

Market Development in the Niger Delta Programme (MADE)

FINAL Report

Support to Human Trafficking Prevention in the Niger Delta

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Abbreviations and acronyms

CAR	Community Awareness and Recovery Programme
CSOs	Civil Society Organisation
DFID	Department of International Development
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IOM	International organisation for Migration
M4P	Making Markets Work for the Poor
MADE	Market Development in the Niger Delta
NAPTIP	National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP)
UN	United Nations

Executive Summary

MADE has a long-term target of increasing the income of 150,000 beneficiaries (with women being 50%) and lifting them out of poverty over the lifetime of the project. It has also taken keen interest in understanding modern day slavery (MDS) in Edo and neighbouring States in the Niger Delta with the aim of contributing to its prevention. The objective of the study reported here is to take forward this broad goal. The findings call for the need to manage expectations regarding what can be achieved within the short life span of the project.

A complex interplay of deep seated structural, institutional and agency factors in the political economy of Edo state has contributed to entrenching a conducive environment for human trafficking to thrive. Structural factors include the historical metamorphosis of legitimate trade by Edo women into trade in women and girls in Italy, on the one hand, and overdependence on oil to the neglect of promoting alternative income generating sectors in Edo, on the other. Institutional factors include informal institutions manifested in social norms in Edo culture that induce and justify the sale of girls and women into sexual slavery. Formal institutions are not exempted from insipid informal rules of the game that permit the passage of trafficked women and girls through check points and borders. Agency factors include the emergence and expansion of a network of actors taking advantage of the structural and institutional fractures to advance trade in women and girls.

The political economy context outlined above has made room for a well organised market in girls and women. The human trafficking market is a well organised business processes with all the attributes of business systems. There are clear demand and supply chains with different actors, pricing processes, negotiations, and cash transaction. The market has no opening or closing hours. The key actors who drive and sustain the market work all round the clock. The market place straddles international territorial boundaries. The destination points cut across Europe. Channels of transportation are by land, sea, and air. Traffickers target vulnerable groups such as girls from polygamous families, school drop outs, the rural poor, urban women, aspirational migrants. Altogether, human trafficking has become a highly organized and lucrative business, attaining the status of organized crime. Addressing human trafficking in Edo requires sustained political will and citizen engagement. Unfortunately, for eight years, the immediate past regime in Edo state lived in self-denial regarding reality of human trafficking, and failed to put in place poverty reduction and job creation policies to wrestle youth unemployment. This double neglect exacerbated the situation.

However, a window of hope has emerged. The new administration in Edo State has initiated policies and programmes to tackle the menace. These actions include passing a Bill on Edo State Trafficking in Persons Prohibition, Enforcement and Administration as well as set up a Task Force Against Human Trafficking, initiating Town Hall meeting for stakeholders to agree strategies for tackling human trafficking. Other preventive interventions include concerted efforts by civil society organisations to target vulnerable women and girls, and work towards reintegrating returnees into society.

The study has highlighted conditions that nurture vulnerability, suggested prospects for engagement of vulnerable girls and returnees in alternative productive economic activities, and underscored the need for fostering partnerships among anti-human trafficking actors to tackle modern day slavery in Edo. Further research is required to drill down these themes. Such research should aim at:

- Develop a deeper understanding of the end markets for the trafficked people – especially for the sex trade in Europe, as that is a major driver of the demand for sex workers from Nigeria.
- Generating reliable data regarding:
 - Earnings by trafficked women and girls working under madams, working on their own, and remittances home.
 - Terms or passage costs especially for the aspirational migrants.
 - Numbers and percentage of migrants that really get into Europe or get trafficked at the holding bay in Libya/Morocco.
- Developing a system for targeting vulnerable populations, such as girls from polygamous families, school drop outs, the rural poor, urban women, aspirational migrants, and aspiring migrants, including gaining a better understanding of geographic distribution of polygamous families
- Deepening understanding of alternative economic activities that have the potential to attract foreign exchange.
- Deepening understanding mechanisms for strengthening anti-human trafficking partnerships.
- Aggregating and bringing lessons learned from MADE's efforts in lifting women out of poverty to bear on making an impact on human trafficking.

1. Introduction

1.1 Background to the study

Market Development in the Niger Delta (MADE) is a UK DFID-funded programme applying the Making Markets Work for the Poor (M4P) approach to generate pro-poor and inclusive economic growth in selected non-oil value chains in the Niger Delta. The stated objective of the programme is to raise the incomes of at least 150,000 poor people, of whom 50 per cent will be women. It is currently being implemented across the nine states of the Niger Delta, working in five value chains, namely: Palm oil, Household poultry, Cassava, Fisheries, Agricultural inputs, Finished leather goods, and a crosscutting Access to finance component.

MADE has already carried out some initial research on human trafficking in Edo State during its PEA in 2016 and there is a substantial body of research conducted by or on behalf of HMG which will serve as the launching point for this analysis. The programme currently needs a deeper understanding of the human trafficking issues in Edo State and the Niger Delta in general, including how various elements interact and play out to engender incentives to potential victims to migrate to Europe. This will enable the programme to come up with a clear strategy to facilitate opportunities to explore alternative livelihoods and contribute to the creation of an economy which has better prospects for creating jobs and aspirations aimed at reducing the push to migrate. The analysis will also facilitate the design of effective implementation activities as well as the setting of realistic targets for outreach and outcomes by MADE.

1.2 Objectives and methodology

The primary and secondary research to be conducted by the consultants are the following:

- Deepen analysis to facilitate greater understanding of the behavior of key actors involved in human trafficking for sexual exploitation from the Niger Delta;
- Understand the social norms and values and cultural and religious factors at play that allow for or encourage the trade in girls and women from the Niger Delta;
- Understand the methods used for victimizing girls and women being trafficked from or through the Niger Delta;
- Understand the value chain and channels in the market operation, including key actors (direct and indirect perpetrators; formal and informal institutions; linkages with other forms of organized crime);
- Understand the national, regional and international legal framework proscribing human trafficking in Nigeria;
- Understand the work done by institutions and organisations in Nigeria to counter the trade (including NAPTIP, NGOs, FBOs, border officials, sub-national government institutions) or to rehabilitate and reintegrate victims;
- Identify the trends in human trafficking (e.g. whether the numbers are increasing or decreasing; changes in the demographic of the victims; destination countries);
- Examine the incentives for the families of victims or potential victims for (a) colluding in trafficking to the families; (b) resisting pressures to collude in trafficking; (c) participating in the prevention of trafficking; and (d) participating in the protection of returned victims;

- Analyse in detail possible prevention mechanisms and suggested sustainable income generating options to beneficiaries, including organisations currently involved in the process;
- Recommend geographic clusters and target populations for the deeper socio-economic surveys; and
- Provide deeper analysis of the recommendations in the Annex 4 of the Update MADE PEA Report submitted in November 2016.

Following a desk review the consultants held a kick start session with the MADE Team in Abuja. Following a desk review of current work on human trafficking in Nigeria, the consultants undertook semi-structured interviews, consultations and focus group discussions with stakeholders in Benin City and one community in the central Senatorial District of Edo State as well as in Lagos. Those consulted include some returnees, government agencies and senior government officials. Fieldwork also involved opportunity to participate in a Town Hall meeting organised by the Edo State government aimed at finding solutions to the human trafficking issue. A full list of stakeholders consulted is provided in Annex 1.

1.3 A contextual approach to the study

During the past fourteen years the political economy analysis tool has been used in Nigeria by different development agencies, including DFID, the World Bank and DFID programmes working at state level. DFID's Drivers of Change study pioneered the effort.¹ The conceptual framework for Drivers of Change analyses lays emphasis on three interrelated aspects of society: structural factors, institutions, and agents.

Structural factors are long-term contextual factor such as demographic shifts, social structures, and natural resources endowment. The structural factors of the political economy of human trafficking in Nigeria are set out in Section 2 below. Institutions are both the formal and the informal "rules of the game" that define how reality plays itself out. Formal institutions include codified laws and procedures, while informal institutions include political, social and cultural norms that evolve and change over time. Whilst formal rules of the game define how things ought to be done, it is often informal rules of the game that explain how things really get done. The informal institutions that drive human trafficking in Nigeria are set out in Section 2 of the study, whilst formal institutions are set out in section four below. Agents are actors such as powerful individuals, civil servants, religious leaders, political parties, civil society organisations and business associations. Section 3 specifies the agents involved human trafficking in Nigeria.

