



Reporting TIP offences: Tips to Journalists

Facilitator;

Mr. Edwin Mugambila (LLB, LLM, PhD(Cand.))

C/Person Tanzania Network Against Human Trafficking (TANAHUT)

ED. Tanzania Relief Initiatives

Meanmyke house

1st floor right wing

P.O.BOX 34031 Mikocheni, Dar es salaam

edwinmugaus@yahoo.com

info@tritanzania.org

+255659577955

Road-map



- Brief introduction to TIP
- Palermo Protocol
- TVPA, 2000.
- TIP Law in Tanzania
- Commonly reported forms of TIP & modern slavery
- Reporting TIP incidents; Dos and Donts.
- How to interview TIP victim
- Best practices
- Conclusion
- Q & A



Snapshot of TIP globally

- Every day, in every country in the world, human traffickers exploit people for profit. The poor and the vulnerable are most at risk
- Over 70% of detected trafficking victims worldwide are women and girls, while nearly 1/3 are children of age between 12-27 Years old.
- Perpetrators make more than \$ 150 Billion annually with \$99 Billion earned through sexual exploitation of Victims
- According to the US department of state Report (June, 2021) Tanzania is a source, transit and destination for Victims of TIP



TIP in Tanzania

- The global slavery Index report, 2016 revealed that, between 310,000 to 350,000 people in Tanzania are living in condition of modern slavery ranking 29 out of 162 countries surveyed.
- Reports indicate that, 90% of Victims of trafficking rescued and referred to care from 2017-2021 are Girls.
- Up to the year ending 2020 Tanzania had recorded 165 Survivors (145 Female, 20 Male), from which 139 were Children, 26 were adults



Why TIP occurs

There are two main reasons trafficking occurs:

- Traffickers fill a **demand** for sex or labor, by selling vulnerable people, such as women and Children



- Terrorists, organized crime, and extremist groups use human trafficking to fund their operations and further their criminal enterprises



Understanding Victims and traffickers

Who are the victims

- Any gender, age, race, nationality, social status, economic or immigration status
- Female or male
- Adult or child
- Foreign national or Tanzanian citizen
- Homeless youth
- Undocumented migrants
- People displaced by civil conflicts and natural disasters

Who are the traffickers

- Members of organized crime groups
- Terrorist organizations
- Gangs and warlords
- Foreign national or Tanzanian citizen
- Male or female
- Pimps
- Business Owners
- Family members

How TIP occurs. (definition)



THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING PROCESS

ACT

Recruitment
Transport
Transfer
Harbouring
Receipt of
Persons



MEANS

Threat or use of
force

Coercion

Abduction

Fraud

Deception

Abuse of power
or vulnerability

Giving payments
or benefits



PURPOSE

Exploitation,
including:

Forced commercial
sex work of others

Sexual exploitation

Forced Labour

Slavery or similar
practices

Removal of organs

Other types of
exploitation



HUMAN TRAFFICKING



Trafficking of Victim Protection Act (TVPA), 2000

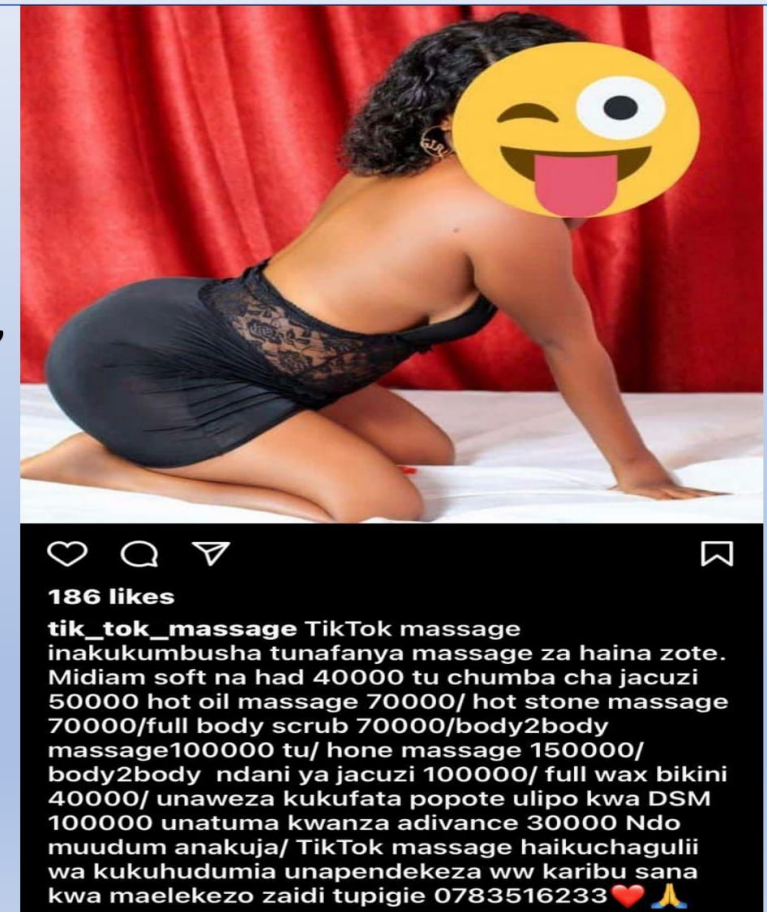
- *Establishes a whole of government approach to combating trafficking in persons.*
- *Sets a 3P framework:*
 - **Prevention:** Encourages education, awareness and training to understand trafficking, identify victims, and respond appropriately
 - **Prosecution:** Encourages a vigorous law enforcement response to traffickers
 - **Protection and assistance:** Provides holistic services for survivors.
- TVPA provides a country rating system based on level of effort taken by states to combat TIP. States which fully comply with standards of TIP prevention are rated on 'tier 1', those that have taken satisfactory efforts are placed on 'tier 2', those that are limping are placed on 'tier 2 watchlist', while those that have not taken any political will and legal steps to combat it are placed on 'tier 3'.
- This year Tanzania is on tier 2WL meaning it has not been taking both political and legal efforts to combat TIP incidents.

