The first version of this handbook was originally released as part of the training material of the DataJam Pasos Libres Online 2020, the first-ever international competition against human trafficking. It was written by Fundación Pasos Libres with the Support of IBM Corporate Social Responsibility under the title Participant Handbook: Human Trafficking and Data.

This new version of the handbook was adapted and translated for the 2021 DataJam Against Exploitation Canada in collaboration with the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, with funding from the Government of Canada.

What’s inside?

The Participant Handbook will guide you through three modules that compiles valuable inputs from global reports, protocols, papers, leading anti-trafficking organizations, case studies, and authors’ contributions, helping you to better understand the issue of human trafficking in Canada and the importance and role of data in the fight against this crime.
ABOUT

Fundación Pasos Libres
Fundación Pasos Libres is a Colombian not-for-profit organization that seeks to revolutionize the way to prevent and disrupt human trafficking through the design, development, and implementation of innovative strategies, methodologies, and technologies.

IBM
IBM is the leading cloud and cognitive solutions company that leverages the power of innovation, data and experience to improve business and make progress in society.

UNODC
UNODC is the agency responsible for promoting the fight against illicit drugs and international organized crime and assists States in their efforts to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons according to international standards and global expertise.

International Centre for the Prevention of Crime
ICPC is an international non-governmental organization based in Montreal whose mission is to support the development and implementation of practical and effective policies, programs, and projects designed to reduce crime and delinquency in communities, cities, and other geographic units and reinforce a sense of safety.
The **DATAJAM AGAINST EXPLOITATION** is a technological innovation competition that seeks to increase public awareness of human trafficking, improve participants’ technical and substantive capabilities, and enhance collaboration among interdisciplinary sectors in Canada. The event is organized and co-hosted by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling Section (UNODC), Fundación Pasos Libres, IBM Corporate Social Responsibility and the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime (ICPC).
MODULE 1
INTRODUCTION TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING

MODULE 2
HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND DATA

MODULE 3
CASE STUDIES / CASES OF SUCCESS
In module 1, participants will learn the human trafficking basics, including forms of exploitation, risk factors and recruitment and control methods. Also, they will review the scale of the problem and approach the counter-trafficking legislation.
1.1 UNDERSTANDING HUMAN TRAFFICKING

A What’s human trafficking?
B Forms of human trafficking
C Causes and risk factors
D Recruitment and control methods
E Online Exploitation Scenarios

1.2 THE SCALE OF THE PROBLEM

1.3 HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES

1.4 NORMATIVITY AND INSTRUMENTS
The diversity of global approaches towards the human trafficking concept and patterns makes it tricky to focus on a complete panorama. The constantly evolving phenomenon highlighted the conceptual difficulty of differentiating trafficking from other situations, intensified by technological advances and social tendencies. However, some aspects will help us to understand the logic behind human trafficking.
Human trafficking is one of the fastest-growing criminal industries worldwide and one of the most severe human rights violations today.

The United Nations Trafficking in Persons Protocol defines human trafficking as:

“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.” (Art. 3 (a) of the UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol, 2000).

Three elements comprise the definition of human trafficking:

1. **An act**: such as recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt.
2. Committed by **means** of: threat, use of force, coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power, abuse of vulnerability or payments or benefits to controlling parties.
3. For the **purpose of exploitation**.
It is possible to identify at least nine forms of human trafficking: sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, forced marriage, slavery and practices similar to slavery, servitude, forced begging, organ removal, forced criminality and forced recruitment. Not all states recognize the same forms of human trafficking or address them under the same names listed before. It is essential to highlight that due to globalization, the tech advances, and the changing economic, political and social conditions globally, new human trafficking forms continue to emerge.
Forcing, deceiving, or coercing a person to take part in sexual activities. When this form of exploitation involves children, it is known as Child Sexual Exploitation.

Currently, online sexual exploitation and sexual exploitation in travel and tourism both of children and adults are two of the most prevalent types of sexual exploitation for traffickers.

According to the United Nations Global Report on Trafficking in Persons (2020), sexual exploitation of women and girls continues to be the most detected form of human trafficking world-wide.
It is essential to note that forced labor is different from below-standard working conditions and other violations of labor rights. Some indicators to determine a situation of forced labor are freedom of movement limitations and withholding of workers’ wages or identity documents (International Labor Organization - ILO, n.d.).

Human Trafficking for forced labor is the most detected form of human trafficking affecting boys and men world-wide (UNODC, 2020).

**Forced Labor Example**

Forcing a person to work for little or no remuneration, often under threats, violence and false promises. In this situation, people have no agency over their working conditions.

**Industries and contexts where forced labor may happen:**
- Manufacturing
- Hospitality and restaurants
- Construction
- Agriculture
- Mining
- Fishing

**Forced Labor Example**

Forced Labor Example

Human Trafficking for forced labor is the most detected form of human trafficking affecting boys and men world-wide (UNODC, 2020).
Forced Marriage Example

In some countries, arranged marriages are socially and culturally accepted. However, there is a fine line between those practices and traditions and human trafficking.

Situations and contexts where forced marriage may happen:
- Arranged marriages
- Child marriages
- Marriages of convenience
- Bride trafficking

In some countries, arranged marriages are socially and culturally accepted. However, there is a fine line between those practices and traditions and human trafficking.
Internal and international migrants are especially vulnerable to domestic servitude. In many cases, people become victims of this form of human trafficking in their search for shelter and food.
Children, the elderly, homeless people and indigenous communities are the principal victims of this form of human trafficking. In many cases, the traffickers transport the victims from towns to big cities and even rent babies to generate sympathy among the citizens.

**Forced Begging Example**

Forcing a person to beg. The traffickers take the picked money.

**Places and contexts where forced begging may happen:**

- Streets
- Traffic lights
- Public transportation
- Gastronomic zones
- Malls
- Tourist sites

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**SEXUAL EXPLOITATION**

**FORCED LABOR**

**FORCED MARRIAGE**

**SERVITUDE**

**FORCED BEGGING**

**ORGAN REMOVAL**

**FORCED CRIMINALITY**

**FORCED RECRUITMENT**

**SLAVERY AND SIMILAR PRACTICES**

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1.1 UNDERSTANDING HUMAN TRAFFICKING

**B Forms of human trafficking**
Organ Removal Example

Organ removal is one of the most complex forms of human trafficking as medical facilities, doctors and even lawyers are critical for performing surgical procedures. It usually involves high levels of corruption and organization directed towards hiding the crime as a philanthropic and legitimate act.