It is the dynamic relationships and interplay of these structural, institutional, and agency factors that provide clues to understanding the nature of society at any point in time.

¹ Chris Heyman, Chris Pycroft Drivers of Change in Nigeria: A Preliminary Overview, 2003. This section also draws from James Zasha, *Political Economy of Gender Inequality in Nigeria*, August 2012

2. Background to the Human Trafficking Market

2.1 Historical perspective

Structural, historical and informal institutional factors are relevant in explaining the rise of human trafficking in Edo. Trade between Edo people and Italy did not start with human trafficking. Neither has prostitution in women always been part of Edo culture. As far back as the 15th century Edo people were engaged in trade with Italy, especially exports of works of art, for which Benin was renowned. Edo women were also engaged in legitimate business transactions as they travelled to Europe, particularly Italy, to buy goods for sale in Nigeria. Some of these women subsequently experienced failed businesses and stayed back in Italy to do menial jobs to survive, including working on tomato farms. The transition from legitimate trade to trafficking started as most of the women ventured into prostitution. The first wave of prostitutes started recruiting older women, including divorcees, widows and other vulnerable women from Edo into the sex trade. There was a further transition from recruiting older women to recruiting young women, especially siblings and friends from Edo communities for prostitution abroad. The first wave of recruiters became “Madams” who perfected the emerging business of procuring and supplying girls for sexual exploitation to an emerging class of affluent single men in Italy. The first wave of “Madams” was joined by subsequent waves, as trafficked girls themselves “graduated” and became “madams” in their own right, increasing the pool of importers of girls from Edo. Most of the persons interviewed for this study agreed with this.

By the nineteen-eighties the migration of young women out of Benin City became intensified, when Edo women—fed up with repression, domestic chores, and a lack of economic opportunities—travelled to Europe by airplane, with fake documents. Many ended up doing sex work on the streets of major cities—London, Paris, Madrid, Athens, Rome. By the end of the decade, according to a report commissioned by the United Nations, “the fear of *aids* rendered drug-addicted Italian girls unattractive on the prostitution market”; Nigerians from Edo State largely filled the demand. The money wasn’t great, by European standards, but, before long, parents in Benin City were replacing ramshackle houses of mud and wood with walled-off properties. Lists of expensive assets—cars, furniture, generators—purchased with remittances from Europe were included in obituaries, and envious neighbours took note. Pentecostal ministers, preaching a gospel of prosperity, extolled the benefits of migration. Women were sending back word of well-compensated employment as hairdressers, dressmakers, housekeepers, nannies, and maids, but the actual nature of their work in Italy remained hidden, and so parents urged their daughters to take out loans to travel to Europe and lift the family out of poverty. In time, sex workers became madams; from Italy, they employed recruiters, transporters, and document forgers in Nigeria. This phenomenon has become institutionalized over the years.

2.2 Economic perspective

The historical perspective highlighted above is closely linked to the economic perspective, especially regarding creeping underdevelopment in Edo State. The economic perspective has remained a strong factor explaining the continued existence of human trafficking and irregular migration in Edo state. A key structural feature of the Nigerian economy, especially the Niger Delta economy is the dominance of oil, and overdependence on oil revenues to the neglect of alternative employment generating ventures. This structural defect has had negative repercussions, creating a pool of vulnerable, poorly educated

youths who become easy targets for traffickers. As long as Edo remains an oil dependent economy, with a weak manufacturing and industrial sector to absorb its teeming youths, the unemployed and underemployed youths remain easy targets for traffickers. This is particularly so in the context of a steady market abroad for the exploitation of women, boys and girls. Poverty, unemployment, lack of or low level of education and skills deficiency, are key factors which influence the push to migrate. Poorly educated girls from poor rural families migrate to cities in search of jobs for which they have no skills, and become victims to traffickers.

The pull factors abroad and the push economic factors at home are reinforced by the economic “success stories” of “madams” and trafficked persons. As noted in the preliminary study, and voiced by many stakeholders interviewed, several girls and women who have participated in the business send or return home with wealth to build big houses in their communities. They also send money to their parents who are obviously very wealthy in the communities. Such women and girls become role models for vulnerable girls. For other poor girls and families who see these displays of wealth are encouraged to participate in the business. Associated with this is the low value system of several families. Several Edo families do not care to find out the source of wealth of their wealthy members. These families celebrate wealth without any regard to their sources. Families that place less value on material wealth are less likely to allow their children to participate in the business.

Successful participants in the market for human trafficking and sexual exploitation as well as irregular migration have created a mindset among poor, unemployed and vulnerable people and their families in Edo State and some parts of Delta State that travelling abroad would enable them to generate income in foreign exchange. Earning income in foreign exchange has become a major attraction to these people. With the recent down turn in the Nigerian economy and the significant decline in the exchange rate of the local currency Naira, earning income in foreign exchange and converting such earnings to the local currency has become very lucrative.

2.3 Social and cultural factors

The structural factors highlighted above are reinforced by informal institutions manifested in social and cultural factors. One of the key cultural factors is the practice of polygamy and large families. Interviews with key informants underscore the findings in the preliminary study. Polygamy is prevalent in the Edo society, particularly in Benin City and the neighboring communities. Monogamous large families are also common practice in certain parts of Edo State. The situation produces many families with several children, including girls. In most cases it is women who toil by engaging in farming and trade, to take care of their families and children. Some of those families have competitive polygamous wives who seek to do better than each other in generating income. In some cases, parents of the polygamous families look forward to their children to take care of the family. Under the circumstances, the search for coping strategies to deal with poverty leads many women and girls into prostitution. Besides, prostitution is increasingly being perceived as a reliable family revenue generating activity. Unlike communities in the Northern Nigeria where girls are given out to marriage early, this practice is minimal in Edo communities. Thus the practice of mothers sending daughters abroad has become a competition, almost an epidemic, especially as families openly displayed ill-gotten wealth. Religious practices in Edo also contribute to the phenomenon of trafficking. The gospel of prosperity preached by many contemporary churches with a large followership does not distinguish between ill-gotten wealth and wealth generated through legal and appropriate channels. Many of the people interviewed assert that it is common practice for some pastor to actively push girls to travel abroad for prostitution through prophesy and prayers. Traditional

belief in the power of juju emboldens traffickers to enslave vulnerable girls and women through oath taking.

Multiple societal pressures are brought to bear on vulnerable women and girls, including pressure from the family, peer pressure, and community pressure, and even pressure from husbands for wives to be willfully migrate to earn income for the family. In some cases, family members hold meetings to decide who in the family will go abroad so as to lift the family out of poverty and increase their wealth profile. Besides a myriad of emerging, unstated, but powerful social norms, work in concert with structural factors to produce an enabling environment for human trafficking to flourish in Edo. These include: increasing perception of sex as a commodity to be sold as a means of livelihood; perceptions that use and trade in women is acceptable, and prostitution fast becoming acceptable habit in Edo among families and community members, associated with the low esteem of women as commodities, as mothers willingly push their daughters into prostitution. These views were expressed by several interviewees in focus group discussions.

3. Operation of the Market

3.1 Introduction to the market

The human trafficking market is a well organised business process with all the attributes of business systems. There are clear demand and supply chains with different actors, pricing processes, negotiations, and cash transactions. There is the production or procurement point as well as various stratified grouping such as agents, exporters, importers, and retailers. Also analysed are methods of recruitment, the end market and the size of the market. Different individuals play different roles, but the same person can sit in Benin and monitor the movements of human goods at various locations on the way, retaining the discretion to trade the victim of irregular migration along the route or sell them to the importer at destination points. The market has no opening or closing hours. The key actors who drive and sustain the market work around the clock. The market place straddles international territorial boundaries. The destination points cut across Europe. Channels of transportation are by land, sea, and air. Altogether, human trafficking has become a highly organized and lucrative business, attaining the status of organized crime. And the “commercial sex workers” are no longer simply prostitutes, but all actors associated with promoting and sustaining the trade. The list of commercial sex workers includes family members, traffickers, agents, traditional rulers, pastors, Juju chiefs, cultists, compromised immigration and other law enforcement officials, and madams abroad. The informal rules of the market have no respect for human life, law, or constituted authority.

