



Counter-trafficking efforts at grassroots levels boosted



The Sekwele team set to fight human trafficking through song and dance.

The U.S. Department of State's office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons (G/TIP) authorised IOM to award and oversee a series of small grants to 16 community-based organizations (CBOs) to support a range of counter trafficking prevention and protection activities. The objective was to support the work of grassroots organizations to prevent and respond to trafficking in persons before, during, and after the 2010 FIFA World Cup. The CBOs selected work with grass-root communities countrywide thus extending IOM's work to marginalized communities.

Recipients of the grants were able to implement a range of prevention and protection counter-trafficking activities that made use of radio dramas, participatory theatre performances in public places such as open air markets, taxi ranks and in schools. All activities implemented by the organizations targeted areas where the most vulnerable are likely to reside.

The following stories compiled by four of the 16 partners will give you a glimpse of some of the initiatives undertaken.

Sekwele Centre for Social Reflection's (Sekwele)

In partnership with Bethlehem Child & Family Welfare and the South Africa Police Services (SAPS), Sekwele launched the 'Do Not Become a Statistic - Be aware, Be alert, Be smart, Be safe' campaign in the Free State's Thabo Mofutsanyana District Municipality. Sekwele and partners used music, dance and puppet shows in their counter - trafficking campaigns.

"Some of the people we spoke to didn't know what human trafficking is...yet people are vulnerable to trafficking in our region because of unemployment and their attitude towards information, people are ignorant about human trafficking"

Mofokeng Tiisetso, Coordinator at Sekwele

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Bureau for Population, Refugees, and Migration



Editorial: The Numbers Game



I am often confronted by questions about how many people are trafficked, whether by day, year, or over a course of years. Strangely and sadly enough, this is critical information for us to feel that something needs to be done about trafficking in persons or modern day slavery.

So if it's five a month is that big enough a number for us to care? Or may be if its 10 it would matter more? The saddest part is that this is not a query put by your average Joe—even renowned institutes with the best and brightest at hand, have questioned the importance of addressing trafficking and IOM and its partners, for caring about a 'few' cases of trafficking. Better yet, criticisms are also made that there are exaggera-

tions put forth, to bring attention to victims of trafficking thus taking attention away from other important groups of people in need of support. Of course a variety of different vulnerable people are in need of support, and should be assisted, but victims of trafficking are definitely amongst those most vulnerable.

A few people are sold into slavery as we sit in our offices and homes---that shouldn't be a big deal. The truth of the matter is that it is a huge deal. We have in this day and age, slaves amidst us. How can that be okay? There are added challenges of lack of decriminalization of this abhorrent crime, or proactive action to do something serious about it.

Yet, cases are referred to IOM and its partners almost on a daily basis. Cases of people who have been deceived, locked away and tortured as objects of labour and sexual exploitation. Each story is tougher to hear than the next. The disregard that we as human beings have for situations that don't directly affect us, is sad to say the least. I wonder how the naysayers will react to even one case that they came across directly.

There is a reason why even one case of human trafficking matters. Human trafficking is a crime that affects both the individual and community at large. Apart from violating human rights, it is a form of gender-based violence that

has far-reaching effects for the victim and the community at large. Victims of human trafficking suffer emotional, physical and economical abuse at the hands of their traffickers, leading to long-term consequences for them and their families. Where incidences of human trafficking in communities occur, there is a consequent increase in criminal activity which in turn leads to social instability.

