

**COUNTER
TRAFFICKING
AND
ASSISTANCE TO
VULNERABLE
MIGRANTS**

**ANNUAL REPORT
OF ACTIVITIES 2011**



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Traffic on the road to Pailin, Cambodia, 2005

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

Assistance to Vulnerable Migrants	AVM
Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration	AVRR
Assisted Voluntary Return	AVR
Capacity Building	CB
Counter-Trafficking	CT
Country of Origin	CoO
Economic Community of West African States	ECOWAS
Employment Assistance Services	EAS
European Commission	EC
European Economic Area	EEA
European Migration Network	EMN
European Union	EU
International Committee of the Red Cross	ICRC
International Organization for Migration	IOM
Humanitarian Assistance for Stranded Migrants	HASM
Mercado Común del Sur	MERCOSUR
Migration Assistance Division	MAD
Non-Governmental Organization	NGO
Regional Office	RO
Return and Emigration of Asylum Seekers ex-Belgium	REAB
Regional Conference on Migration	RCM
Regional Office	RO
Screening Interview Form	SIF
Unaccompanied Migrant Children	UMC
United Nations Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking	UNIAP
United States	US
United Kingdom	UK
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SOUTH AMERICA

Profile of IOM Beneficiaries
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SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE, EASTERN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

Profile of IOM Beneficiaries
Age
Sex
Type of Exploitation
Type of Trafficking
Return Data
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FOREWORD

IOM continues to fight against the exploitation of migrants in all its forms, especially the severe human rights violations suffered by trafficked persons. Through the implementation of its Assistance to Vulnerable Migrants (AVM) programmes and projects, IOM has assisted more than 26,000 trafficked persons and exploited migrants since 1997.

In 2011, IOM implemented 220 AVM projects in 94 countries throughout the world. These projects included a broad range of activities, such as institutional capacity building, dialogue and cooperation, data collection and research, evaluations, and direct assistance to trafficked persons and exploited migrants.

In this first annual report of AVM activities, prepared by the Migrant Assistance Division (MAD), we will focus on IOM's direct assistance to trafficked persons and vulnerable migrants, in particular the provision of voluntary, safe, and sustainable return and reintegration assistance.

The report brings together internal data from more than 150 IOM Missions around the world in an effort to reflect our protection and assistance activities and to identify promising practices.

Irena Vojackova-Sollorano

Director, Department of Migration Management

TRAFICKING IN PERSONS AND MIGRANT EXPLOITATION: THE GLOBAL CONTEXT

While the global scale of human trafficking is difficult to quantify, an estimated 9 million people were subjected to this crime in the last ten years alone¹. Organized criminal groups are earning approximately 32 billion dollars² annually in profits from the exploitation of victims of trafficking - many of whom suffer severe violations to their human rights. Trafficked persons are often victims of rape, torture, debt bondage, unlawful confinement, and threats against their family or other persons close to them as well as other forms of physical, sexual and psychological violence. Trafficking in persons is, according to the Rome Statute, a crime against humanity.

Migrants, and particularly migrants in an irregular situation, are highly vulnerable to exploitation and abuse, but only a few are ever identified as victims of trafficking. During their journey, they risk injury and violence at the hands of smugglers and other criminal groups. Many also experience the hazards of unsafe travel in overcrowded boats, inside closed trucks, atop trains, or on foot through the desert. Others are left stranded en route, abandoned by smugglers or unable to continue their journey due to injury, illness, or crimes committed against them. Criminal groups in several parts of the world have expanded their realm of activity to include kidnapping migrants in order to extort large sums of money from relatives abroad. In some cases, human organs have been forcibly removed from those unable to pay. Upon arrival at destination, migrants risk exploitation and abuse because of the frequency with which they are employed in unregulated or informal-sector activities by employers. Women and children, in particular, are subjected to gender-based violence throughout the migration process.

The demand for cheap labour and sexual services is a principle root cause of human trafficking and these related abuses. Other factors, and notably common migration push factors such as relative poverty, underdevelopment, and lack of equal opportunity, contribute to exacerbating the vulnerability of many aspirant migrants. Overly restrictive immigration policies also increase levels of vulnerability by enlarging the pool of migrants in an irregular situation and leaving them inadequately protected and at the mercy of criminal groups and unscrupulous employers. Although migrants are often aware of the inherent risks and dangers of irregular migration, a dearth of viable opportunities at home and the near absence of safe and regular migration channels leave them with little choice.



Xiomara Blanco. "No Más Trata de Personas." IOM Costa Rica

1- ILO. Global Estimate of Forced Labour. 2012. Available at www.ilo.org/sapfl/Informationresources/ILOPublications/WCMS_181953/lang--en/index.htm.
2- ILO. A Global Alliance Against Forced Labour. 2005. Available at www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/@ed_norm/@declaration/documents/publication/wcms_081882.pdf.