Places and contexts where organ removal may happen:
- Clandestine clinics
- Corrupt medical offices and staff
- Transplant tourism
- Routes of migrants, displaced persons or refugees
- Rural villages

Obtaining, transporting, concealing, or receiving human organs.
Criminal networks increase their profits and reduce the risks by forcing people outside of the group’s core members to commit high-risk illegal activities. Usually, victims do not inform the authorities about their situation due to fear of legal consequences. However, the non-punishment principle establishes that victims of trafficking should not be prosecuted for crimes they were forced to commit.

**Forced Criminality Example**

**Forcing a person to commit or engage in criminal activities.**

**Places and contexts where forced criminality may happen:**

- Drug dealing
- Drug cultivation
- Shoplifting
- Pickpocketing
- Hired Killing
- ATM theft

Criminal networks increase their profits and reduce the risks by forcing people outside of the group’s core members to commit high-risk illegal activities. Usually, victims do not inform the authorities about their situation due to fear of legal consequences. However, the non-punishment principle establishes that victims of trafficking should not be prosecuted for crimes they were forced to commit.
Forced Recruitment Example

Children and youth are profoundly affected by forced recruitment into armed groups. The victims are used to combat enemy forces, carry or transport military equipment, cook, and even partake in situations of sexual exploitation and forced labor.

Places and contexts where forced recruitment may happen:

- Armed Conflict
- Guerrilla Forces
- Military Services
- War
- Illegal Armed Groups

Forcing a person to become a member of an armed group such as guerillas, terrorist organizations and pro government militias.
1.1 UNDERSTANDING HUMAN TRAFFICKING

B Forms of human trafficking

- Sexual exploitation
- Forced labor
- Forced marriage
- Servitude
- Forced begging
- Organ removal
- Forced criminality
- Forced recruitment
- Slavery and similar practices

Slavery is the status or condition of a person over whom any or all of the powers attaching to the right of ownership are exercised (OHCHR, 1926).

Situations and contexts where slavery may happen:

- Debt bondage
- Serfdom
- Child or young person exploitation
- Sexual Slavery
- Extreme forms of forced marriages and bride trafficking

The slave trade includes all acts involved in the capture, acquisition or disposal of a person with intent to reduce him to slavery; all acts involved in the acquisition of a slave with a view to selling or exchanging him; all acts of disposal by sale or exchange of a slave acquired with a view to being sold or exchanged, and, in general, every act of trade or transport in slaves (OHCHR, 1926).

Slavery Example
The root causes of human trafficking are generally linked to the general socio-economic and political conditions of the regions and countries. However, human trafficking occurs even in stable states with high-living standards. Thus, another way to understand trafficking occurrence is through risk factors. Those are understood as structural, family and individual elements that impact the people’s vulnerability to different forms of human trafficking.

**Structural**
- Poverty and lack of opportunities
- Lack of recognition and guarantee of human rights
- Armed Conflict
- Violence
- Discrimination
- Climate Change
- Migration
- Pandemic

**Individual**
- Low self-esteem
- Ignorance or naivety
- Drug dependencies
- Exaggerated search for approval
- Inability to resist group pressure
- Economic necessity

**Family**
- Violence
- Neglect and abuse
- Sexual Abuse
- Asymmetric Relations
- Overcrowding in Housing
Traffickers use different means and tactics to recruit and control their victims. The methods selected by the criminals depend on several factors, such as the victim's profile, the trafficking form and the general context of the location of origin, transit or destination of the victims. Recognizing those different methods is critical to understanding how human trafficking operates and why virtually all people can become a victim.
1.1 UNDERSTANDING HUMAN TRAFFICKING

D Recruitment and control methods

Traffickers reach possible victims by identifying and exploiting their needs (job, food, shelter, love, company, etc). The socioeconomic, cultural, and individual factors that shape people’s personalities, interests, and expectations are targeted by the traffickers to generate greater effectiveness in the recruitment process.

Recruitment means:
- Recruitment agencies
- Technological platforms and social networks
- Face to face

Control methods:
- False promises
- Creation of dependence conditions
- Violence

Examples of deception methods:
- False job and educational offers
- Establishing romantic and friendship relations
- Money loans
Traffickers use physical violence to recruit people when deception strategies do not work, and to dissuade the victims from escaping or reporting their situation. The use of physical violence is prevalent in contexts where traffickers can act freely and state presence is weak.

Recruitment means:
- Kidnapping
- Abduction
- Harassment

Control methods:
- Coercion and threats
- Intimidation
- Attacks and torture

Examples of physical violence methods:
- Street kidnapping
- Corporal punishment for non-compliance
Traffickers exploit psychological and emotional factors to lead victims to situations of fear and intimidation. Psychological violence can be materialized in threats against a family member, extortion or blackmail.

**Recruitment means:**
- Sextortion
- Grooming
- Blackmail
- Trust abuse

**Control methods:**
- The threat of harm to the individual or others
- Use of emotional dependence
- Attacks on self-esteem

**Psychological violence methods:**
- Person blackmailed by a private photo
- Intimidation strategy through threats
Recruitment and control methods

Recruitment means:
- Family ties
- Illegal or unfair contracts
- State institutions

Control methods:
- Coercion and threats
- Intimidation

Examples of abuse of power methods:
- Parents exploiting their children
- Exploitation inside prisons

Traffickers use roles of power, authority and influence to push people to a position of vulnerability that favors exploitative dynamics.
**UNDERSTANDING HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

**D Recruitment and control methods**

Any situation in which the person involved believes he or she has no real and acceptable alternative but to submit.

**Recruitment means:**
- Taking advantage of people’s physical or mental disease or disability
- Promise of regularization of immigration status
- Promise of improvement of social or economic situation

**Control methods:**
- Exploitation of victim’s vulnerable condition
- Withholding or destroying of important documents
- Threat of action by law enforcement immigration
- Limits or restrictions to medical services

**Examples of abuse of position of vulnerability:**
- Use of migrants’ irregular or undocumented status
- Taking advantage of people’s physical or mental disease
- Use of people’s economic or social precarious situations
The Internet has completely changed how to work, learn and interact with others. However, it is also a means used by traffickers to recruit, control, and exploit people, as well as to multiply profits and avoid detection. Every day the number of people at risk of exploitation online increases due to the expansion of internet-related services and the emerging risk scenarios associated with those. Social media and online gaming are two massive scenarios that criminal networks use for trafficking operations. That is why it is essential to understand how human trafficking operates online and its links with different human trafficking types.
Recruitment

Traffickers use social media, especially social networks such as Facebook, Instagram, Grindr or Tinder, to contact potential victims and build personal, sentimental, and employment relationships.