In the early years of the operation of the market, the girls and their families were deceived by traffickers and they ignorantly thought they were travelling to Europe to be legitimately employed as housemaids, care givers and store attendants. Increasingly, the girls and their families are becoming aware of the hidden agenda of the recruiters, but willingly participate in the market with a view to generating income for the family. Nevertheless, there may be some unsuspecting victims, mainly in rural areas, that become victims of human trafficking.

3.2 Key actors

As highlighted earlier in this report, agents and actors in the market are important in understanding the political economy of human trafficking in Edo. Consultations with key stakeholders in this study confirms findings reported in the preliminary study regarding the key agents and actors in the market. There are several actors in the human trafficking and sex market. The key actors in the market can be divided into three main groups, namely, (i) Victims of human trafficking and sex slavery, (ii) the market actors who handle the trafficked people along the chain, and (iii) the other influencers who support the trade but do not handle the goods directly. Both groups are important in the operation of the market. Under each group are specific set of actors, as follows:

Victims of human trafficking and sex slavery:

- Girls
- Women
- Boys and men

Direct handlers:

- Traffickers who reside in Benin city, who are direct recruiters

- Principals who reside in Nigerian cities outside Edo State or other West African cities, who provide collection points for the girls and ladies recruited in Edo communities. They could be wholesale agents of the importer could recruit, sell and export the girls and women on
- Middlemen or agents usually called “trolleys” who identify and recruit the victims in communities;
- Transport agents who move the victims to collection points in Nigeria or border cities in Nigeria, or a West African city such as Accra, Ghana or Bamako, Mali;
- Transport agents who move the victims to Libya or Morocco;
- Transport agents who traffic the victims across the Mediterranean Sea to the shores of Europe;
- Main importers ‘Madams’ or principals who reside and operate from Europe;

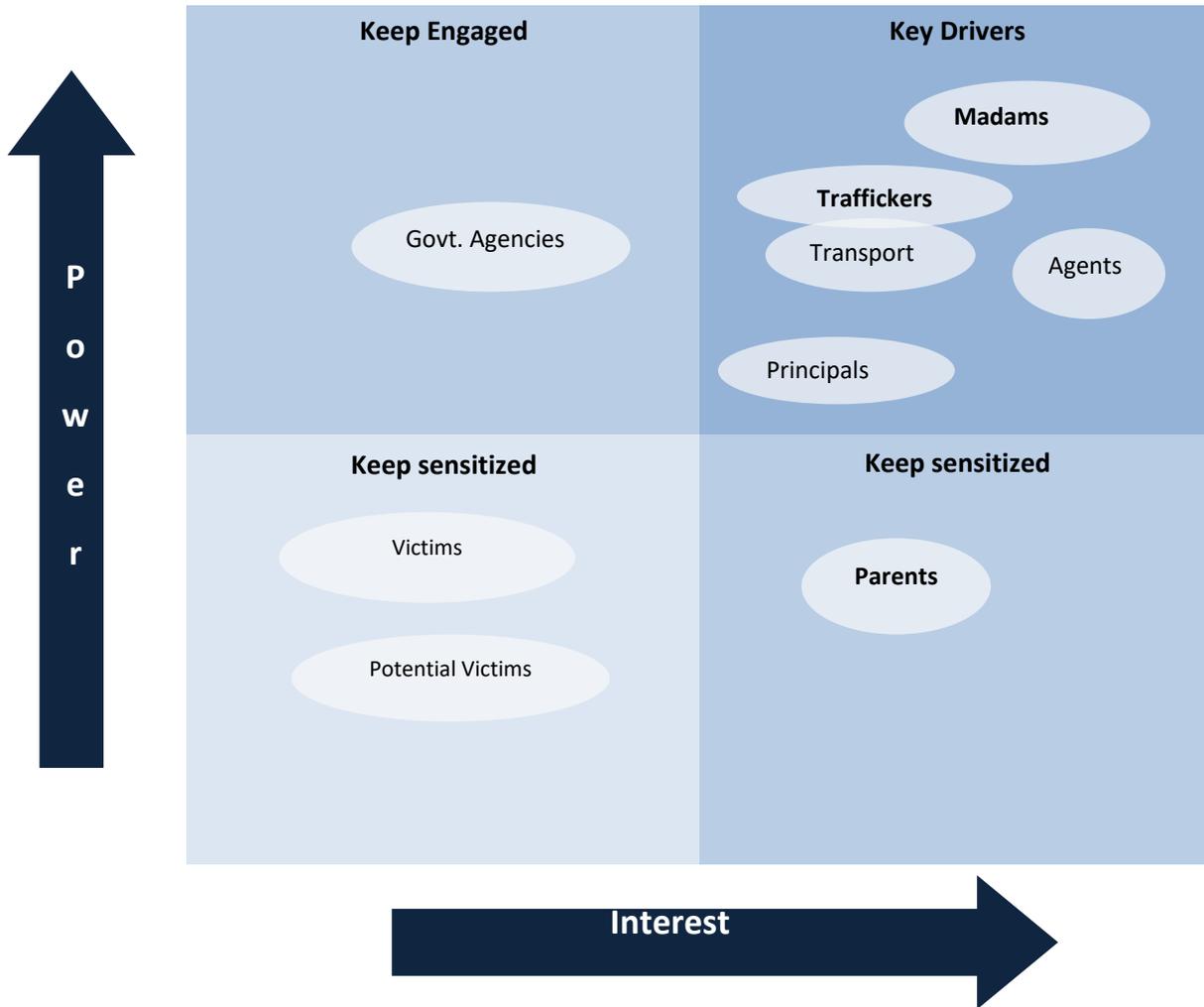
Facilitators

- Parents of vulnerable girls and sex slavery victims.
- Pastors who induce vulnerable girls indirectly through prosperity gospel that has no regard for source of wealth, or directly pray for aspiring girls to travel abroad to engage in commercial sex on wholesale basis to the European based principal;
- Immigration and other law enforcement officials, some of whom are often compromised and allow passage of trafficked girls through check points and
- Traditional rulers and chiefs who often settle disputes between traffickers and defaulting victims or families of defaulting victims