Preventing Trafficking

Traditional IOM efforts to prevent human trafficking focused on raising awareness among aspirant migrants in countries of origin about the risks of irregular migration and human trafficking. These efforts were rooted in the hope that aspirant migrants, upon learning of the dangers inherent in irregular migration, would either decide to explore legal migration opportunities or refrain from migrating as a means of self-preservation. But whether the desired behaviour change is likely to follow from the dissemination of such messages has always been questioned, especially in contexts where aspirant migrants see few, if any, viable alternatives. Other types of prevention initiatives have since followed, including whistle-blower campaigns to educate the general public about trafficking at destination points while encouraging individuals to report suspected incidents; campaigns to empower migrants with information about how they can protect themselves once they have arrived at their intended destination, and; campaigns to promote a more positive image of migrants and educate the public on the benefits of migration as a means of undermining xenophobia and other anti-social attitudes which allow trafficking to flourish.

IOM's latest innovation is **Buy Responsibly**, a campaign to encourage consumers to ask 'what's behind the things we buy', and to work with private companies to eliminate trafficking and the exploitation of migrant workers throughout their supply chains.

IOM'S APPROACH: PROTECTION THROUGH ASSISTANCE

Trafficking in persons is not an isolated phenomenon. It is inextricably linked to broader international migration dynamics, "including the interests, capacities, and structures of nation states, civil society and international organizations, private companies and criminal groups as well as those of migrants themselves."³ As the world's leading organization on international migration, IOM, through its Migration Assistance Division (MAD), approaches human trafficking with a principal emphasis of effectively contributing to protecting and assisting migrants in need, including those who have been trafficked, exploited, and abused⁴, in cooperation with its national governments and civil society partners.

Trafficking in persons is a crime against humanity, and its victims suffer a wide range of human rights abuses. In working for their effective protection, the MAD approach concentrates on programming which restores the rights of trafficked persons and other vulnerable migrants through the provision of humanitarian and other forms of direct assistance.

Rights-based Direct Assistance

MAD direct assistance projects aim to protect trafficked persons from torture, slavery, and forced and compulsory labour, and so uphold the right to life, as well as the rights to adequate food, and clothing, and housing⁵ by establishing and maintaining shelters, together with government and non-governmental partners. In the absence of trafficking-specific shelters, IOM works with its government and non-government partners to identify the most appropriate accommodation available that meets the minimum standards outlined in chapter 4 of the IOM Handbook on Direct Assistance for Victims of Trafficking (2007).

3-Danziger, Richard, Jonathan Martens, and Mariela Guajardo. "Human Trafficking and Migration Management" in *Strategies Against Human Trafficking: The Role of the Security Sector*. National Defense Academy and Austrian Ministry of Defense and Sports, 2009.

4-IOM Migrant Assistance Division. *Migrant Assistance Division (MAD) Strategy – 2013 – 2017*. Unpublished.

5-These rights are guaranteed under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) Art. 5, 4, 3 and 25 respectively. Available at: <http://www.un.org/en/documents/udhr/index.shtml>.

6-IOM. *The IOM Handbook on Direct Assistance to Victims of Trafficking*. 2007. Available at: http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/free/IOM_Handbook_Assistance.pdf.

Key among these is the requirement that a beneficiary's participation in a shelter programme be on a voluntary basis, and for this reason the MAD approach requires that shelters be open facilities.

The MAD approach also prioritizes medical and psychosocial support so that its beneficiaries enjoy the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health⁷; a key challenge given the trauma experienced by many trafficked persons⁸. IOM's 2009 publication, ***Caring for Trafficked Persons***, outlines the 12 key ethical and human rights standards that are to be integrated into all aspects of health care for trafficked and exploited persons⁹.

Another feature of MAD programming is the availability of assisted voluntary return (AVR), which is a key tool in helping trafficked persons realize the right of each person to return to his or her country. AVR is also intended to uphold the right to a safe return¹⁰, and to achieve this AVR programmes include pre-departure, transit, and reception assistance upon arrival, as well as continual risk assessment throughout the entirety of the process. In cases in which the victim is an unaccompanied migrant child, the AVR concept also requires that a family assessment be conducted to ensure that family members were not involved in child trafficking and that they have the interest and means to receive and care for the child. It also explicitly requires that the return be voluntary, and provides pre-return counselling to ensure that trafficked persons and other vulnerable migrants have sufficient information to make an informed decision about whether to return. When working with unaccompanied migrant children, AVR projects also require that: a competent child protection authority has established that return is in the child's best interest, and; that legal guardians are involved both in country of destination and in country of origin.

Integration and reintegration support are essential in promoting the rehabilitation of trafficked persons and other vulnerable migrants and reducing the risks of re-trafficking¹¹.