1. Control

Once the victim is recruited, traffickers control them by restricting or monitoring their social networks, sending intimidating messages, or propagating rumors to hamper the victim's reputation and credibility.

2. Operations

Traffickers also use social media for advertising and selling services of exploitation. With this purpose, in addition to traditional social networks, criminals utilize dating apps, pornographic sites, blogs, and streaming platforms to reach potential clients.

Social media is a common tool used to recruit and control victims as well as to facilitate trafficking operations (Polaris, 2018). For years, organizations such as Thorn, Terre des Hommes, Cybertip.ca, Ecpact, among many others, have documented and exposed how social media is utilized in virtually all forms of human trafficking, with sexual exploitation and forced labor being two of the most common forms.

1. Recruitment

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2. Control

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3. Operations

Traffickers also use social media for advertising and selling services of exploitation. With this purpose, in addition to traditional social networks, criminals utilize dating apps, pornographic sites, blogs, and streaming platforms to reach potential clients.
Like social media, online gaming has become an ideal place for human traffickers seeking potential victims. Games are now more accessible, popular and social than ever, and it has opened new opportunities for criminal activities online. Free-to-play games, cooperative/competitive game modes, the transition from chats towards voice and video-based communication and social network incorporation into personal accounts all facilitate and normalize interacting with unknown players worldwide.

Different authorities and organizations have reported that human traffickers contact children and adolescents in online games and lure them with gift cards, micropayments and loot boxes (Tampa Bay Times, 2019). Evidence suggests that online games are the initial contact point of the traffickers with potential victims. Often the recruitment process continues through social networks where the trafficker can strengthen the false sense of trust to exploit the victims both online or offline.
Although different forms of human trafficking can occur online, there are some essential criminal dynamics to consider.

**Online sexual exploitation material**
Accessing, possessing, producing and/or distributing images and/or videos of sexual material from exploited victims.

**Grooming for sexual purposes**
The dynamic of developing a relationship with a victim using a second persona profile or deception to reach a sexual situation, either online or offline.

**Online Harassment for sexual purposes**
The use of social networks, email, or technological platforms to post or send recurrent messages with a sexual and/or physical violence context to threaten or pressure a potential victim.

**Sextortion: blackmailing for sexual purposes**
Producing and/or utilizing sexual images and/or videos of victims to reach sexual, financial or in-kind gains.

**Live-streaming sexual exploitation**
Screen and/or live stream through online applications sexual exploitation situations even with audiences and victims interactions.

**Cyberstalking for sexual purposes**
Monitoring online activity by accessing victims’ social networks or computer information to observe routine or private elements. Non-consensual creation of confidential or sexual fantasy materials is commonly possible.

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**Online Child Sexual Exploitation (ECPAT, n.d.)**
Social Media, Gaming and Online Platforms as Anti-Trafficking Tools

Social media, gaming, and online platforms also represent crucial opportunities throughout the entire human trafficking process as tools to spread awareness-raising and anti-trafficking strategies. They also allow for cooperative interactions between actors (even victims’ own situation reports) that can lead to possible identifications and rescues. Both these functions serve as new forms of technology and storytelling methods for hard-to-reach audiences to learn about distinct problematics such as human trafficking.

Nowadays, digital games and social media reflect a trend towards virtual humanitarianism where online interactions, in some cases, proliferate responsible narratives. More tech tools have been created by organizations, communities, and people with social commitments that enable survivors to heal by connecting with other victims. These tech tools can also “play a critical role in survivors’ safety plans, during their trafficking situation, in their plans to escape or exit the situation, and in efforts to lead a normal life, free of abuse, post-trafficking” (Polaris, 2018).
Due to the clandestine nature of human trafficking, it is almost impossible to estimate the scale of the issue. Accurate and reliable data is a vital tool in tackling human trafficking. It raises awareness about specific topics, enables policymakers to make strategic decisions and project implementers to target precise obstacles and development partners to address funding gaps (ILO, 2017). Organizations such as the International Labor Organization, Walk Free, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the US Department of State expose the overall extent of the problem through different reports and indexes.
THE SCALE OF THE PROBLEM

Trafficking for sexual exploitation 50%
Trafficking for forced labour 38%
Other forms of exploitation 12%

Shares of forms of exploitation among detected trafficking victims, 2018

Global Report on Trafficking in Persons (UNODC, 2020)
Global Slavery Index 2019, Regional Findings (Walk Free Foundation, 2018)

SOUTH AFRICA
NAMIBIA
BOTSWANA
ZIMBABWE
MOZAMBIQUE
MALAWI
TANZANIA
BURUNDI
KENYA
SOMALIA
YEMEN
SAUDI ARABIA
IRAN
IRAQ
SYRIA
EGYPT
LIBYA
ALGERIA
MOROCCO
TUNISIA
OMAN
TURKMENISTAN
AFGHANISTAN
PAKISTAN
INDIA
THAILAND
PALAU
FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA
MARSHALL ISLANDS
VIETNAM
PHILIPPINES
CAMBODIA
MALAYSIA
BRUNEI
TIMOR-LESTE
PAPUA NEW GUINEA
SOLOMON ISLANDS
VANUATU
FIJI
TONGA
NEW ZEALAND
SINGAPORE
INDONESIA
LAOS
RUANDA
ZAMBIA
ANGOLA
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
CAMEROON
NIGERIA
NIGER
TURKEY
UKRAINE
POLAND
ITALY
FRANCE
GERMANY
SPAIN
PORTUGAL
IRELAND
ICELAND
UNITED KINGDOM
ROMANIA
BULGARIA
DENMARK
SWEDEN
FINLAND
NORWAY
MALI
BURKINA FASO
BENIN
TOGO
GHANA
COTE D’IVOIRE
LIBERIA
GUINEA
SENEGAL
MAURITANIA
ESTONIA
LATVIA
LITHUANIA
SLOVAKIA
HUNGARY
SERBIA
GREECE
MALTA
ALBANIA
CROATIA
SLOVENIA
AUSTRIA
BELGIUM
NETHERLANDS
RUS.
SWITZERLAND
CZECH REPUBLIC
KOSOVO
NORTH MACEDONIA
MOLDOVA
BELARUS
GEORGIA
CYPRUS
AZERBAIJAN
CABO VERDE
SIERRA LEONE
REP. OF CONGO
GABON
LESOTHO
ESWATINI
COMOROS
SEYCHELLES
MALDIVES
AUSTRALIA
NORTH KOREA
SOUTH KOREA
JAPAN
TAIWAN
MONGOLIA
KAZAKHSTAN
UNITED STATES
MEXICO
BRAZIL
ARGENTINA
COLOMBIA
CUBA
PANAMA
GUATEMALA
NICARAGUA
ECUADOR
PERU
BOLIVIA
PARAGUAY
URUGUAY
CHILE
VENEZUELA
GUYANA
THE BAHAMAS
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
HAITI
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
ST LUCIA
BARBADOS
ST VICENT AND GRENADINES
JAMAICA
EL SALVADOR
HONDURAS
BELIZE
CANADA
RUSSIA
MADAGASCAR
MAURITIUS
ETHIOPIA
ERITREA
QATAR
NEPAL
SRI LANKA
BHUTAN
CHAD
WORLD
ASIA & THE PACIFIC
62%
AFRICA
22,9%
AMERICA
4,8%
EUROPE & CENTRAL ASIA
8,9%