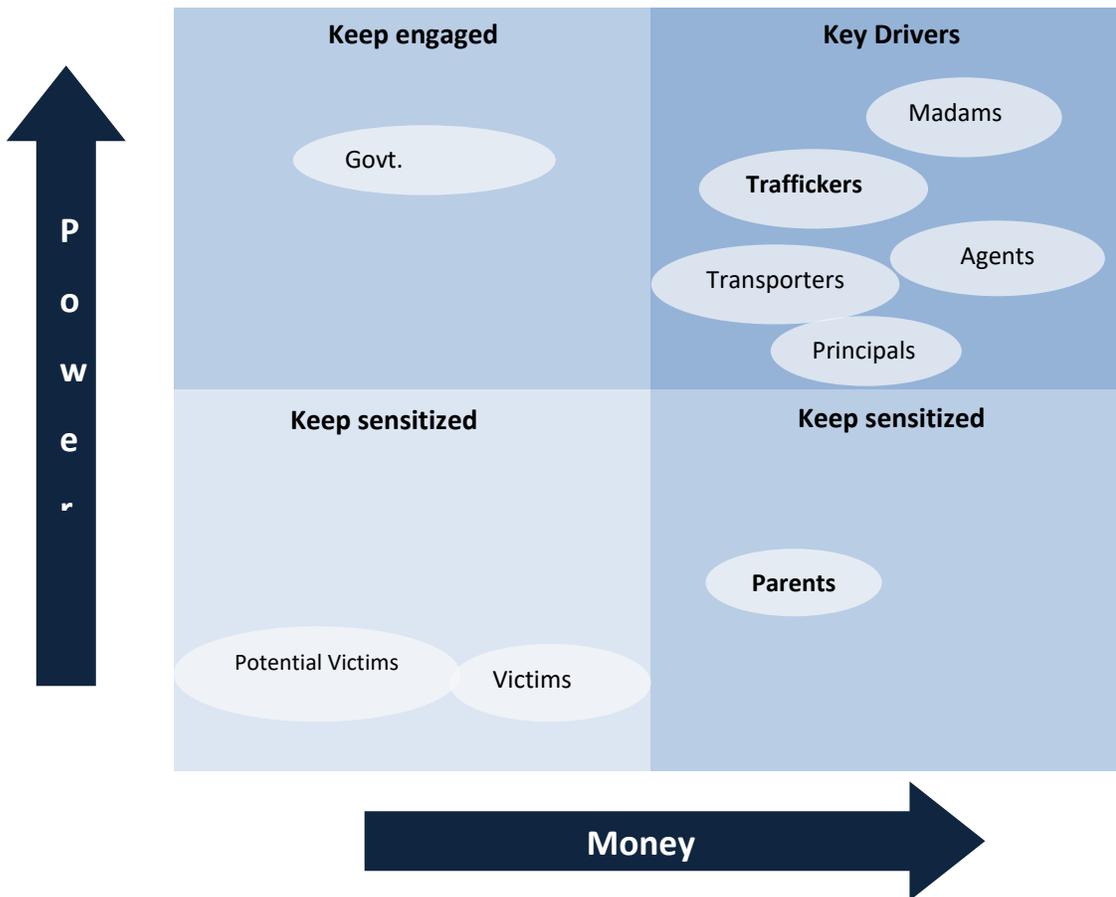
Power, Interests and Influence

Different interests, incentives and power relations define the various actors. Among the key actors, those who gain from the existence of the market far outnumber and outweigh the losers. There are those who have deeply vested interests in the continuation of the market. They also have the power and influence to ensure the market continues. They are quite powerful since they fund upfront the initial cost of trafficking girls and ladies from their homes to the destination, provide facilities for the custody of girls and ladies that are trafficked and make the necessary arrangements to create opportunities for the trafficked women to be involved in sex trade. They are the main gainers in the status quo. And there are those who are willing and coerced victims, who have little power to stop the market. Actors with the highest power and influence make the most money out of the trade and stand to lose should the trade decline. Among this category are the Madams, traffickers, middlemen, transporter, and principals in Nigeria and other West African countries. This category of actors will do anything they can to ensure the trade flourishes. Actors with the least power and influence are the ones who get financial benefits only at very high cost, including dehumanization, traumatization and brutalization. In this category are various types of victims including women, girls and boys.

Power and Interest Mapping



Power and Money Mapping



3.3 Recruitment methods for human trafficking

Recruitment of victims often starts at the family level, where the trafficker contacts mothers and initiate arrangements. Traffickers often sign agreements with families giving out their boys and girls for irregular, often followed by oath taking. Vulnerable girls and recruiters often look out for opportunities to meet each other. The recruitment agents go to communities and look for ways to engage vulnerable girls for recruitment. In some cases, girls and women get involved and are trafficked without the knowledge of their parents and families. There are several methods of recruitment. Some of the victims are recruited by field agents who go into communities to identify the girls and women as well as engage their parents. In other cases, the importer 'Madams' visits Edo communities once in a while and go to communities to engage in recruitment. Other target areas for traffickers include hairdressing saloons, and indigent families. Increasingly recruiters are increasingly targeting rural areas and villages, where there is a pool of vulnerable, illiterate, gullible girls who become easy prey.

Swearing oaths is an important dimension of the recruitment process. Oath taking is a powerful tool to enslave victims and make it difficult for them to escape even if they desire to do so. The effectiveness of oath taking is often reinforced by use of social media, where potential victims are recorded on demeaning videos with threats of being exposed on social media in the event of default. People Juju religious beliefs among Edo people is stronger than beliefs in the teachings of the church. Recruiters

often meet little community resistance because at the moment community, traditional, political leaders, and even religious leaders (who thanksgivings services for prospective sex slaves and wealthy returnees) are beneficiaries from the business and tolerate it. Once recruited the girls are taken to the motor park in Benin from where the journey begins, following any of three main channels: by road, by air, or by sea.

A key strategy used by traffickers to enslave vulnerable girls, women and men is the phenomenon of psychological torture and “breaking.” This is often accomplished through sexual abuse and rape, and other dehumanizing treatment of victims. The psychological, emotional and physical torture reinforces the transformation of the victim as a person to a dehumanized commodity ready to function in a new identity as a sex slave. This process begins even before the victims depart the shores of Nigeria.

3.4 Categorisation of victims

The profile of victims of human trafficking falls under certain categories. This is evident in terms of motivation, age, and education. Motivation refers to the bait that traps vulnerable persons. Age refers to the predominant demographic category among victims. Education refers to highest educational attainment of victims.

Under motivation there are three categories of victims. In the first category are victims who are coerced by parental pressure and through deception by traffickers. The initial wave of trafficked victims belongs to this category. Most girls currently being trafficked from rural areas and villages (and a few trafficked from cities) belong to this category. The second category are willing victims, mostly from urban areas and polygamous families. These are vulnerable girls and women who are attracted by the success stories by returnees through display of wealth. Willing victims are often aware of the dangers associated with trafficking, but tend to underestimate the magnitude of the hazards on the road or at the destination. The third category under motivation are aspirational travelers. These are those who set out looking for normal, legitimate employment abroad, but become trapped in trafficker’s nets, along the way, and become victims. Most of aspirational travelers are male illegal migrants, who set out to seek for jobs abroad. The most recent trends indicate that most of the illegal migrants are men, who were returned from Libya. The victims can also be categorised under education and age. A majority of victims are either illiterate or primary and secondary school drop outs. A few have attained tertiary education. Regarding age, whilst there are victims aged 9-12 years, the 14-25 bracket is the most massive category.

3.5 Categorisation of the markets for human trafficking

The market for human trafficking can be categorised in terms of the following:

- Market for victims taken to Europe for sex slavery;
- Market for victims in local brothels and baby factory shelters in Nigeria;
- Market for victims taken to brothels and fake shelters in African countries; and
- Market for trafficking of men for organ harvesting and forced labour.

Most of the interviewees agreed that some of the girls and women trafficked from Edo State for sex slavery are not moved to Europe. They are taken to serve as prostitutes in brothels in Nigeria operated by local Madams. However, a few of these victims are moved from local brothels to Europe after a while. They are also cases of young girls put in baby factory shelters to become pregnant and give birth to children which are ‘harvested’ and sold. There also cases of victims trafficked to brothels or fake

transit camps called 'connection houses', in African countries like Mali, Morocco and Libya for sex slavery. In fact, some respondents to the interviews indicated that some victims moved through the land route are sold along the way to traffickers who use them as sex slaves in brothels in African countries for a while before they are resold to traffickers who take them to Europe.

There is also a market for trafficking boys and men for organ harvesting and forced labour in North Africa and Arab countries in the Middle East. In some cases after their organs are harvested the men become stranded and vulnerable in a foreign country and they embark on irregular migration to Europe. While in Europe they serve as pimps to the sex slave Madams or get involved in homosexual prostitution or in the peddling of hard drugs, begging, burglary or petty stealing. A few of them, known in the human trafficking market as 'trolleys', also serve as private bankers to girls who are sex slaves. Some of the victims in this category embark from Nigeria on irregular migration hoping to get to Europe but are stranded in the course of the trip or are kidnapped along the way and traded as slaves.

3.6 Linkages to the export market

Victims of human trafficking as well as aspirational travelers are linked to the export market mainly through two channels, i.e. land routes and air travel route. Currently, there two land routes. The land routes and the air travel route are described as follows:

Travel by road from the North of Nigeria: At the moment, about 95% of movements is through this land route. The victims are usually taken from Edo State to Kano, Katsina or Sokoto by local transporters most of which operate from Benin. Agents arrange for them to cross the border to Niger Republic and they are then taken by different set of agents along the route through Niger Republic or Mali to Libya. Thereafter, another set of agents take them to Italy or other European countries. The major countries of destination in Europe are Italy, Greece, Spain, France, Germany Switzerland and Russia. The major importers or 'Madams' in European cities ultimately pick up the sex slave victims on arrival. Victims and irregular travelers who are moved through this route may not require visas to embark on the journey.