Xiomara Blanco "No más Trata de Personas" IOM Costa Rica Campaign

IOM continues to promote dialogue and cooperation on protection of vulnerable migrants and counter-trafficking efforts at a local, national, regional and international level. Such initiatives included facilitating national and regional CT Taskforces, developing inter-institutional victim identification and assistance mechanisms, promoting regional protection initiative in the framework of Regional Consultative Processes (RCPs) and Regional Bodies, and participating in international initiatives and coordination mechanisms, including UNGIFT and Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT). In 2011, ICAT agreed to jointly develop policy papers on five priority issues at the core of the anti-trafficking debate, focusing effective counter-trafficking efforts and improved approaches.

7- IOM Migrant Assistance Division. Migrant Assistance Division (MAD) Strategy – 2013 – 2017. Unpublished.

8- Zimmerman, Cathy and Rosilyne Borland. *Caring for Trafficked Persons: Guidance for Health Providers*. IOM, 2009.

Available at: http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/index.php?main_page=product_info&products_id=510.

9- Ibid.

10- This right is guaranteed under the United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime (2000) Art. 6, 8 and 12.

Available at: http://www.uncjin.org/Documents/Conventions/dcatoc/final_documents_2/convention_%20traff_eng.pdf.

11- Jobe, Alison. *The Causes and Consequences of Re-Trafficking: Evidence from the IOM Human Trafficking Database*. IOM, 2010.

Available at: http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=41_7&products_id=684.

Not only does re/integration support further enable enjoyment of the right to a safe return in cases in which the beneficiary has decided to return, it contributes to upholding a beneficiary's rights to work under just and favourable conditions¹², the right to an adequate standard of living¹³, and the right to education¹⁴, as well as restoring his or her right to family life¹⁵. Furthermore, the MAD approach recognizes the uniqueness of each beneficiary's experience and aims to provide the individually-tailored support required to ensure his or her sustainable well-being. Often this will include support for employment counselling and job placement activities, educational development or vocational training, income generating initiatives, family mediation, and/or financial assistance to support family and/or community development.

Many MAD programmes include legal support for trafficked persons migrants in countries of destination and/or origin, often as a means of ensuring the respect for a beneficiary's other rights, including additional status-related rights to which victims of trafficking, in particular, are increasingly entitled under regional or national law. In an administrative or criminal context, this generally consists of the provision of information on relevant court proceedings¹⁶. IOM may also help trafficked persons and exploited migrants realize the right to remedy by ensuring access to legal counsel if the beneficiary intends to pursue a civil claim against, for example, an unscrupulous employer.

All IOM programmes, including MAD programmes, adhere to IOM Data Protection Principles and Guidelines to ensure that a beneficiary's privacy rights are upheld throughout the direct assistance process. These require IOM to collect and manage the personal data of its beneficiaries in a manner that is consistent with *inter alia* the principles of consent and confidentiality throughout the direct assistance process.

Key Challenges

The proper identification of migrants as victims of trafficking remains the most enduring challenge to their effective protection, both for IOM and its government and civil society partners. It is the essential first step to ensuring that the rights of trafficked persons are respected.

Building Capacities to Prevent, Protect, and Prosecute

IOM also works to build the capacities of other actors, including national governments and civil society organizations, to combat trafficking in persons. A large part of this effort is concentrated on training criminal justice actors, including immigration and border management officials, police officers, and labour inspectors, as well as prosecutors and judges. IOM's global experience in working both with trafficked and exploited migrants, as well as national migration officials, has given it considerable insight into the diversity of challenges faced by front-line law enforcement personnel in particular.

IOM also regularly contributes to the development of national law and policy on trafficking in persons, including advising on participating in many national referral systems. Equally important is its focus on building cross border partnerships between national law enforcement agencies. With its global presence, IOM supports the organization of bi-lateral and multi-lateral cooperation at political and operational levels, and encourages information sharing across borders.

12-United Nations General Assembly. International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. 1966. Art. 6, 7.

Available at: <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/law/ceschr.htm>.

13-Ibid. Art. 11(1).

14-Ibid. Art. 13(1, 2).

15-Ibid. Art. 10 (1, 2); Council of Europe. European Social Charter. 1996. Art. 16.

Available at: <http://www.coe.int/T/DGHL/Monitoring/SocialCharter/Presentation/ESCRBooklet/English.pdf>.

16-United Nations General Assembly. United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime. 2000. Art. 6(2)(a).

Available at: http://www.uncjin.org/Documents/Conventions/dcatoc/final_documents_2/convention_%20traff_eng.pdf.

IOM's identification process is facilitated by a standardized screening form, which is based on article 3 of UN Trafficking Protocol¹⁷. Structured according to the 'action, means, purpose' analytical framework commonly used to interpret the UN Trafficking Protocol definition of the crime¹⁸, the screening form seeks to capture information about recruitment tactics, expectations at the time of recruitment, means of transportation, means of control, and exploitation experienced, if any. This individual case data is then uploaded onto IOM's Global Human Trafficking Database. The IOM screening form a comprehensive and well-tested tool that has been adopted and adapted by many governments and non-governmental organizations around the world.