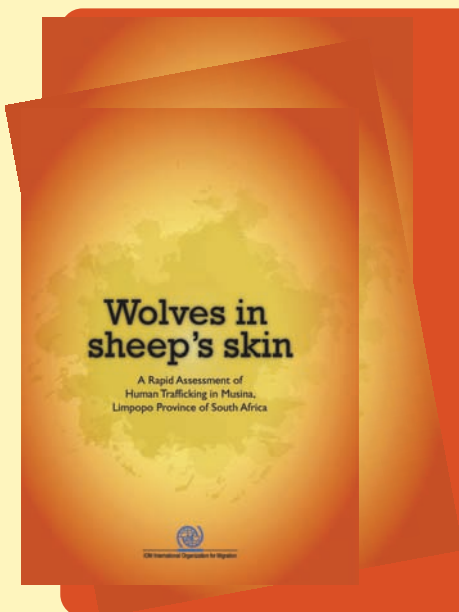
When combating human trafficking a number of other social ills are addressed. Human trafficking does not exist in a vacuum but has, amongst others, reproductive and sexual health consequences such as HIV and Aids and other sexually transmitted infections for the victim and society. These health issues further increase the vulnerability of those most at risk. Essentially counter-trafficking activities then target a host of issues, not just the root causes of the vulnerability but also the demand that feeds this slave trade.

What is the magic number then that will make us stand up and care? Somebody please let us know—because that number is out there, it's just a matter of caring enough to combat it. The more partnerships we develop, the stronger the fight against trafficking will be. Let us put aside counting numbers for now---and focus on what is really happening, in our very midst!

RESEARCH REPORT: Wolves in Sheep's Skin

'Wolves in Sheep's Skin: A Rapid Assessment of Human Trafficking in Musina, Limpopo Province of South Africa', reveals that migrants in the southern African region are regularly subjected to high levels of abuse and violence, which in turn makes them vulnerable to trafficking.

To find out more about the findings and recommendations please visit the IOM website www.iom.org.za. The research was funded by the Norwegian Embassy in South Africa.



Four South African Government Departments Get Standardized Counter-Trafficking Curriculum

Four South African government departments now have a standardized South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) accredited counter-trafficking curriculum. In addition a total of 126 civil servants from the Departments of Home Affairs, Social Development and Health, South African Police Services, National Prosecuting Authority (NPA), Department of Justice and Constitutional Development have been accredited by SAQA as trainers, facilitators, assessors and moderators.

The counter-trafficking curriculum was jointly produced by IOM and the NPA with funds from the delegation of the European Union. It covers all aspects of trafficking in persons, the 'modus operandi' of human traffickers, legislation as well as victim empowerment. The curriculum places great

emphasis on the importance of a strategic response to human trafficking and targets government officials who deal with human trafficking or are likely to come into contact with the issue.

During a certificate awarding ceremony, IOM's Regional Representative Mr. Bernardo Mariano commended the South African government for taking considerable measures to capacitate its industrious civil servants stating that a "standardized counter-trafficking curriculum creates harmonized operating counter-trafficking procedures and interlinks departmental responses that are enshrined in a victim-centered approach".

IOM is committed to providing its knowledge and expertise to the government trainers who will be involved in rolling out counter-trafficking training to their peers.

“Standardized counter-trafficking curriculum creates harmonized operating counter-trafficking procedures and interlinks departmental responses that are enshrined in a victim-centered approach”.

Mr. Bernardo Mariano, IOM's Regional Representative

Zambia: IOM to Produce a Training Manual for Law Enforcement Officers on implementing new Anti-Human Trafficking Legislation

IOM Zambia in consultation with the Government of Zambia's Expert Group on Human Trafficking is in the process of finalizing a comprehensive training manual which will provide law enforcement with the necessary knowledge and skills to implement the trafficking in persons legislation. Even though Zambia passed its comprehensive anti-trafficking legislation in December 2008, there has been a need for formal training on how to implement the law.

The training manual will be used by immigration and police training officers to conduct counter-trafficking trainings

for new recruits and existing officers in service. It will include case studies and practical exercises, taking into account lessons learned following the enactment of the legislation.

The training manual is a by product of a series of training of trainer sessions conducted by IOM to equip relevant stakeholders with skills to enable the implementation of the trafficking in persons legislation.

IOM Zambia conducted a five-day Training of Trainers for 12 law enforcement instructors at the Lilayi Police Training College in Lusaka to pilot the

training manual. Officers were provided with critical skills to train others on the practical implementation of the law. According to Mr. Rodney Mukuka, Officer in Charge of Law and Police Duties at Lilayi Police Training College, "the Training of Trainers could not have come at a better time, as suspected cases of human trafficking are on the rise and it is essential that officers know how to deal with such cases".