Travel by road along the West African coast: A small percentage of human trafficking victims and irregular travelers are usually taken by local transporters from Edo State to Lagos and they cross the border to either Ghana or Cote D'Ivoire. From this destinations different set of agents take them through Mali of Burkina Faso to either Libya or Morocco. Thereafter, another set of agents facilitate their movement to the various European countries.

Travel by air: Initially, air travel was the main route of trafficking prospective victims. But awareness and tighter control by the Immigration Services has drastically reduced tendency of trafficked victims and irregular travelers to travel by air. Currently, a much smaller percentage of the victims are moved by air with fake travel documents either directly to European countries or to Morocco. From Morocco agents then arrange their movement to cross to Europe.

A few returnees interviewed indicated that criminal elements have infiltrated the trafficking agents in the land routes. Such criminal elements include cult groups in Nigeria and other African countries. However, the agents are mainly lots of small gangs of traffickers.

A map of the trafficking route is presented in Annex 3.

3.7 Geographic clusters of target population

Respondents in the interviews conducted in the field work tend to agree that the most endemic Local Governments Areas in Edo State with respect to human trafficking are Oredo, Ikpoba-Okha, Orhionmwon, Egor, and Uhunmwonde in the Southern Senatorial District; Esan West, Esan North East, Esan Central, Iguegben and Esan South East in the Central Senatorial District; and Etsako West in the Northern Senatorial District. The medium endemic Local Governments are Ovie South West, Owan West, Owan East and Akoko-Edo. The low endemic Local Governments are Ovia North East, Etsako Central and Etsako East.

A map of Local Government areas endemic to human trafficking in Edo State is presented in Annex 4.

Since the map was prepared in 2015, three more Local Government Areas in the State have become high endemic areas. These are Egor, Uhunmwonde and Etsako West. This indicates the rising trend in human trafficking and irregular migration in the State.

In Delta State the most endemic Local Governments are Ethiope West and Ethiope East. Incidentally, these Local Government Areas are very close to Benin in Edo State. Medium endemic Local Government in Delta State are Uvwie, Ughelli South Isoko North, Isoko South, Ndokwa East, Ukwani, Ika South. Low endemic Local Governments are Burutu, Bomadi, Patani, Okpe, Aniocha South and Udu.

3.8 Data on market operation and trends

There is no reliable data of the number of young girls, women and boys trafficked and taken out of Edo and neighbouring States in Nigeria to the various destinations in Europe and North Africa. NAPTIP the national organisation, which should coordinate the operations of governmental and non-governmental organisations involved in providing support for the control of the human trafficking phenomenon, does not play this role.

Estimates by non-governmental organisations that are actively involved in providing support for the control of the human trafficking problem indicate that about 20,000 to 30,000 women and men who have been trafficked or embark on irregular migration from Edo and neighbouring States annually in the last few years. The NGOs also estimated that about 11,000 women and men successfully arrive Italy annually and from there some move to other countries in Europe. Many women and men who embark on the journey die in the Sahara desert due to dehydration or when they become sick and do not have access to medical attention. Many women and men also become stranded in the transit route through Niger, Mali, Libya and Morocco. Considering the fact that elements of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) operate in parts of Libya, some of the trafficked women and men become victims and are killed by forces of ISIS. In addition, many of those who successfully move to the shore of the Mediterranean in both Libya and Morocco die in the process of crossing the sea with boats to Europe.

About 95% of women and men involved in the movement pass through the land route from Nigeria to North African countries while about 3% move through West African countries to North Africa and about 2% travel by air directly to Europe or Morocco with either genuine or fake travel documents arranged for them by traffickers and their agents. Irrespective of the various local, national and international efforts to control the menace of human trafficking the trend of the movement of persons has not abated. The trend is still on the increase. This is because the efforts at intervention do not match the

creative strategies continually adopted by the traffickers and their agents to sustain the market. For example, they device ways of circumventing security protocols and also they carry out strategic networking across international borders. Also, the business is found to be lucrative by the traffickers and the menace has not been sufficiently demonised in Edo and neighbouring State.

3.9 Pricing within the system

Most of the interviewees agreed that women who are successfully trafficked to Europe are obligated to repay a false debt ranging from 45,000 Euros to 60,000 Euros each to the 'madams' over the period of their servitude. This is guaranteed by the oath the victims took in Edo State before embarking on the journey. The 'madams' give the impression that the amount is meant to cover the cost of transportation, procurement of travel documents, rent of the quarters occupied by the girls in Europe, feeding, condoms used for sex trade, clothes provided to the women and others. The importer 'madams' remunerate the various trafficking agents at the various stages in the movement. On completion of payment of the debt the victim regains her 'freedom' and can then begin to work and start sending money home.

One respondent indicated that a victim operating as a sex worker under an importer 'madam' generates between Euros 1,400 to 1,500 Euros per week. Payments for the services provided to clients by the women are made directly to the importers 'madams' who accommodate the women or in circumstances when payments are made to the women, they render returns to the importers 'madams'. This goes on for a long while (over two years) until the trafficked women are granted freedom by the importer 'madam'. When the women regain freedom they then work as prostitutes and earn income for themselves and remit funds home.

Most of the interviewees agreed that on the average, families with trafficked women receive remittances equivalent to N50,000 to N60,000 per month when the women are still under the 'madams' and the equivalent of N100,00 to N120,000 per week when the women are free and are on their own. After attaining freedom. The trafficked women save money and travel home regularly to visit their families and make investments. Some of them build houses for their parents and also build shopping malls or hotels. They also become 'madams' and traffic younger women to serve under them.

Most of the interviewees also stated that there are some cases of victims who pay some money to the trafficking agents before embarking on the trip, especially the male victims. However, the travelling documents of the girls and women among them are seized by the importer 'Madams', in order to put them under control.

3.10 Dynamics and driving forces within the sector

Channels that are growing are the movements through Nigeria to North Africa and through West African countries to North Africa. This is because journeys can be made without travel documents required for air travel. It is also relatively cheaper than air travel.

The channel of travelling by air is still being used but it is shrinking. This is due to the scrutiny of travelers by the Immigration services and the need to obtain travel documents for movement by air travel. There is a growing trend in the demand for women trafficked from Africa and made available for sex trade. The growth is driven by sustained demand for trafficked girls and women in European countries.

4. Legal Framework and Intervention Efforts

4.1 Legal framework on human trafficking

There are international conventions and protocols, which Nigeria is a signatory, as well as national and local legislations that seek to prevent and combat trafficking in person. These are described below:

1. The United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children

This protocol supplements the UN Convention against Transnational Organised Crime and is interpreted together with the Convention. Nigeria became a signatory of the protocol on 13 December 2000. Its purpose is to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, especially women and children as well as to protect and assist the victims of such trafficking, and promote international co-operation in order to meet the objectives.

Under the protocol “Trafficking in persons” shall mean 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. Exploitation includes, subjecting a person for prostitution or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs. The consent of a victim of trafficking in persons to the intended exploitation is irrelevant.

The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation shall be considered trafficking in persons. “Child” shall mean any person under eighteen years of age. Each country shall adopt such legislative and other measures as may be necessary to establish criminal offences when these conducts are committed. It shall be a criminal offence to participate as an accomplice in an offence as well as to organise or direct other persons to commit an offence. Under the protocol each country shall to measures to provide for the physical, psychological and social recovery of victims of trafficking in persons, in cooperation with Non-governmental organisations and other elements of civil society, such the provision of appropriate housing; counselling and information; medical, psychological and material assistance; and employment, educational and training opportunities.

2. The United Nations Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air

The protocol also supplements the UN Convention against Transnational Organised Crime is interpreted together with the Convention. Nigeria became a signatory nation on 13 December 2000. Its purpose to prevent and combat the smuggling of migrants, as well as to promote cooperation to that end. Under the protocol “Smuggling of migrants” shall mean the procurement, in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit, of the illegal entry of a person into a country of which the person is not a national or a permanent resident. “Illegal entry” shall mean crossing borders without complying with the necessary requirements for legal entry into the receiving State; “Fraudulent travel or identity document” shall mean any travel or identity document that has been falsely made or altered.