In practice, IOM caseworkers generally have a limited time, often a single interview, during which to screen a migrant and make a decision about their status. But a single interview is often insufficient to make a conclusive determination. Migrants who have been trafficked, or who have otherwise experienced exploitation and abuse, may not remember or have knowledge of all the factors that are required to make a positive identification. They may be mistrustful of protection actors like IOM, and may be afraid to speak openly lest they invite the retribution of their traffickers. They may also fear becoming involved in a criminal justice process.

Widespread ratification of the UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, has resulted in a significant increase in national legislation which has *inter alia* served to enhance protection for trafficked persons in many countries. While this is generally a positive development, it has also created an increasingly large protection gap between those migrants who are formally identified as victims of trafficking, and other highly vulnerable migrants who have suffered exploitation, extortion, and physical and psychological abuse, particularly those migrants in an irregular situation.

In adhering to the Protocol's definition as the eligibility standard for IOM direct assistance projects, many caseworkers are confronted with a recurring challenge of being unable to address the needs of migrants who had been abused or exploited (or who were highly vulnerable) but who could not be identified as victims of trafficking according to article 3.

In response to challenges of victim identification, MAD has encouraged a broadening of the eligibility criteria of IOM direct assistance projects to include 'victims of trafficking, exploitation, and abuse', as well as of those migrants who are considered highly vulnerable to such abuses, such as unaccompanied migrant children.

GAF

IOM's Global Assistance Fund (GAF) is an emergency support mechanism that provides case-specific assistance to men, women, and children who have been trafficked across international borders, and who are not eligible for assistance through comparable regional or national-level projects. Funded by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Population, Refugees, Migration (PRM) and Nippon Fund, GAF has provided direct assistance to more than 1,499 victims of trafficking since its inception in 2000 and serves an increasingly diverse range of beneficiaries every year.

In 2011, GAF remained a major resource in the provision of emergency humanitarian assistance to 157 victims of trafficking.

17-The UN Protocol defines the crime of 'trafficking in persons', but does not offer a definition of a victim of trafficking.

18-United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking. Human Trafficking: Everybody's Business. Available at: http://www.ungift.org/docs/ungift/pdf/Human_Trafficking_-_Everybody's_Business.pdf.

Known as the ‘needs-first approach’, this re-focusing evolved from IOM’s experience in mixed migration contexts, in which people with varying motivations and reasons for migrating, use the same modes of transport, employ the services of the same smugglers and are exposed to the similar risks and abuses. ‘Needs-first’ projects includes victims of trafficking, but does not require that a migrant be formally identified as such to be eligible for direct assistance through an IOM counter-trafficking project. Instead, IOM caseworkers focus on assessing and addressing the specific needs of individual migrants¹⁹. In addition to serving a larger group of migrants who need help, the approach also improves IOM’s capacity to properly identify victims of trafficking, given that it allows for a prolonged process of direct assistance provision during which trafficking indicators are more likely to be revealed.

Project Funding to Counter Trafficking in Persons

In 2011, IOM continued its fight against trafficking in persons and migrant exploitation with the implementation of 220 specific projects in 94 countries throughout the world.

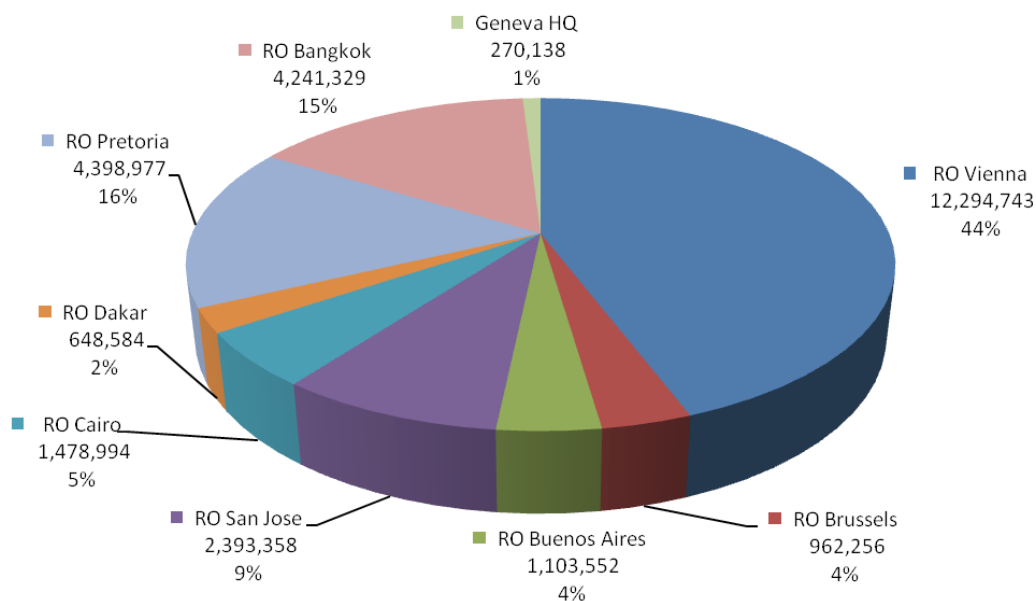
For these, IOM received USD 27,791,930 in funding from external sources. The top ten donors were the United States, Norway, Switzerland, the United Nations, Denmark, Italy, the European Commission, Colombia, Turkey, and Sweden.