IOM is grateful to the United States Department of State for funding this project.

SA Judiciary to Get a Counter -Trafficking Manual

IOM in collaboration with the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA), Department of Justice and Constitutional Development and South African Chapter- International Association for Women Judges (SAC-IAWJ) have embarked on a significant undertaking to produce a counter trafficking training manual for the Judiciary.

The manual which will target prosecutors and judicial officers will equip members of the judiciary with skills and knowledge pertaining to the legal and prosecutorial aspects of trafficking in persons. The purpose is to address the gap of knowledge that currently exists in the legislation framework and sentencing for the crime of trafficking in persons. The manual will also address the proce-

dural guidelines that are fundamental to the successful prosecution of cases. IOM will begin by conducting a series of seminars with judicial officers and prosecutors.

Funds to produce the manuals have been made available by the European Union and the US Department of State.

A 30 Minutes DVD Feature Captures Stories of Economic Stabilization Beneficiaries

If you are one of our regular readers, then you know something about IOM's economic stabilization project. A ground breaking initiative which benefitted 26 women aged 16 to 30 years from the Eastern Cape, Mpumalanga, Limpopo and KwaZulu Natal provinces. Though the project recently came to an end, the experiences of the beneficiaries are far from over.

IOM in partnership with the Mothertongue Project has produced 'Sold Inside', a 30 minutes

documentary that captures the experiences of the 26 women. 'Sold Inside' narrates the journey the women undertook, their performances and the transformational effect the project has had on their lives.

Sold Inside can be viewed or downloaded from : <http://iom.org.za/soldinside.mpg>

The economic stabilization project was funded by the US State Department Bureau for Population, Refugees and Migration



One of the beneficiaries show casing her products

Programme Promotes Human Rights of Victims of Trafficking in Zimbabwe

An agreement signed between IOM Zimbabwe and the European Union (EU) delegation to Zimbabwe will promote and reinforce the human rights of vulnerable people and victims of trafficking in Zimbabwe.

In commending the agreement, IOM's Chief of Mission in Zimbabwe Mr. Marcelo Pisani said, "this support from the European Union will help develop and broaden comprehensive and integrated anti-trafficking programming among the civil society. It will encourage the government to adopt and implement measures to impede human trafficking and protect victims".

The agreement will enable the implementation of a multi faceted programme that will focus on strengthening the capacity of civil society and government to promote human rights. This will create platforms to facilitate anti- trafficking dialogue with the objective of enabling policy research, formulation and implementation. It will include developing a national anti-trafficking legal framework containing measures on prevention, protection, support and rehabilitation of victims as well as the prosecution of traffickers.

IOM Supports 5th Annual South African Human Trafficking Awareness Week



One of Siyakhula field workers (Left) explains what is human trafficking to some traders in Komatipoort.

IOM in collaboration with the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA), Department of Home Affairs (DHA), Department of Education (DoE), other key government partners and civil society organizations commemorated South Africa's 5th Annual Human Trafficking Awareness Week (HTAW) from the 3rd to the 9th of October 2010.

This year's theme, "Human Trafficking is Real", was designed to focus public attention on human trafficking with the aim of making people aware of its realities. The theme was conceptualized by the NPA which spearheaded the government efforts this year.

In support of the week, IOM provided awareness raising material to various government departments and NGO partners. "It is only through sustained partnerships and common messaging that a real impact can be made in alerting the public to the harm trafficking causes and reaching out to those in trafficking situations," noted IOM Regional Representative for Southern Africa, Mr. Bernardo Mariano. He further added that through the HTAW,

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**Mr. Bernardo Mariano, IOM
Regional Representative for
Southern Africa**

the government and its partners sent a strong message on South Africa's commitment to providing protection to victims of human trafficking and addressing the crime comprehensively and consistently. "The number of governmental and civil society entities involved in this year's Human Trafficking Awareness Week bears

testimony to this common resolve," Mariano noted.