Each country shall adopt such legislative and other measures as may be necessary to establish as criminal offences, the smuggling of migrants in order to obtain financial or other material benefits, directly or indirectly; producing a fraudulent travel or identity document; procuring, providing or possessing such a document; and enabling a person who is not a national or a permanent resident to remain in a country concerned without complying with the legal requirements.

3. The Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Enforcement and Administration Act (2015)

This law which is enacted by the Federal Government, repeals the earlier Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Enforcement and Administration Act enacted in 2003 which initially established the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP). The Law derives from the UN protocols. Its objective is to provide a more effective and comprehensive legal and institutional framework for the prohibition, prevention, detection, prosecution and punishment of human trafficking; protect victims of human trafficking; as well as promote and facilitate national and internal co-operation to meet these objectives.

4. Laws Enacted by Edo State Government

The Edo State Law Against Human Trafficking and Prostitution was passed in 2001, and the State Committee Against Human Trafficking was set up to implement the Law by the Osunboh administration which was in office briefly. A Senior Special Assistant on Human Trafficking to the Governor was appointed to head the Committee. However, the Committee stopped functioning after the Osunboh administration was removed from office. The current Obaseki administration in the State has approved a Bill on Edo State Trafficking in Persons Prohibition, Enforcement and Administration and has set up the Edo State Task Force Against Human Trafficking to implement the proposed law. The bill is to be sent to the State House of Assembly for consideration and passage into law. Among others, the objective of the proposed law is to criminalise human trafficking and prosecute offenders. It is similar to and will complement the Federal law on trafficking in persons.

A summary of relevant provisions of the protocols and national legislation are presented in the Annex 2.

4.2 Current interventions efforts

Governmental and non-governmental organisations have made several efforts to intervene to control human the human trafficking problem and support victims and returnees. Some of the efforts include embarking on awareness campaigns on the dangers or human trafficking to potential victims, receiving and rehabilitating returnees, providing temporary accommodation as well as psychological and medical services to returnees, re-uniting returnees to their families, providing skills acquisition programmes and economic empowerment to potential victims and returnees to return to a normal life, etc. Organisations involved in these activities include NAPTIP, IOM and several non-governmental civil society organisations.

The current government in Edo State has set up a Task Force Against Human Trafficking and is implementing a skills acquisition programme for potential victims of human trafficking and returnees through the Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development. The task force has embarked on organising town hall meeting in rural and urban communities in the State, especially at endemic areas for human trafficking. The current government may be interested in the issue more than previous

governments due to the large dimension of trafficking in persons in recent times. The membership and terms of reference of the Edo State Government Task Force against Human Trafficking is the subject of Annex 2.

The Federal Government has also implemented some interventions through the Office of the Special Assistant to the President on Diaspora Matters. Such interventions include collaborating with IOM to transport Nigerian victims of human trafficking back home and handing them over to State Governments for rehabilitation.

4.3 Major income and employment generating economic sectors

The target populations of trafficked persons and their families are not homogeneous in their reasons or aspirations from human trafficking. They come from different educational and geographic backgrounds (e.g. rural versus urban). Therefore, there would be need to segment alternative employment and income generating opportunities appropriate for the target audience. Families involved in agriculture could be identified and involved in agriculture value chain activities currently supported by MADE. Vulnerable and other families could be supported to identify funding sources to finance entrepreneurial activities suitable for them.

Considering the mindset to generate income in foreign currency in Edo State and the lucrative nature of the human trafficking business, alternative employment and income generation opportunities offered to potential and current victims of human trafficking and returnees should include local production of commodities for export and high income generating activities. The following are some of such opportunities based on the economic environment in Edo State:

- Production of agricultural products for sale in local large cities and for export market: This could be achieved by ensuring the production of agricultural products through a well-managed out growers' scheme, in which the producers package and preserve their output for delivery to hotels and supermarkets in large cities like Lagos and directly to exporters. Agricultural products that can be produced under this arrangement include leave vegetables, cucumber, snails, fish, perfume plants, etc.
- Production of industrial crops: Edo State shares its western boundary with Ondo State where an industrial crop like cocoa is widely grown. Cocoa is currently grown in Local Governments in the State which are close to Ondo State. The production of cocoa in commercial scale for the export market can be achieved by developing farmers in small-holder plantations in the State with appropriate production, processing and marketing support.
- Production of arts and crafts for export: The State is the custodian of one of Africa's richest heritages of artworks. Benin City, the capital, is known worldwide for its famous bronze casting tradition. Modern bronze casting foundry could be set up and persons trained for the production of arts and crafts for the export market.
- Artisanal mining: Mineral deposits prevalent in the northern part of the State include limestone, gravel, marble, sandstone, clay, gypsum, quartzite, kaolin, and lignite and marble, etc. Potential and current victims of human trafficking and returnees could be trained and empowered to engage in artisanal mining of solid minerals such as limestone and granites for sale to the construction industry.
- ICT software skills development: Some of the potential victims of trafficking and returnees would be willing to go back and complete their secondary education. Those of them that are

willing can be made to under training to develop ICT software skills and become employed or empowered to entrepreneurs on completion.

There are plans to expand the airport and develop an Inland Dry Port in Benin. These infrastructure would support the export of products from Edo State.

5. Suggested approach of market based intervention by MADE to address human trafficking

5.1. Learning from what is working well

A complex interplay of deep seated structural, institutional and agency factors in the political economy of Edo state has contributed to entrenching an enabling environment for human trafficking to flourish. Addressing human trafficking in Edo requires tackling these factors through sustained political will and citizen engagement, and creating a more local economic opportunities as options to migration. And yet the immediate past regime in Edo state for eight years lived in self-denial regarding the ravaging effects of human trafficking, and failed to articulate poverty reduction and job creation policies to tackle massive youth unemployment. This double neglect exacerbated the situation. However, the new regime in Edo state has initiated policies and programmes to tackle the menace. The efforts of the state government are highlighted in section 4 above.

Besides, as highlighted in the preliminary study, some NGOs have recorded modest successes in their interventions and have been able to divert potential victims to alternative sources of income. They are doing this through careful awareness creation, rehabilitation of repatriated victims, and training/empowerment of vulnerable young women. Thus certain things are going on well in the current interventions by NGOs. These include the following:

- In communities where NGOs are carrying out awareness and enlightenment activities as well as training and empowerment of vulnerable young women, there are reductions in recruitments of human trafficking and sex slaves victims;
- The activities of NGOs that are involved in intervention efforts have rehabilitated several repatriated victims of human trafficking;
- The training and opportunity to own small businesses provided to vulnerable young women and repatriated victims have enabled them to engage in legitimate economic activity and earn their living.
- There is modest emerging evidence that participation in public awareness and enlightenment interventions by NGOs can dissuade vulnerable girls and women young girls from falling victim to human trafficking.

While these efforts have focused primarily on the returnees (ex post), and not on preventative measures, the returnees who have had extremely negative experiences are emerging as a potentially effective anti-human trafficking advocates and ambassadors. They are already thinking of forming activist anti-human trafficking networks and can serve as advocates for better economic opportunities for individuals to reduce the temptation of being trafficked.