Much of the funding received (44%) went to projects in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, and Central Asia (Figure 1). IOM’s East and Southern Africa and Asia-Pacific regions received 16% and 15% respectively, while Central and North America and the Caribbean received 9%.

Only 2% of donor funding went to support projects in West Africa in 2011.

In addition to its specific counter-trafficking projects, IOM also mainstreamed many counter-trafficking activities into its other areas of work in 2011, including Immigration and Border Management, Labour Migration, Health, and large-scale Emergency projects.

Figure 1: Funding Distribution by IOM Region, 2011*



¹⁹See, for example, NORAD, Evaluation of the International Organization for Migration and its Efforts to Combat Human Trafficking. 2010. Pg. 31.

*
 RO Bangkok / ASIA PACIFIC
 RO Brussels / EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA
 RO Buenos Aires / SOUTH AMERICA
 RO Cairo / MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA
 RO Dakar / WEST & CENTRAL AFRICA
 RO Pretoria / EAST & SOUTHERN AFRICA
 RO San Jose / CENTRAL & NORTH AMERICA & CARIBBEAN
 RO Vienna / EASTERN EUROPE, THE CAUCASUS & CENTRAL ASIA

IOM GLOBAL ASSISTANCE TRENDS IN 2011²⁰

IOM provided direct assistance to approximately 2,700 trafficked and exploited migrants in 2011, involving 5,498 distinct instances of assistance²¹. This represents a decline of 7% when compared with the number of people assisted in 2010.

Since 1997, IOM has provided direct assistance to approximately 26,000 trafficked and exploited migrants. Each individual is screened using the IOM Screening and Assistance forms, before the data is entered into the IOM Global Human Trafficking Database (GTD). The GTD is a case management tool that facilitates the management of all IOM direct assistance, movement and reintegration processes through a centrally managed system. Although its primary function is to facilitate case management, the GTD is the world's largest global database of primary data on trafficked persons and is increasingly valued for its research potential²². The GTD has been the basis for numerous research studies with considerable aggregate data available on more than 80 distinct variables, including: sex; age; type of exploitation experienced; whether the trafficking occurred in-country or crossed an international border; as well as the beneficiary's country of origin and the country of destination in which he or she was identified²³.

In 2011, the following observations can be made based on the 5,498 instances of assistance recorded by IOM country missions:

Nationality

IOM assisted more Ukrainian nationals than any other single nationality, with 835 instances of assistance recorded (Figure 1). This is consistent with previous years, and reflects the long-standing strength of IOM's counter-trafficking efforts in Ukraine and the plethora of government and non-government partnerships it has developed throughout the country. Nationals of Haiti (709), Yemen (378), Laos (359), Uzbekistan (292), Cambodia (258), Kyrgyzstan (213), Afghanistan (179), Belarus (141) and Ethiopia (122) were also assisted in large numbers in 2011.

Data Collection and Research

IOM's Global Human Trafficking Database is a key feature of its approach to data collection. By December 2011, the GTD contained primary data on 20,000 registered IOM beneficiaries in approximately 85 source countries and 100 destination countries. Based on the available data, the Division was the basis for two research reports in 2011: "Trafficking of Fishermen in Thailand, which was funded by the US State Department, and "Social return on investment of reintegration assistance provided to trafficked persons in Ukraine," which was supported by the Danish Foreign Ministry.

20-IOM Global Human Trafficking Database, 2011.

21-IOM country missions record a distinct 'instance of assistance' for each individual beneficiary assisted. Since many trafficked persons referred to IOM opt for AVRR, this means that most trafficked persons will be recorded twice – once by the IOM mission in the country of destination and again by the IOM mission in the country of origin. The approximate number of individual trafficked persons assisted by IOM 2011 is therefore estimated to be 2,700 – ie. half the number of instances of assistance recorded.

22-In its management of the GTD, IOM adheres strictly to its Data Protection Principles and Guidelines and maintains strict technological and procedural controls to protect the rights to privacy and confidentiality of all IOM beneficiaries.

23-The GTD is not able to confirm whether the number of migrants who are trafficked and exploited is increasing, decreasing, or remaining static. It only records instances of IOM assistance, and so carries an inherent bias in favour of countries in which IOM has been able to implement direct assistance projects consistently over a longer period of time.