US$ 150 billion of profits

Global Slavery Index 2019, Regional Findings (Walk Free Foundation, 2018)
1.2

THE SCALE OF THE PROBLEM
World, Americas and Canada

AMERICAS
Estimated prevalence of people in modern slavery

North America
- 72% trafficking for sexual exploitation
- 22% trafficking for forced labour
- 6% trafficking for other forms of exploitation

Girls | Women | Boys | Men
--- | --- | --- | ---
22% | 62% | 3% | 13%

Central America and The Caribbean
- 81% trafficking for sexual exploitation
- 13% trafficking for forced labour
- 6% trafficking for other forms of exploitation

Girls | Women | Boys | Men
--- | --- | --- | ---
40% | 39% | 8% | 13%

South America
- 64% trafficking for sexual exploitation
- 35% trafficking for forced labour
- 1% trafficking for other forms of exploitation

Girls | Women | Boys | Men
--- | --- | --- | ---
5% | 69% | 1% | 25%
1.2

THE SCALE OF THE PROBLEM

World, Americas and Canada

1.708

police-reported incidents of human trafficking

32%

of incidents involving international trafficking

90%

of police-reported incidents in major cities

Number of victims reported by the Government, including new and previously identifications.

Cases reported by federal and municipal authorities.

New victims in specific cases of trafficking.

Federal convictions reported by the Government

CANADA

 Trafficking in Persons Report 20TH Edition (U.S. Department of State, 2020)

Gender of victim

Women

Men

3%

Gender of accused person

Women

Men

19%

81%

Police-reported human trafficking in Canada, 2009 to 2018 (Statistics Canada, 2020)
Human trafficking is a serious (yet invisible) crime that affects virtually every country in every region of the world, harming communities and their population in multiple ways. Human trafficking typologies, recruitment methods, and victim profiles vary according to the target’s characteristics, including gender, sexual orientation, ethnic origin, and socioeconomic conditions, etc. Addressing the discrimination, violence, unequal power relations, and harmful stereotypes that different communities face is vital in understanding and combatting human trafficking scenarios accompanied by accurate victims’ protection and rehabilitation processes.
Human Trafficking and young people

Poverty, conflict, migration, discrimination, exclusion and disability are among the many factors that increase a child’s vulnerability to crimes of sexual exploitation. Young girls and boys are attracted to false promises of legal work and are then forced into the sex trade abroad.

Today, in the face of modernized communication tools, the exploitation of minors is even more glaring but also more difficult to detect. In 2017, the Internet Watch Foundation identified 78,589 web pages containing child pornography material. In 2018, that number increased by 32%.

By 2019, the International Criminal Police Organization’s (INTERPOL) International Database on Child Sexual Exploitation contained more than 1.5 million images and videos. Studies show an extremely alarming pattern of increasingly young victims who are often victims of serious abuse, with 28% of victims under the age of 10.
According to a 2012 opinion piece by the Status of Women Council, research shows that “more than 80% of adult prostitutes in Canada started prostitution as minors [and] the average age of entry into prostitution is between 14 and 15 years of age ». Young targets are generally placed in centers for troubled youth because they are more vulnerable to predators (Cusick, 2002).

To prevent the recruitment of minors, the Quebec National Strategy 2016-2021 establishes a youth sexual exploitation prevention and intervention program supporting local prevention projects and awareness-raising activities specifically targeting girls at risk of sexual exploitation (Government of Quebec, 2016).

Furthermore, the Sexual Exploitation of Children on the Internet (ESEI) program, with the cooperation of the Quebec Police Service and the Canadian Centre for Child Protection, developed the Provincial Strategy to Combat Child Sexual Exploitation on the Internet. This Strategy is designed to detect sexual predators on the internet, identify victims and save children, provide operational expertise to the police community and ensure the handling of reports through a secure platform.
Individuals in the LGBTQI2S+ community face unique intersecting social risk factors that make them particularly vulnerable to different forms of human trafficking. Due to the persistent stigma associated with the community as well as the less visible nature of same-sex prostitution (most notably solicited through internet technologies and online dating apps), LGBTQI2S+ sex trafficking is less likely to be identified as such and more challenging for police and prosecutors to investigate. Furthermore, due to the taboo attached to sexual violence in many cultures, LGBTQI2S+ victims face additional social pressure not to report their experiences to authorities (Martínez, 2013).

The recently published UNODC Global Report on Trafficking in Persons shows that LGBTQI2S+ children and young adults can be especially vulnerable to human trafficking for forced labor and sexual exploitation. First, their high vulnerability arises from their young age, as they are assumed to be easily manipulated and unable to protect themselves. Second, their LGBTQI2S+ identity increases their vulnerability, as they are often marginalized in society and ostracized by friends and relatives who may force them out of their home. This combination is particularly appealing to traffickers who seek persons who are at the margins of societies and are less protected.
Studies have shown that LGBTQI2S+ youth are overrepresented among runaway and homeless youth populations, reflecting an acute marginalization as they flee harassment, family rejection, violence and economic instability. LGBTQI2S+ youth often report challenges in locating and accessing services, including safe shelter and culturally sensitive services (Polaris Project, 2015).

A Research Project conducted by the non-profit Convent House and Loyola University interviewed hundreds of homeless youth across Canada and the U.S. The report results found that 1 out of 3 LGBTQI2S+ youth were identified as human trafficking survivors, compared to 17% of straight youth surveyed. Moreover, LGBTQI2S+ youth were found to be twice as likely than straight youth to engage in commercial sex activity, highlighting the heightened exposure of this particular community to risks linked to sex work, including a higher vulnerability to exploitation and human trafficking.
Human Trafficking in Indigenous and Inuit Communities

Poverty, racial discrimination, and other social risk factors such as addiction and lack of social support are great threats to these already fragile communities. Indigenous and Inuit women are particularly vulnerable to this problem.