5.2 Suggested intervention mechanisms

Below are some suggested measures for implementation to address the human trafficking phenomenon in Edo and neighbouring States in the Niger Delta:

- Major stakeholders, including the Federal and State Governments, should put pressure on the Oba of Benin to make a public pronouncement denouncing the oath taking ceremonies human trafficking victims are usually subjected to. The Oba is the custodian of all traditional shrines and such a pronouncement would effectively abolish its relevance. The importance of this process is not currently being considered by the traditional institutions.
- All traditional rulers in Edo and neighbouring States should be included by government to be actively involved in the abolition of the trade. Several of them currently support the business.
- As part of the communication strategy presented in awareness and sensitisation campaigns against human trafficking, movies should be made in local dialects to show the suffering victims under go in the desert and in Europe while engaging in prostitution.
- The communication strategy adopted should be aimed at changing the mindset of people, equivalent to the re-radicalisation programme of violent religious extremists.
- Efforts should be made to provide awareness campaigns to the target population that is usually trafficked, i.e. 14 to 25 years. This could be carried out in primary and junior secondary schools.
- Proper re-orientation and empowerment should be provided to returnees before there are re-integrated to society. Co-operative societies of returnees should be formed to enable them pool resources and embark on businesses.
- Government should take steps to expand employment opportunities in the affected States in partnership with the private sector. Through public-private partnerships arrangements government could identify and encourage private sector investors into the States. The investors would expand employment opportunities by reviving moribund industries and large government companies and establishing new ones. In addition, employment provided by increasing the level of economic activity from public-private partnership arrangements could be made to proactively target youths from families that are vulnerable to human trafficking.

6. Recommendations for further study

This study has provided a basis for a deeper understanding of the underlying structural, institutional and agency factors that promote the buying and selling of girls from Edo. The study has highlighted conditions that nurture vulnerability, prospects for engagement in alternative economic activities by young girls and women, and opportunities for fostering partnerships to tackle human trafficking. Further research is required to drill down these themes. Specifically, such research should aim at:

- Develop a deeper understanding of the end markets for the trafficked people – especially for the sex trade in Europe, as that is a major driver of the demand for sex workers from Nigeria.
- Generating reliable data regarding:
 - Earnings by trafficked women and girls working under madams, working on their own, and remittances home
 - Terms or passage costs especially for the aspirational migrants
 - Numbers and percentage of migrants that really get into Europe or get trafficked at the holding bay in Libya/Morocco.
- Developing a system for targeting vulnerable populations, deepening our understanding of the factors that are making them most susceptible to being trafficked, including gaining a better understanding of geographic distribution of polygamous families.
- Deepening understanding of alternative economic activities that have the potential to attract foreign exchange.
- Deepening understanding mechanisms for strengthening anti-human trafficking partnerships.
- Aggregating and bringing lessons learned from MADE’s efforts in lifting women out of poverty to bear on making an impact on human trafficking.
- The study should help determine how to work with existing partners to:
 - design some pilot interventions in conjunction with MADE local partners; and
 - implement the pilots.

Annex

Annex 1: List of Stakeholders Consulted

S/No.	Name/Position	Telephone/E-mail Contact
1.	Sister Bibiana Emenaha, Coordinator, Committee for Support of the Dignity of Women (COSDOW)	Tel: 08023942652 Email: cosudow99@gmail.com
2.	Sister Anthonia Iyade, Accounts Officer/Counsellor, Committee for Support of the Dignity of Women (COSDOW)	Tel: 080232451398 Email: cosudow99@gmail.com
3.	Sister Eno-Obong Ukoh, Secretary/Shelter Mistress, Committee for Support of the Dignity of Women (COSDOW)	Tel: 08060304058 Email: cosudow99@gmail.com
4.	Barrister Nduka Nwanwenne, Benin Zonal Commander, National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP)	Tel: 08161341713
5.	Ruth Evon Idahosa, Director, Pathfinders Justice Initiative	Tel: 08176123228 Email: info@pathfindersi.org
6.	Gift Ojie Jonathan, Volunteer against Human Trafficking	
7.	Osita Osemene, Director, Patrotic Citizens Initiative	Tel: 08058219030, 08103168394
8.	Pastor Nosa Erhunmwunsee, Director, NAME Foundation	Tel: 08031863552 Email: nosapastor@yahoo.com
9.	Florence Abu, Volunteer, Initiative for Youth Awareness on Migration, Immigration, Development and Re-Integration (IYAMIDR)	Tel: 08033987211, 07021949579
10.	Roland Nwoha, Project Coordinator, Idia Renaissance	Tel: 08033314432
11.	Jane Osagie, Director, International Reproductive Rights Research Action Group (IRRRAG)	Tel: 08037176636 Email: irrrag@yahoo.com
12.	Edosa Eghobamien, Managing Director, Amana Academy	Tel: 08070700000, 08033026275
13.	Francesca Ahiokhai, Legal Officer, Amana Academy	
14.	Jennifer Ero, Director, Society for the Empowerment of Young Persons (CEY)	
15.	Prof. Yinka Omorogbe, Chairman, Edo State Government Task Force Against Human Trafficking (ETAHT)/ Attorney General, Edo State	Tel: 08033042184
16.	Abieyuwa Oyemwense, Secretary, State Government Task Force Against Human Trafficking (ETAHT)/ Assistant State Counsel, Ministry of Justice	08073378061
17.	Major Michael Olatunde, Education Secretary, The Salvation Army	
18.	Barrister Eric Umoru, National Coordinator, Anti-Human Trafficking, The Salvation Army	
19.	Dr. Nahashon Thuo, Migration Head Officer, International Organisation for Migration (IOM)	Tel: 09038852521
20.	Abrham Tamrat, Programme Manager, Migration Head Officer, International Organisation for Migration (IOM)	Tel: 09062284580
21.	Richard Sandall, Senior Private Sector Development Adviser, Department for International Development (DFID)	Tel: 08128108687 Email: R-Sandall @dfid.gsx.gov.uk
22.	Esohe Oyemwense, Director, Idia Renaissance	Tel: 080333144432
23.	Henrietta Agun, Director, Women Action Initiative (WAI)	Tel: 08023359509 Email: ettafaith2001@yahoo.com

Annex 2: Offences under the Trafficking in Persons Act, 2015 and Composition of Edo State Government Task Force Against Human Trafficking

1. Offences under the Trafficking in Persons Act, 2015

Offences under the law include the following:

- Importation and exportation of persons;
- Procurement of persons for sexual exploitation;
- Abuse, procurement or recruitment of persons under the age of 18 years for prostitution or other forms of sexual exploitation;
- Procurement or recruitment of persons under the age of 18 years for pornography or brothel;
- Foreign travel which promotes prostitution or sexual exploitation;
- Procurement or recruitment of persons for use in armed conflict;
- Procurement or recruitment of persons for organ harvesting;
- Buying and selling of human beings for any purpose;
- Forced labour;
- Employment of a child as domestic worker and inflicting grievous harm;
- Trafficking in slaves;
- Dealing in slaves;
- Offences relating to fraudulent entry of persons to Nigeria;
- Conspiracy to commit any of the indicated offences;
- Escape or aiding and abetting escape;
- Attempt to commit an offence or the commission of an offence;
- Commission of an offence by a corporate body;
- Obstruction of NAPTIP or its authorised officer;
- Impersonation or assumption of character of an officer of NAPTIP; and
- Tampering with evidence and witness.

All airline operators, sea vessel operators, commercial carrier, tour operators and travel agents are required by the law to notify its clients of its obligation to comply with the law.

2. Composition of Edo State Government Task Force Against Human Trafficking

A. Membership of the Task Force

Edo State

1. Hon. Attorney-General - Chairperson
2. Hon. Commissioner for Communication
3. Hon. Commissioner for Women Affairs
4. Hon. Commissioner for Local Government
5. Chief of Staff, Government House,
6. Chief Security Officer (CSO), Government House
7. Senior Special Assistant on Media

8. Solomon Okoduwa

Federal Government

1. National Agency for Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP)
2. National Immigration Services (NIS)
3. Representative of the Minister of Interior
4. Department of State Services (DSS)
5. Nigerian Police Force (NPF)
6. National Commission for Refugees Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons (NCRMIDP)

Edo Groups

1. Edo Women's Development Initiative
2. Church Groups
 - a. Young Woman Christian Association (YWCA)
 - b. Catholic Women's organizations of the Archdiocese of Benin
 - c. Rev. (Mrs.) Margaret Agbonifo (Intercessory Prayer Ministry)
 - d. Sister Florence Nwaonuma
3. Federation of Muslim Women's Associations in Nigeria, FOMWAN
4. Committee for the Support of Dignity of Women (COSUDOW)
5. Idia Renaissance