Figure 1: Top 10 Nationalities Assisted, 2011

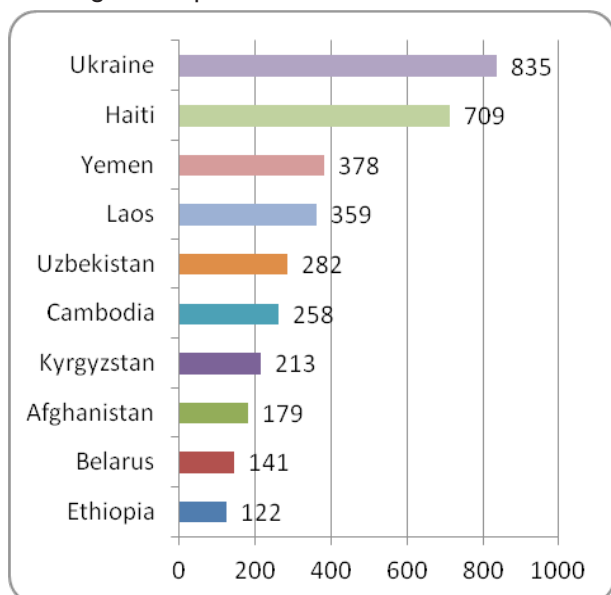
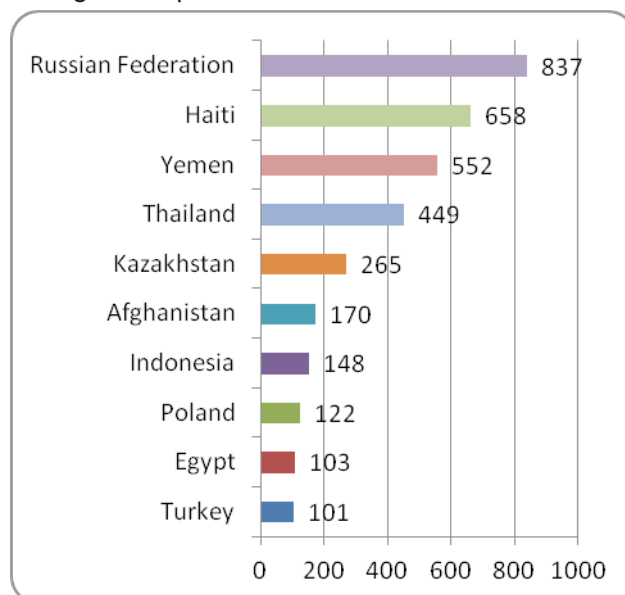