In Canada, Indigenous women are three times more likely to report violence than non-Indigenous women (Statistics Canada, 2011). According to Josée Mensales, Survivors program coordinator with Montreal police, over 50% of victims of sexual exploitation in Québec are Indigenous.

The National Strategy 2019-2024 recognizes inadequacies in support for victims and intends to "provide them with culturally appropriate services" (Government of Canada, 2019). Building on these efforts, the government has decided to implement new initiatives to strengthen the identification and protection of victims, as well as Canada’s ability to detect suspected cases of human trafficking more effectively. The above is an important step but not enough for protecting Indigenous and Inuit communities.
In some isolated communities, there is not always an opportunity to reach out to protect victims of abuse. Lack of access to health resources also makes it difficult to identify victims of trafficking and to prevent them from being targets for traffickers. Furthermore, disagreements over the number of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls are numerous.

In the 2014 Report of Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women: A National Operational Overview, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) acknowledged more than 1,200 cases of missing and murdered Aboriginal women and girls between 1980 and 2012 (RCMP, 2014). However, Indigenous women’s groups cite a figure of more than 4,000 in documented estimates. Several factors explain this discrepancy, including a lack of reporting, the lack of an effective database, and the inability to identify such cases by ethnic group of origin.
MODULE 1
INTRODUCTION TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING
Although the abolishment of slavery began in the XVIII century, the enforcement of international human trafficking instruments and domestic laws is very recent. These laws are the fundamental base that drive and legitimate counter-trafficking policies and strategies as well and serve to guide the work of the various actors.
1.4 NORMATIVITY AND INSTRUMENTS

1900

1910 International Convention for the Suppression of the White Slave Traffic
1921 International Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Women and Children
1948 Declaration of Human Rights
1959 The Convention on the Rights of the Child
1979 The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

The Convention on the Rights of the Child has 3 protocols that complement it:

- The protocol regarding the sale of children and child prostitution.
- The protocol regarding the participation of children in armed conflicts.
- The protocol related to a communications procedure to file complaints before the Committee on the Rights of the Child.

2000 United Nations Human Trafficking Protocol

HISTORICAL
Canada

2002 The Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (IRPA)
Section 118: refers to cross-border trafficking, and specifically criminalizes knowingly organizing the coming into Canada of one or more persons by means of abduction, fraud, deception, or use or threat of force or coercion

2005 Criminal Code Law C-49
- 279.01: trafficking in persons.
- 279.02: receiving financial or other material benefit for the purpose of committing or facilitating trafficking in persons.
- 279.03: withholding or destroying identity documents (such as a passport) for the purpose of committing or facilitating trafficking of that person.
- 279.04: defines exploitation for the purpose of human trafficking offences.
- 279.011: introducing a new offence specifically pertaining to the trafficking of persons under 18 years of age.

Transparency in Supply Chains Act
Imposes obligations on Canadian businesses to take steps to prevent the use of modern slavery in their overseas supply chains, and create reporting obligations on qualifying entities, including completion of a supply chain questionnaire on a company’s policies and procedures related to forced labour, child labour, and human trafficking.
Government response

Along with the legislation, it is essential to consider the overall government response to human trafficking in terms of persecution, protection, and prevention. The United States Department of State prepares an annual Trafficking in Persons Report as mandated by the TVPA. The report ranks each country in one of four tiers based on their respective government actions.

- **TIER 1**
  Countries whose governments fully meet the TVPA’s minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking.

- **TIER 2**
  Countries whose governments do not fully meet the TVPA’s minimum standards but are making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance with those standards.

- **TIER 2 WATCH LIST**
  Countries whose governments do not fully meet the TVPA’s minimum standards but are making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance with those standards, and for which:
  a. The estimated number of victims of severe forms of trafficking is very significant or is significantly increasing and the country is not taking proportional concrete actions;
  b. There is a failure to provide evidence of increasing efforts to combat severe forms of trafficking in persons from the previous year, including increased investigations, prosecution, and convictions of trafficking crimes, increased assistance to victims, and decreasing evidence of complicity in severe forms of trafficking by government officials.

- **TIER 3**
  Countries whose governments do not fully meet the TVPA’s minimum standards and are not making significant efforts to do so.

- **SPECIAL CASE**

In module 2, participants will learn about the importance of data in the counter-trafficking field and explore some examples of key industries and valuable data as well as some data security and protection considerations.
DISRUPTING HUMAN TRAFFICKING THROUGH DATA

A What is human trafficking data?
B The importance of data
C Valuable data and key industries and sectors
D Security and data protection
Human trafficking data should be defined as valuable data that effectively contributes to understanding and disrupting human trafficking. Although the general trafficking statistics, such as the number of victims and the convictions are important, as pointed out in The Guidelines: Getting to Good Human Trafficking Data, those address only a fraction of the questions we need to understand how to combat human trafficking successfully (Jessie Brunner, 2018). Therefore, comprehending human trafficking data includes not just specific information about the issue itself but all the elements surrounding it.
Human trafficking data is not merely about collecting more data; it is about better and responsible data beyond generalized statistics. According to Getting to Good Human Trafficking Data, these are the qualities of good, responsible data:

1. **VALID**
   The data must measure what they purport to measure.

2. **ACCURATE**
   Data should truthfully reflect what they aim to describe.

3. **RELEVANT**
   Only information that is applicable and necessary should be collected.

4. **RELIABLE**
   Data fields are clearly defined, lending consistency and fidelity to the information.

5. **IMPARTIAL**
   Data should be collected in a way that is objective and transparent in its methods while acknowledging and limiting any biases.

6. **ACCESSIBLE**
   Data and information on how it was generated should be easily available to key stakeholders both within and outside an organization.

7. **TIMELY**
   The usefulness and validity of data may change over time, so it’s best to process it quickly for good decision making.

8. **RESPONSIBLE**
   There is a duty to ensure people’s rights to privacy and security of their information. It is critical to strive for data transparency and openness.

9. **EMPOWERING**
   Promotes stakeholders having access to the necessary tools, context, knowledge, and skills to make use of the data to meet specific objectives.

(Jessie Brunner, 2018)
The importance of data in the counter-trafficking field lies in its tremendous power to guide critical stakeholders in their efforts to understand, measure, expose and disrupt human trafficking. Furthermore, data is the cornerstone of every technology, policy or strategy aiming to achieve positive results.
Data contributes to moving from general and theoretical knowledge to understanding how trafficking operates in specific contexts and creates new valuable insights.