TIP Law in Tanzania

- Anti-trafficking in Persons Act. No.6/2008
- Regulations (GN NO.27 & 28, 2015)
- LCA No. 21, 2009
- CPA Cap 20. R.E. 2002
- MACMA
- Extradition Act
- Proceeds of the Crime Act

Commonly reported forms of TIP in Tanzania

- Sexual exploitation (Brothels, Casinos, Night pubs, Massage Parlours, individual dwellings)
- Forced labour (Livestock sector, fishing sector, mining sector, manufacturing sector, hospitality sector)
- Domestic servitude
- Forced begging (DSM, Mwanza, Arusha, Nairobi, Kampala)



Why is the Media important.

- **AWARENESS:** Although human trafficking happens everywhere in the world, most people don't know about it. The media can help raise global awareness about human trafficking
- **PREVENTION:** Information can empower people at-risk, and warn them about dangers and threats. The media can help to empower vulnerable populations.
- **KNOWLEDGE:** Human trafficking is an undercover story. We only know little about it. Journalism can throw light into the factors, parties, and networks involved. The media can help to increase our knowledge about human trafficking to find better solutions
- **HOPE:** The only hope we have is to do this together. We need to get everybody on board if we want to end human trafficking. It's possible to change the story of human trafficking into the story of hope.

Story telling of TIP incidents

- Storytelling is sort of a special human super power. When used properly, it becomes a powerful tool that helps us understand each other better. The power of storytelling can strengthen our communities and restore the dignity of those who may have been abused
- Stories can be excellent vehicles to give a voice to the most vulnerable, and to break the misconceptions and stereotypes that dehumanize people and perpetuate human trafficking
- The media mirror societies and carry their stories. *In the story of human trafficking, the media are more than just the observers*. They are also the protagonists that can change its course. The media can definitely propagate messages to increase public support and involvement to fight human trafficking

Cont'...

- But beyond spreading the news and building mass awareness, the media can also help gather data on human trafficking. Effective reporting on trafficking in persons is critical to uncover a crime that is usually hidden
- Today, more than ever, data is needed to understand the full scope of human trafficking in Tanzania. More and better information is necessary to coordinate and improve the anti-trafficking programmes taking place nationally, regionally and globally. The more we know, the better we can respond. Information is key. Information can indeed help prevent human trafficking.

Key tips for journalists

- Interviews are the primary source and main tool for a journalist, offering first hand information. Rather than relying on secondary sources such as a press release or report, journalists should attempt to conduct interviews whenever possible
- Comprehensive reporting on human trafficking puts together all the pieces of the story and it has to take into account all the different actors. Interviews with all the stakeholders may be necessary for the complete picture, although not always possible. Use your journalistic judgment to go as far as possible.
- Accurate and complete data on human trafficking, especially in Tanzania , is elusive. Secondary sources of data should be independently verified. Take advantage of experts and knowledgeable professionals in the field to cross check secondary sources
- Find out more about your sources. In the case of primary sources, the more you know about somebody you interview, the better the quality of the questions you can ask. When dealing with secondary sources it is advisable to find information about the publisher and/or authors, in order to assess the quality of their data.

Cont'...

- Sources should be handled in an open and respectful manner, irrespective of personal opinion, who they are or what they may have done.
- Stories should always be corroborated. Official sources usually speak on behalf of institutions, giving the official line, which can be one-sided. Solely relying on official sources is inadvisable.
- Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are a vital part of the fight against human trafficking, and a good source of ground-level knowledge. However, it is important to detect any biases, and to examine agendas in relation to their funding models.

Interviewing Victims of TIP; How?

Victims or Survivors?