Figure 2: Top 10 Countries of Destination, 2011



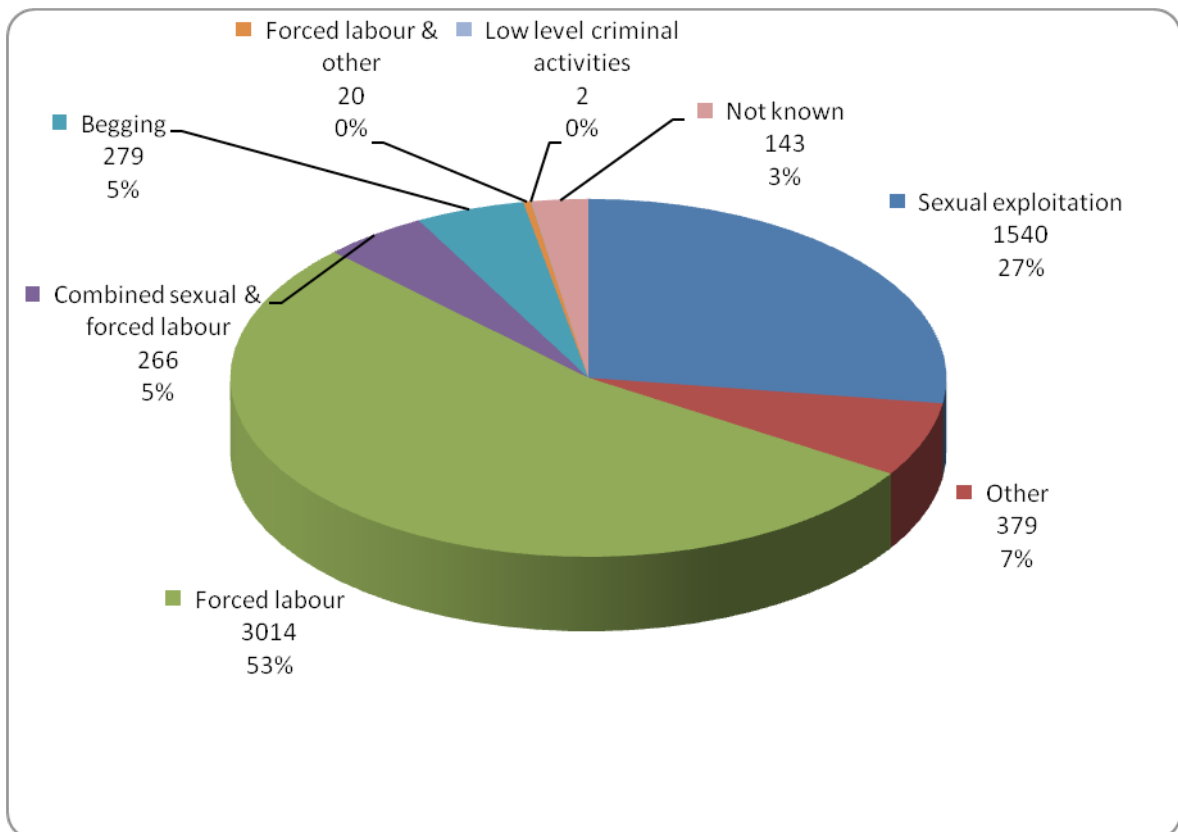
Country of Destination

The top ten countries of destination for human trafficking victims assisted by IOM in 2011 were the Russian Federation (837), Haiti (658), Yemen (552), Thailand (449), Kazakhstan (265), Afghanistan (170), Indonesia (148), Poland (122), Egypt (103) and Turkey (101).

Exploitation Type

In 2011, 53% of the cases assisted by IOM involved victims of labour trafficking, for whom 3,014 instances of assistance were recorded (Figure 3). This continues a trend that began in 2008, in which 2031 instances of assistance to victims of labour trafficking were recorded. By contrast, 27% of the cases assisted by IOM involved sex trafficking, with 1,540 instances of assistance recorded. This represents a decline of 17% from 1,866 instances of assistance recorded in 2008. The year 2010 was particularly notable as the first year in which IOM assisted more victims of labour trafficking than those who had been trafficked for purposes of sexual exploitation.

Figure 3: Exploitation Type, 2011

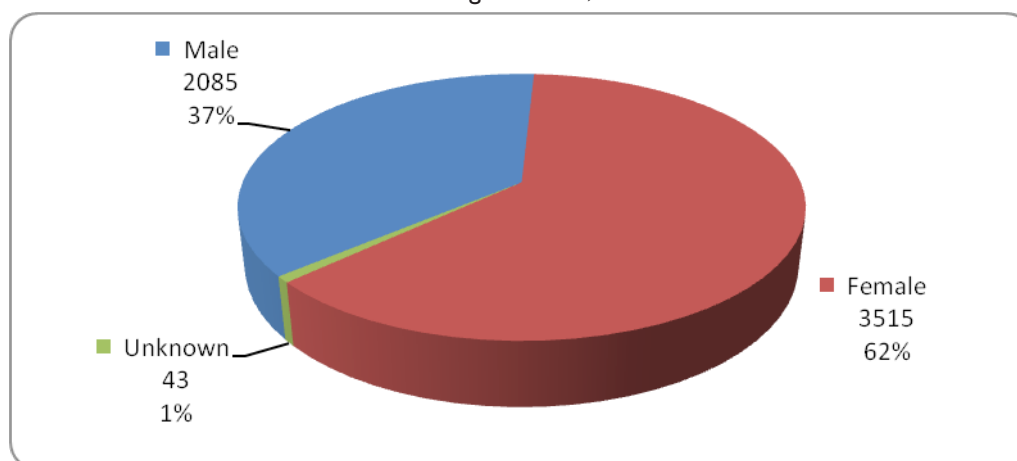


Labour trafficking is a feature of many economic sectors, particularly those requiring manual labour such as agriculture, construction, domestic work, fisheries, and mining. In many cases, this exploitation takes place under the guise of legal and contractual work, only for the conditions of work to be considerably different than the migrant was initially promised. IOM expects a continued increase in the assistance it provides to victims of labour trafficking for the foreseeable future; not because labour trafficking is more widespread or on a larger scale than previously but because there is greater awareness and a more concerted focus by IOM and the international community as whole, on identifying victims in these vulnerable industrial sectors.

Sex

2011 saw a 27% increase in the number of male victims assisted when compared to 2010. While the number of female cases remained stable at 3,515, compared to 3,404 in 2008, the number of instances of assistance provided to male victims rose from 1,656 to 2,040 (Figure 4). As suggested above, this change is due to the greater public attention being paid to sectors like construction, mining, and fisheries which attract a higher proportion of male labour migrants, when compared with the contexts of sexual exploitation where females are disproportionately represented.