Activities undertaken by the South African government during HTAW included distribution of posters bearing IOM's toll free helpline number in toilet cubicles at SA's Ports of Entry. DHA handed out counter-trafficking flyers to commuters at roadside traffic controls as well as at taxi stands. The Department of Social Development deployed about 50 auxiliary social workers who targeted people in Hillbrow, Yeoville, Betram and at the Jeppe police station in Johannesburg. The social workers distributed flyers and put up awareness posters in the targeted areas.

To reach the rural communities, IOM partners such as the KwaZulu Regional Christian Council (KRCC) spoke to approximately 500 high school learners from Eshowe about the dangers of human trafficking. For Siyakhula Youth Health and Development Organization based in Mpumalanga, activities targeted cross-border travellers and traders around the Lebombo border post near Mozambique. Another participating IOM partner was the Freestate Network which hosted three counter-trafficking dialogues with community leaders in Kroonstad, Qwa-Qwa and Bulfontein in the Freestate.

The first HTAW was launched by IOM in 2006 in collaboration with Diasporafric a local NGO. At that time, little was known about human trafficking in the country. The campaign was undertaken to highlight the issue, as well as to build government capacity to address human trafficking.

IOM's 2010 HTAW activities were supported by funds from the European Union and the US State Department Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration.

Community Members Equipped with Theatre Skills to Combat Human Trafficking

In Mpumalanga Province, Nelspruit Community Forum (NCF) partnered with the Mothertongue Project to offer participatory theatre training to a team of 10 young women based in the Mpumalanga province. The training created a pool of knowledgeable women who are now raising awareness against human trafficking in schools, churches and public places in their communities. Four of the women trained are further using the skills to train others how to use drama as an awareness raising tool thus increasing project's sustainability.



Captivated: Learners in a school in Mpumalanga keenly follow the dramatization of a trafficking story performed by trained women.

Siyakhula Youth Reaches Marginalised Communities

Siyakhula Youth Health and Development Organization (Siyakhula) based in the Nkomazi area focused its activities on the border communities of Komatipoort, Driekoppies as well as Malelane in Mpumalanga. Though some people in Komatipoort had heard of human trafficking, "this was their first time to actually sit and discuss how it affects their community" says Wedzerai Chiyoka Siyahkhula's Technical Advisor. Siyakhula has also taken the initiative to translate one of IOM's counter trafficking brochures to SiSwati in order to effectively reach communities in the Nkomazi area.



IOM billboard at the SA/Mozambique border is a daily reminder of the dangers of human trafficking to all who cross the busy border.

Calling it as it is...

In a region where the issue of child brides is prevalent, Lusikisiki Paralegal Advice Centre approached the human trafficking issue from a human rights perspective. "We talked to people about child and women abuse, showing them that it is not right to reduce the value of a human being to lobola (bride price)" said Fanele MnGuni of Lusikisiki. He added that people were not aware that abduction of children is equal to child trafficking especially because it is done in the name of culture. To confront this practice, the organisation held community dialogues with local civic and traditional leaders, social workers as well as general members of the community.

The 16 partners have shown the importance of engaging local leaders, government departments as well as other organizations for a broad reach. Communities are now not only enlightened but have been given the

Myth About Human Trafficking

If parents agree to their children being taken away by a human trafficker then it is not human trafficking

FACT

It is still human trafficking even if parents give consent to the human trafficker. Parents at times knowingly or unknowingly become involved in the trafficking of children. It is not a valid excuse to say that a parent consented to the exploitation of the child.

necessary information and skills to enable continued counter-trafficking efforts at grassroots levels.

Capacity Building Initiatives Strengthen Community Responses to Counter-Trafficking

When Portia Qondani of the Department of Health and Social Development, Northern Cape first heard of human trafficking, she thought it was something that happened abroad, certainly not a problem in South Africa. Her perspective was changed when in 2009, Portia attended an IOM Capacity Building workshop, “the training was an eye opener for me, I came to realise that human trafficking happens all over the world” she says.

Portia works as a Social Work Manager responsible for Crime Prevention and Support Programme and Victim Empowerment Programme (VEP) in Kimberly. Human trafficking is therefore an issue that she is likely to encounter in her line of duty. Part of her work involves coordinating and managing services to victims of crimes and violence as well as perpetrators. The counter-trafficking knowledge and skills have enabled Portia to become a resourceful person in her community as far as combating human trafficking is concerned.