- Those who have been trafficked have been the victims of the worst of crimes and have suffered a gross violation of their human rights. But not all of them wish to be forever called victims. They may rather be called survivors
- Their personal story is not defined by what Z to them, but by how they overcame it. Breaking away from the victim narrative, the stories about survivors can be empowering and inspiring. There are survivors who, after enduring the most tragic circumstances have recovered and regained their power by speaking publicly against human trafficking.
- Not sure whether to call your interviewee victim or survivor? Often survivors will refer to themselves as such. It is always advisable to refer to someone however they may prefer. When in doubt, ask and discuss with your peers and editors.
- Always make sure to protect the anonymity of survivors, unless you are interviewing a public advocate who may have chosen to reveal their identity. These cases are exceptional

Interview Tips

- Always begin by introducing yourself and explaining why you are telling their story and how their story will be used.
- Even if they do not expressly ask for anonymity, explain to them that the story may be widely publicized and talk to them about the reasons to protect their anonymity and the possible risks. You must protect their name and appearance, as well as any other details that may identify them
- Some trafficked persons may be survivors of rape or torture. Maintain extra sensitivity and prepare yourself in advance

Cont'...

- Never interview someone who is evidently in shock or hysterical. If someone seems too fragile or emotional during an interview, make pauses whenever you think is needed and restart if/when conditions allow.
- Always remain calm and present, as your own emotions may trigger memories. When phrasing your questions, be aware of any expressions or attitudes that may seem judgmental.
- Start with an open-ended question, such as “Tell me about your experience,” to give them the opportunity to steer the conversation towards what they are comfortable with

Cont'...

- Let them know and feel that is ok to decline to answer questions they are not comfortable answering. Do your research to avoid unnecessary questions.
- Do not record conversations without obtaining consent and explain that only those parts of the story will be published that they're comfortable with

- *Dos and Don'ts in interviewing a Child victim/survivor*

When covering human trafficking, it is important to keep in mind the best interest of the children involved, and to protect their dignity and rights at all times. UNICEF, the UN agency mandated with the protection of children's rights has issued the following ethical guidelines for the reporting on children;

Dos and Don'ts

- Do not further stigmatize any child; avoid categorisations or descriptions that expose a child to negative reprisals - including additional physical or psychological harm, or to lifelong abuse, discrimination or rejection by their local communities
- Always provide an accurate context for the child's story or image
- Always change the name and obscure the visual identity of any child who is identified as:
 - A victim of sexual abuse or exploitation,
 - A perpetrator of physical or sexual abuse,
 - HIV positive, or living with AIDS, unless the child, a parent or a guardian gives fully informed consent,
 - Charged or convicted of a crime.

Cont'...

- In certain circumstances of risk or potential risk of harm or retribution, change the name and obscure the visual identity of any child who is identified as:
- A current or former child combatant,
- An asylum seeker, a refugee or an internal displaced person.

5. In certain cases, using a child's identity - their name and/or recognizable image - is in the child's best interests. However, when the child's identity is used, they must still be protected against harm and supported through any stigmatization or reprisals.

Tips for self protection & data Protection

- **Work in collaboration.** It's a classic case of 'safety in numbers' where journalists from different media outlets working together in collaboration helps minimize danger, not just at the time of reporting but also after publishing
- **Do a basic risk assessment beforehand.** Extensive research must be carried out before conducting the story to assess the risks involved, and to formulate a safety plan in case things go wrong. Journalists should always consult their editors for advice on safety concerns for a potentially dangerous story.
- **Make links with law enforcement** Journalists should establish link with law enforcement personnel at the start of a story, with the exception of cases where there is suspicion that law enforcement may be corrupt or complicit in trafficking.

Cont'...

- **Research the environment.** Journalists should know the best (safest) locations to meet sources, and should research crime rates and safe routes in the area they are conducting their investigation in.
- Know the relevant laws Journalists should be well versed with laws regarding freedom of expression, privacy, and press rights.
- Establish clear channels of communication Proper and reliable channels of communication between journalists and their editors should be clearly discussed and established while reporting from dangerous locations.
- Sources A credible document goes a long way as evidence. Wherever possible, documentation must be collected to bolster the story. Documents should be collected from as many different sources as possible so as not to put any one particular person in danger.

Cont'...

- **Approaching unfriendly individuals.** Sometimes a journalist might be attempting to establish contact with a person or group suspected of organized trafficking. In such situations it is imperative to take precautions while meeting them. They should be met in public spaces, preferably with a colleague, and it should be made clear that several different reporters are working on the story
- **Dealing with threats and surveillance.** Threats should be taken seriously and immediately reported to the editor, trusted colleagues and to law enforcement agencies. In case of serious threats to life, temporary relocation may be advisable.
- **Be stringent with Internet security.** Journalists should be well versed with the basics of password security. Access to the identity of sources should also be safely guarded, and if necessary, encryption technology should be used
- **Know when to back off or even abandon the story.** Always know when to abandon a story if it is clear that someone's life, including your own, is in jeopardy.

Conclusion

- Magic words to TIP reporting;
- What is TIP
- Where does it happen
- How does it happen
- When does it happen
- Who are the people involved?
- Why does it matter to the media?

End

- Thanks for Listening
- Q& A