Examples:

- Identify human trafficking forms, routes, patterns, networks, hotspots and ways to operate.
- Distinguish parties, directly and indirectly, involved in human trafficking.
- Comprehend risk factors and contexts that explain human trafficking and how these change over time and geography.
Valuable data provides not just a more accurate approximation to the trafficking prevalence but serves to monitor the results of counter-trafficking actions.

Examples:

- Determine or predict the number of victims and people at risk.
- Estimate the overall scale of the issue and monitor its presence.
- Evaluate the impact of new prevention strategies and law enforcement operations.
2.2 DISRUPTING HUMAN TRAFFICKING THROUGH DATA

B The importance of data

The insights extracted and created from data uncover human trafficking, ascertain responsibilities, make the issue public, and promote critical stakeholders’ involvement and action.

Examples:

- Make knowledge of human trafficking accessible and understandable to the general public and governments.
- Identify industries and sectors affected by human trafficking and ascertain their responsibility.
- Call to coordinate action based on evidence.
The importance of data

Data is the best ally to design comprehensive strategies to combat human trafficking from all fronts. The ultimate purpose of understanding, measuring and exposing the issue is dismantling the system that permits exploitation to exist and prosper.

Examples:

- Design, develop and implement more effective persecution, protection and prevention laws, policies, strategies and technologies.
- Direct scarce resources to specific problems and avoid overlapping.
- Foster the development of tech-based solutions.
One of the biggest lingering challenges to effectively combatting human trafficking is the lack of data and the complexity in extracting value from it. According to the Traffik Analysis Hub, high-quality data tends to be retained in silos with a structure intended for each organization's specific uses. Moreover, there are multiple sources and types of data that are still unexplored or inaccessible. Having access to more and new data and bringing it together is crucial for eradicating human trafficking.
Due to the multicausal and clandestine nature of human trafficking, virtually all industries and sectors have valuable human trafficking data. Some of the most relevant actors are the following:

**GOVERNMENT**

Governments have valuable data about the socio-economic, security, political and economic indicators of the states that can allow a more comprehensive analysis of trafficking. Governments are in charge of making more effective policy decisions and directing public resources to materialize counter-trafficking laws, policies, and protocols.

**LAW ENFORCEMENT**

Law enforcement agencies have in-depth knowledge about human trafficking dynamics, victims and traffickers’ profiles, exploitation contexts and traffickers’ modus operandi. This kind of data is essential for identifying new crime patterns and generates evidence to support the prosecution processes.

**NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION / NOT FOR PROFIT (NGO/NFO)**

The data acquired from organizations that directly address prevention actions, report cases and assist victims is critical first-hand information to understanding human trafficking.

**FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS**

Financial institutions assess and identify risky business and irregular transactions linked to money laundering that are a result of human trafficking. Financial data is crucial when taking the money out of trafficking systems and mapping criminal activity with more accuracy.

**BUSINESSES**

Businesses can provide valuable data to identify and track illicit practices linked to trafficking within the production and commercialization of goods and services. Some businesses are vulnerable to trafficking, but at the same time have higher opportunities for rapid report and response.

(Traffik Analysis Hub, 2021)
The valuable data for the counter-trafficking field can embody different types and come from several sources. Structured, unstructured, semi-structured, time-stamped, machine, and spatiotemporal data are some of the relevant types. The following are some examples of data that contribute to understanding, measuring, exposing, and disrupting human trafficking:

C Valuable data and key industries and sectors
2.3 DISRUPTING HUMAN TRAFFICKING THROUGH DATA

C Valuable data and key industries and sectors

- Crime Data
- Businesses of Interest
- Transportation Activity
- Sexual Activity
- Others

- Socioeconomic and sociodemographic
- Presence of armed groups and criminal networks
- Migration
- Kidnappings and missing persons records
- Illegal crops
- Related crimes, war and terrorism
- Recruitment agencies, control and transportation methods
- Recruitment, control and transportation methods
- Human trafficking types and subtypes
- Victims and perpetrators profiles
- Cases and victims’ statements
- Location types (origin / transit / destination)
- Routes
- Red light districts
- Webcam modeling agencies
- Escort agencies
- Brothels
- Intensive agriculture / fishing
- Construction
- Mining
- Garment and textile industry
- Truck Stops
- Primary roads
- Bus Terminal
- Train Station
- Ports and docks
- Restaurant/Bars/ Night clubs
- Airports
- Migration
2.3 DISRUPTING HUMAN TRAFFICKING THROUGH DATA

C Valuable data and key industries and sectors
DISRUPTING HUMAN TRAFFICKING THROUGH DATA

C  Valuable data and key industries and sectors

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2.3 DISRUPTING HUMAN TRAFFICKING THROUGH DATA

C Valuable data and key industries and sectors

- Crime data
- Business of interest
- Transportation activity
- Sexual activity
- Others

- Socioeconomic and sociodemographic
  - Presence of armed groups and criminal networks
  - Migration
  - Kidnappings and missing persons records
  - Illegal crops
  - Related crimes, war and terrorism
  - Victims and perpetrators profiles
- Recruitment, control and transportation methods
- Presence of armed groups and criminal networks
- Socioeconomic and sociodemographic

- Routes
- Locations types (origin / transit / destination)
- Cases and victims’ statements
- Recruitment agencies
- Human trafficking types and subtypes
- Webcams, modeling agencies
- Swinger clubs
- Escort agencies
- Brothels
- Sex tourism
- Restaurant/Bars/ Night clubs
- Truck stops
- Intensive agriculture / fishing
- Garment and textile industry
- Ports and docks
- Train Station
- Bus Terminal
- Airports
- Construction
- Mining
- Mining
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DISRUPTING HUMAN TRAFFICKING THROUGH DATA

C  Valuable data and key industries and sectors

2.3

CRIME DATA
BUSSINES OF INTEREST
TRANSPORTATION ACTIVITY
SEXUAL ACTIVITY
OTHERS
Secure and responsible data management is critical to building trust among stakeholders, guaranteeing data integrity and protecting all the individuals and organizations involved. Human trafficking data management must be data subject-based and ensure integrity in every phase of the data life cycle in terms of data privacy, ethics and informed consent.
### Security and data protection

Data collection can produce risks to the data subject, their families and personal networks, and the persons and organizations collecting the information. Sensitive data should not be collected if the stakeholders cannot guarantee data security.

**Data collection tips:**

- Formulate the right questions and explore what type of data can resolve those.
- Set clear and honest data collection objectives for the subjects.
- Remember that subjects have the right to withdraw, to be forgotten and request an update.