IOM Capacity Building workshops bring together stakeholders from different government departments and civil society members. Therefore a

diverse forum to share ways of combating human trafficking is created. It is no wonder then that Portia and her colleagues from VEP have been able to implement counter-trafficking initiatives. The VEP consist of officials from key government departments such as the South African Police as well as civil society organizations.

Participants who attend IOM Capacity Building workshops become resourceful and skilled to empower others in their communities.

One such initiative undertaken by the Northern Cape Province VEP forum is the ‘Moving Bus Campaign on Human Trafficking’. Held in May this year, the road-show lasted two weeks and utilized drama, music to educate people about human trafficking. The 12 people involved in the ‘Moving Bus Campaign’ were able to reach 30 schools, churches, taxi ranks in three

districts in the Northern Cape province.

Apart from awareness raising, Portia and the VEP Forum are now also involved in building the capacity of other government departments and members of civil societies in the province to respond to human trafficking.

Partnerships developed enhance and create synergy which is a good foundation for a coordinated response to combat human trafficking. “The fact that responding to the needs of victims of human trafficking involves various role players from different government and civil society institutions means we need to work together” Portia adds.

Participants who attend IOM Capacity Building workshops become resourceful and skilled to empower others in their communities. This can have a multiplier effect because one trained individual is able to reach more people.

The IOM capacity building initiatives are funded by the delegation of the European Union.



Northern Cape VEP's branded 'moving bus' on transit to a campaign site.

**TRAFFICKING
ONLY HAPPENS
TO FOREIGNERS**

There are victims of human trafficking who are recruited and sold within their own countries. Anyone can become a victim of human trafficking.

Beyond the Region

Counter-Trafficking Experts Convene in Dakar

Anti-trafficking experts on 4 and 5 October met in Dakar, Senegal to discuss ways of working together at a regional and international level with the UN system to strengthen and promote information sharing for counter-trafficking purposes. The two day meeting was convened at the initiative of Joy Ngozi Ezeilo the UN Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children.

In a speech delivered by the UN Special Rapporteur Ms Ezeilo said, "Effective coordination of the various anti-trafficking initiatives and enhanced cooperation among all actors involved in combating trafficking is essential to maximise available resources, minimise duplication and address States' fatigue vis à vis the number of demands they are required to attend to".

Issues discussed by experts drawn from all over the world included ways of preventing human trafficking, victims protection and the necessary institutional frameworks that would assist in counter-trafficking. Ms Ezeilo noted the need for regional

mechanisms to respond to the problem of human trafficking saying that a collective quest to counter-trafficking was necessary. She emphasized that "assistance to and protection of victims must be non-conditional, responsive to the needs, and respectful of the human rights of trafficked victims. Regional and sub-regional organisations must therefore ensure that their normative frameworks, policies and practices integrate human rights, are appropriate to the age of the victims and sensitive to gender aspects,".

The Dakar meeting was organized as a follow-up to Ms. Ezeilo's report to the UN Human Rights Council in June 2010 on anti-trafficking efforts undertaken by regional and sub-regional mechanisms, allowed for an in-depth and forward-looking discussion around its recommendations.

Story obtained from:

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=36363&Cr=trafficking&Cr1>



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Myth About Human Trafficking

Smuggling is human trafficking

FACT

Smuggling of migrants is not the same as human trafficking. Smuggling of migrants is a process whereby a person pays a smuggler to help him or her cross a border irregularly. It is a business transaction, and once the person has crossed the border, the relationship ends. Unlike human trafficking the intention in smuggling is not exploitation. Human smuggling is a breach of immigration laws, while human trafficking is a breach of human rights.

Call IOM Human Trafficking Help line for victim assistance & information

South Africa
0800 555 999
TOLL-FREE 7am - 10pm

Zambia's Talkline
990
TOLL-FREE 24hrs

Zimbabwe's Hotline
0800 32 22 22 2
TOLL-FREE 24hrs