that can be used to address human trafficking and the challenges encountered.

10. Based on your knowledge and/or experience, please comment on the following:
  - i. Intervention strategies that have been used to address human trafficking in this locality and/or the County in general and how effective they are generally.
  - ii. Major challenges faced in preventing and combating human trafficking in this locality and/or the County in general.
  - iii. Possible solutions to the major challenges.
11. What recommendations would you give to address human trafficking in Kenya?
12. If available, please provide figures of cases of human trafficking in this locality and/or County in the last 2 years.

**Thank you very much for your cooperation and stay well.**





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