International NGO's

1. Iroko Onlus

International Organizations

1. United Nations Office on Drug and Crime (UNODC)
2. European Union (EU)
3. Rep. from Swiss Embassy

Traditional Institutions

Representative from The Oba's Palace

Representatives from villages that have high volumes of trafficked persons

Task Force Secretariat

1. Mrs. Abieyuwa Oyemwense
2. Mrs. Osa Gaja

B. Terms of Reference of Tasks Force

1. To produce a comprehensive **Action Plan** to combat and eradicate trafficking in persons in Edo State;
2. To establish and promote continued contact and cooperation between Edo State Government and relevant Agencies;
 - a. International Entities that can aid the eradication of trafficking in persons such as:
 - i. United Nations Office on Drug and Crime (UNODC),
 - ii. The European Union (EU); and
 - iii. The Embassies of receiving countries;
 - b. Municipal government entities that are essential for the eradication of trafficking such as:
 - i. Ministry of the Interior,
 - ii. Nigeria Immigration Services (NIS),
 - iii. Department of State Services (DSS),
 - iv. Nigerian Police Force (NPF);
 - v. National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP)

- vi. Organizations in Edo State and other parts of Nigeria that are actively engaged in the combat against human trafficking;
 - vii. The Traditional Institutions of Edo State led by the Omo n’Oba n’Edo Uku Akpolokpolo, Oba Ewuare II, Oba of Benin;
 - viii. Civil Society Organizations (CSO) including social clubs and religious organizations:
3. To actively promote continued awareness programs that highlight and widely disseminate the evils of trafficking in persons; to permeate all areas of Edo State through media and town hall pronouncements by prominent persons;
 4. To promote and enforce the rule of law to combat trafficking in persons through the investigation, arrest and prosecution of persons engaged in trafficking and their accomplices;
 5. To draft and promote the enactment of a Law in Edo State that complements national legislation on trafficking in persons;
 6. To promote and collaborate with relevant entities that support the sustainable rehabilitation of trafficked victims back into society
 7. To promote the non-stigmatization of trafficked victims and their reabsorption as full members of the society.

C. Twelve (12) Month Deliverables

1. Action Plan.
2. Enacted Legislation.
3. Immediate activity by law enforcement agencies.
4. Promote the identification, investigation and arrest of known/traffickers.
5. Efficient and swift prosecution of offenders in accordance with the rule of law.
6. Continued and reinforced rehabilitation programs in cooperation with international and local entities already working in this area.
7. Strong media campaigns that expose the evils of human trafficking and promote a mindset change.
8. Capacity building of persons involved in all aspects of anti-trafficking including law enforcement agents, judges, court assessors and counselors on how to handle trafficking cases and where applicable, support victims of trafficking.
9. Measurable reduction in number of persons trafficked.

D. Task Force Sub-committees

1. Legal
2. Communications
3. Support and Rehabilitation
4. Training

Terms of Reference for Subcommittees

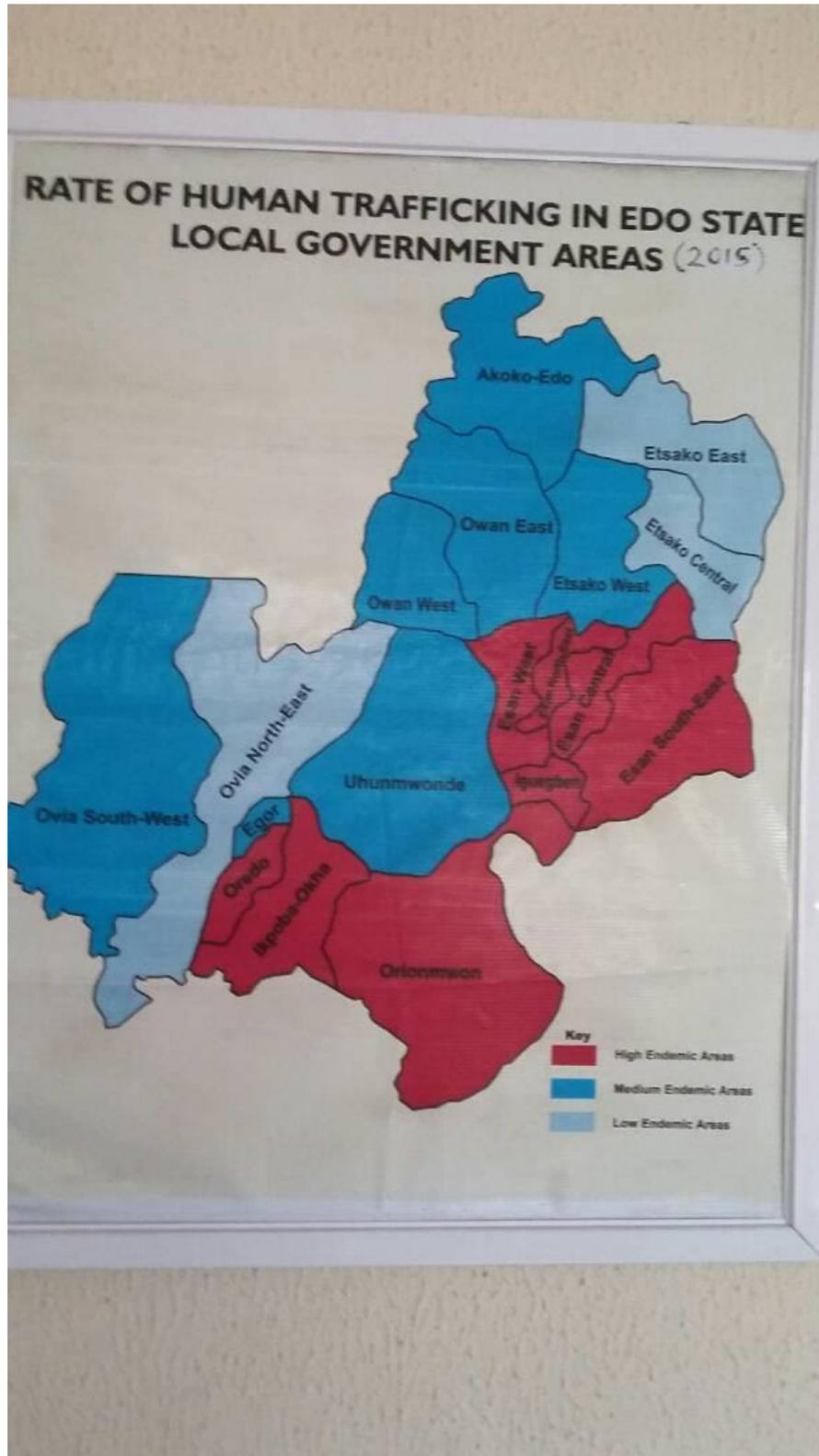
To come up with activities in their areas of operation.

Annex 3: Map of Human Trafficking Route



Source: Vanguard, Sunday 10 December, 2017

Annex 4: Map of Local Government Areas Endemic to Human Trafficking in Edo State



Annex 5: Human Trafficking Value Chain

Human Trafficking Value Chain

End market	These are the buyers of the services provided by the girls, either for labor or for sex (two separate end markets). There will probably be different market segments for the sex
Retailers	These are the sellers of the services of the young girls either for labor or for sex (two separate end markets). These firms can probably be disaggregated by the market they serve and the
Importers	Human trafficking is a global value chain. These importers deal with supply from all over the world. This is probably the criminal element in the destination countries that controls the relevant industry – Mafia, organized crime, etc. They have the major relationships with the exporters and control the government bodies that should be pursuing them.
Exporters	These are the main business element in the country of origin. They will be big businessmen/organised crime with strong ties to government and other regulatory/influential parties. They may have branches in other countries, may be Nigeria wide, or may be just Edo state based. They will have to organise the mode of shipping of the girls from Nigeria. What is their link to the importers??
Aggregators	These are the businesses/agents who do the actual identification of the potential families to target or the girls in particular. They probably have some sort of criminal element to them (area boys?)
Producers	These are the households that are supplying the young girls for the trade. We need to understand their characteristics and why they are doing it, what they get from it (do they get paid for selling the girls), and what they do with the money that they get. Are they forced to do it by criminal elements or are the children kidnapped?