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<tr>
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<th>Data Collection</th>
<th>Data Storage</th>
<th>Data Sharing</th>
<th>Data Analysis</th>
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<td>DATA COLLECTION</td>
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<td>DATA SHARING</td>
<td>DATA ANALYSIS</td>
<td>DATA SAFEGUARD</td>
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2.4 DISRUPTING HUMAN TRAFFICKING THROUGH DATA
Data storage tips:

- Database encryption makes data unintelligible for unauthorized access.
- Identifiable data separation reinforces subject data security.
- A storage protocol ensures an auditable chain of custody regarding data quality.

After collecting data, stakeholders must ensure data are safely and securely stored while remaining accessible to those who need it. It is necessary to consider different storage options such as electronic devices, private networks, and cloud-based platforms and evaluate their strengths and weaknesses.
Sharing data helps minimize isolated efforts and promotes cooperation and a universal understanding of human trafficking. Data sharing must be based on a solid plan, with formal agreements between the parties and proper sharing mediums. One of the priorities when sharing data related to human trafficking is protecting the identity of data subjects.

Data sharing tips:

- Share only verified data. Low-quality data or work negatively impacts the contributed data of all stakeholders.
- Data shared must respond to the exchange regulations of parties involved.
- Ensure the non-duplication of information.
Data analysis tips:

- Data analysis must follow a scientific method.
- Minimize the impact that bias can have on analysis.
- Ensure a functional data analysis work team and include different points of view.
In human trafficking datasets, the combination of different pieces of information can compromise a person’s identity. Although security protocols separate personally identifiable information, data collection and merging can decode such anonymity. Human trafficking data's sensitive nature reinforces the necessity to ensure people's safety and security. The UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) spotlights the responsibility of civil society organizations, NGOs, and charities to safeguard data due to their significant interaction with victims and potential victims of human trafficking as well as their role as data sharers.
In Module 3, participants will explore three short case studies of leading organizations and initiatives that are using the power of data and collaboration to prevent and disrupt human trafficking.
CASE STUDIES

A  Traffik Analysis Hub
B  Stop the Traffik
C  Aleph Mind
The TAHub is the first-ever global data hub to facilitate the sharing of information about human trafficking across all industries and sectors. It is an impactful collaboration that includes Financial Institutions, Businesses, NGOs, Law Enforcement and Government Agencies. The Traffik Analysis Hub has charitable status in the United Kingdom and an Office of Representation for Latin America based in Bogota, Colombia.
The Challenge

Organizations collect information about trafficking relevant to their own operations and develop their knowledge through that prism. But they often do not see the different perspectives of other organizations.

Voluntary sector organizations dealing with victims have a rich understanding of the narratives of direct experiences of trafficking and exploitation. Financial Institutions have data from potentially suspicious transactions and accounts that show signs ("red flags") of trafficking business. Law Enforcement has data about instances of trafficking from their investigations and prosecutions.

But the overall knowledge at large of where trafficking is and how it operates is fragmented. Organizations have little understanding of how their perspective may benefit others; or how to share their perspective or their data in a safe, trusted, and reliable way.

CASE STUDIES

A Traffik Analysis Hub (TAHub)
The solution

The TAHub platform enables partners to combine data from many sources and formats, allowing analysts to draw on an even richer pool of data than ever before. Analysts can better identify trafficking patterns, networks, and hotspots and focus the right anti-trafficking resources in the right way.

The platform is hosted in a secure IBM Cloud environment and uses the highly advanced technologies of IBM Watson Artificial Intelligence (AI), machine learning, data visualization, and data analytics, using a wide range of open-source data to augment manually curated data from the program partners.

The TAHub partners gather information and share highly accessible analysis of human trafficking as part of their day-to-day operations. The platform quickly analyzes and processes high volumes of data from various sources while ensuring its security and integrity.
CASE STUDIES

A Traffik Analysis Hub (TAHub)

How it works

STEP 1: DATA COLLECTION
Authenticated partners are able to upload data from a large variety of sources. In addition, unstructured open-source data is ingested at scale - including thousands of publicly available news feeds.

STEP 2: DATA SORTING AND PROCESSING
Using IBM Watson - AI, machine learning, and natural language recognition - an intelligent “golden tagging” schema is applied to the data. In addition, the TAHub solution is trained to recognize terms and incidents related to human trafficking in the unstructured content, and structure it along The Golden Tags Scheme, allowing for consistent formatting, analysis and outputs.

STEP 3: ANALYSIS AND OUTPUTS
With the data from all sources on the platform aggregated, structured and linked, the initially disparate datasets are transformed into a common actionable information pool (a “data lake”). As the TAHub develops, complex data will be used to create actionable data visualization (ie. graphs or tables) and analytic outputs with supporting interpretive narratives.

STEP 4: USE AND IMPACT
Once the structured and unstructured data has been gathered, processed, and analyzed with interpretive narratives, partners are able to act on this vital and powerful information to investigate global trafficking activity.
The TAHub initiative is founded on the following principles:

- Gathering knowledge to drive effective action to prevent trafficking.
- Sharing and analyzing information collectively across sectors; trusted technology is the route to better knowledge.
- There must be joint control of the technology and knowledge sharing process in order for all partners to have trust.
- The success of this initiative depends on delivery of recognizable and quantifiable benefits to the day-to-day business of all participants.
- Success also depends on partners being confident and willing to contribute data to the initiative.
- The focus of the data contributions from partners should be non-personal and anonymized to minimize legal and practical difficulties that arise in sharing personal data.
CASE STUDIES

A  Traffik Analysis Hub (TAHub)

Much more than technology, a global intelligence community

While the technology is central, the initiative is much more; TAHub is a global community of organizations motivated by their goal to disrupt human trafficking, through data-driven collaboration, intelligence analysis and continuous research. Through monthly analyst calls, training and collaboration tools, the TAHub intelligence community share best practices, recommendations and formulate opportunities for cooperation within the intelligence community.

By contributing to the development of concrete interventions against human trafficking, both the technology and the analyst community effectively overcome the barriers of trust and the logistics of sharing information across organizations.
Outcomes

The Traffik Analysis Hub was born in 2017 and officially launched in November of 2019. Currently, TAHub is the richest dataset globally for the issue of human trafficking and hosts 78 participating organizations worldwide. Participants include Interpol, Police Forces, several major Universities, Financial Institutions, Global Businesses and numerous anti-trafficking NGOs, including: Polaris, IJM, Mekong Club, Love Justice, and Pasos Libres.

890k+
Incidents Reported.

250+
Analysts Registered.

70+
Authenticated partners from different sectors.

18+
Monthly analyst calls and training sessions to build skills around the TAHub and exchange good practices.
STOP THE TRAFFIK (STT) is creating a world where people are not bought or sold. It is a data and technology driven company working to prevent global human trafficking and exploitation. STT was founded in 2006 as a campaign coalition to bring an end to human trafficking worldwide.
Challenges of human trafficking prevention identified by STT

General challenges:
- Largely hidden crime
- Underreported
- Difficult to predict

Analytical capabilities challenges:
- Can’t solve a problem if we don’t fully understand what it is
- Intelligence/knowledge gaps
- Disparate information/siloed data
- Difficulties in achieving coordinated responses
- Time commitment, safeguarding & GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) concerns
- Unstructured data exists but is difficult to analyze
Solution

To develop more impactful prevention strategies, Stop the Traffik started transforming anonymized information into structured data for analysis to understand global hotspots, trends, and pathways to exploitation and to produce and share actionable insights with key stakeholders. By recognizing the greatest needs, Stop the Traffik can create strategic, collaborative responses; efficiently allocate resources; and achieve sustainable behavior change and impact.
Through radical collaboration and sharing with partners, STT is building a global picture of human trafficking. This global picture will show hotspots and trends of trafficking and allow us to extract meaningful data that can then be used to prevent people being trafficked in communities around the world.

Through this work, STT aims is to build resilience into communities; to empower indivi-
duals, organizations and agencies to make more informed and better choices; to signpost them to safe and secure places to get help, support and advice, and to encourage appro-
priate response and reporting.

Focus on data collection, analysis and dissemination:

- Understand patterns
- Identify hotspots
- Inform future responses
- Efficiently allocate resources
- Target campaigns
- Raise awareness

Intelligence-led prevention
STT Case Study

Modern Slavery and Exploitation (MSE) Group: data sharing and collaboration with West London NGOs, local government and police resulted in a hyper-locally targeted STT social media campaign.

- MSE Group is a multi-agency partnership in London
- 25-30 organizations
- Data sharing agreements
- Strategic objective to prevent trafficking and exploitation
- Aggregated and structured dataset
- Shared analysis and intelligence
- Accurate information and in-depth understanding of local issues
- Evidence to determine objectives and focus services
- Targeted actions
Data Collection Fields

- Incident start/end date
- Info source date
- Prevention organizations
- Number of trafficking victims/traffickers
- Victim/trafficker nationality
- Victim/trafficker gender
- Victim/trafficker age
- Routes: Source/transit/destination
- Incident geography (GPS coordinates): source/transit/destination
- Transport methods
- Trafficking types and sub-types
- Recruitment methods
- Control methods
- Traffickers operating location
- Info source and type
- Summary of incident
3.2 CASE STUDIES

B Stop The Traffik

Number of Victims by Trafficking Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trafficking Type</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sexual Exploitation</td>
<td>149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor Exploitation</td>
<td>129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forced Criminality</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Domestic Servitude</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Trafficing Victims by Gender and Nationality

- Chinese
- British
- Filipino
- Albanian
- Romanian
- Vietnamese
- Indian

Source Country

Via Country

Destination Location by Gender (London Boroughs)

- Female
- Male
- Unknown

- North America
- Europe
- Asia
- Africa
- Australia
- South America
- China
- Philippines
- Albania
- Romania
- Vietnam
- India

- Loughton
- Watford
- Brentwood
- Slough
- Windsor
- Grays
We connect with national and local partners

We analyze the stories with existing data

We run a baseline survey through social media, shared with partners

We assess the outcomes of the campaign including reach, awareness raising, increased knowledge and changes in behavior

We identify a hotspot or route through our intelligence

Partners share stories and insights about exploitation

We develop messaging and creative content and share with partners for comments

We run a targeted campaign based around social media, with additional local elements (when possible), shared by partners

We perform an internal evaluation and share our learning with partners

CASE STUDIES

B Stop The Traffik
Domestic Servitude Campaign

Based on our research and intelligence of the experiences of the Filipino community in the UK, STT learned that domestic workers were experiencing exploitative working conditions, long hours with no breaks, and were being paid under the minimum wage. The objectives of the campaign were to raise awareness of abusive working conditions, bring the issue to the attention of the broader Filipino community and signpost to organizations who can provide help and support.

- Geo-targeted social media campaign in London.
- Reached over 65,000 people.
- There was an increase in knowledge of local support organizations, which saw a surge in contact following the campaign.
Aleph Mind is the Latin American winner of the global DataJam Pasos Libres Online 2020. Nowadays, it is a Colombian startup of technological innovation that applies artificial intelligence and data analytics to develop sustainable and high-impact tools that help solve social problems and corporate challenges, contributing to the construction of a fair and equitable world.
Problem to solve

There is not enough data and analytical insights about potential sexual exploitation activities on websites that offer sexual services in Colombia. The lack of that information makes it even more challenging to trace human trafficking online and its connections with the crime dynamics offline. Currently, the collection, processing, and labeling of valuable data from those websites are performing manually and passively when specific investigations require it. Moreover, the collection of that information on a large scale faces privacy data restrictions and technical challenges such as IPs' blocking and the need to write a specific extraction algorithm for each website structure.
Solution: The Witness

Aleph Mind created The Witness, a tool that automatically searches, collects and stores information such as phone numbers, names, and locations from websites that offer sexual services by web scraping through the subgraph of those. Additionally, it uses natural language processing to extract the advertisement’s linguistic characteristics like grammar, style, and slangs associated with a particular criminal network. The Witness seeks to provide good quality structured data extracted from the sexual services’ websites to Colombian anti-trafficking organizations that can help analysts and investigators to identify relations and trends online linked to offline sexual exploitation activities.

Partial outcomes

In four months, the Witness has collected more than 43,000 data and analyzed information from 3,703 sexual services ads, extracting 4,051 locations and 23,190 pictures. It has helped to build graphs with more than 4,000 nodes and 10,000 relations among them. The solution is also applying NLU processing to obtain extra information from how the ads are written and the comments that clients make on them.
Welcome to The Witness. Help us to fight human trafficking in Latin America.

A tool for authorities to find and recognize cases of human trafficking in Latin America.

Login  Request license
The Future of The Witness

In the short and middle term, the Aleph Mind team will:

1. Continue working with Fundación Pasos Libres, IBM, the TAH, Stop the Traffik, and deploy The Witness to contribute to understanding and combating online sexual exploitation in Colombia and Latin America in partnership with other key stakeholders.

2. Explore how The Witness and its technical and theoretical bases can be applied to collecting and analyzing data from other forms of human trafficking online.

3. Establish a sustainable business model to expand and scale The Witness.
REFERENCES


https://www.ibm.org/data-jam