Figure 4: Sex, 2011



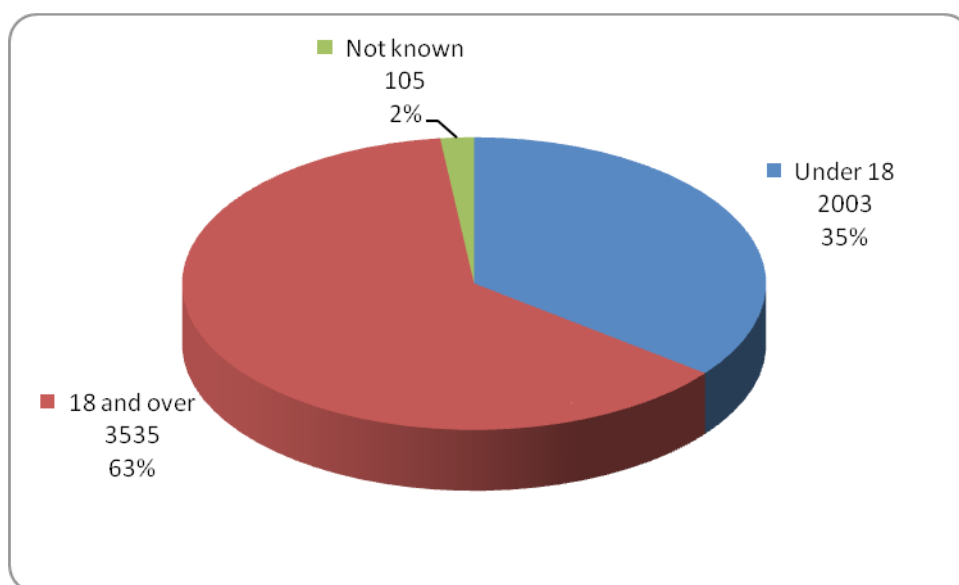
Women do, however, continue to represent the majority of trafficked persons receiving IOM assistance, making up nearly two thirds (62%) of cases assisted by IOM. This includes cases involving sexual exploitation, labour exploitation, and a combination of sexual and labour exploitation. While the proportion of male victims assisted by IOM is expected to continue to grow, IOM will continue to assist more women overall in the next few years. One key reason for this is that male migrants are more reluctant to seek and receive direct assistance after experiencing abuse or exploitation²⁴. More broadly, women continue to migrate in greater numbers, which increases the potential pool of those who will fall victim to a trafficker.

24-Surtees, Rebecca. Trafficking of Men, A Trend Less Considered: The case of Belarus and Ukraine. IOM, 2008.

Children

One clear trend in 2011 was the increase in the instances of assistance provided to children. In fact, instances of IOM assistance to trafficked children increased to 2,040 in 2011, up 27% from 1,565 in 2008. As shown in Figure 5 below, roughly a third (36%) of victims assisted were under the age of 18.

Figure 5: Children, 2011



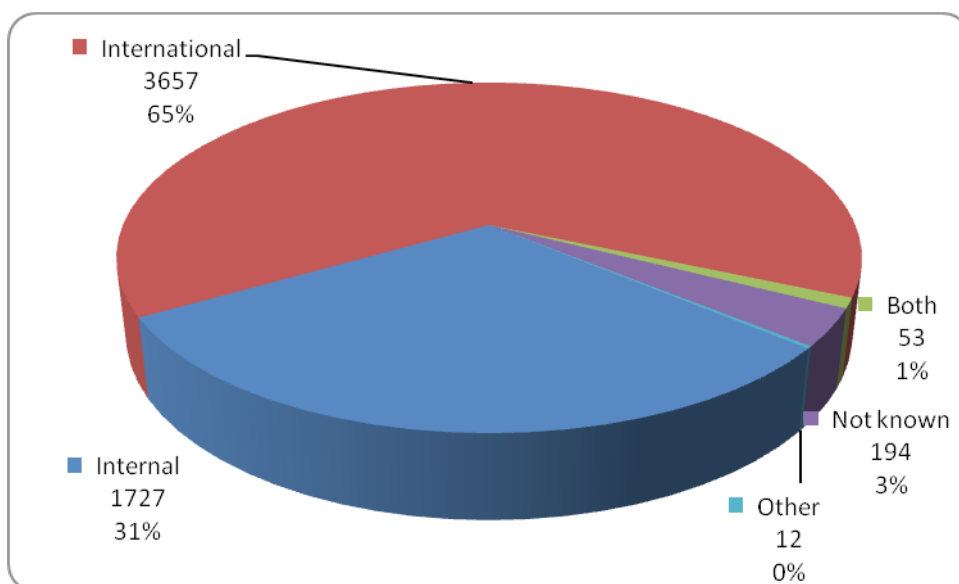
This increase may be explained in part by an increasing trend of children and adolescents to migrate alone in search of better opportunities or to reunite with family members abroad. Although migration of children can lead to improved economic and educational opportunities in some cases, it also exposes children to risks and abuse, including human trafficking. In 6 of the 8 IOM regions²⁵, children represent over 40% of the victims assisted by IOM. This trend is particularly prominent in Central America and the Caribbean (84%) as well as in West and Central Africa (59%).

25-See Annex 2 IOM Regional Offices.

Cross-Border vs. In-Country

IOM is increasingly assisting migrants who are trafficked within the borders of a single country. In 2011, the number of cases assisted in which the victim crossed an international border fell by 13%, to 3,531 from 4,066 in 2008. Internal cases, however, rose by 140 % from 713 in 2008 to 1,708.

Figure 6: Cross-border vs. In-country Trafficking, 2011



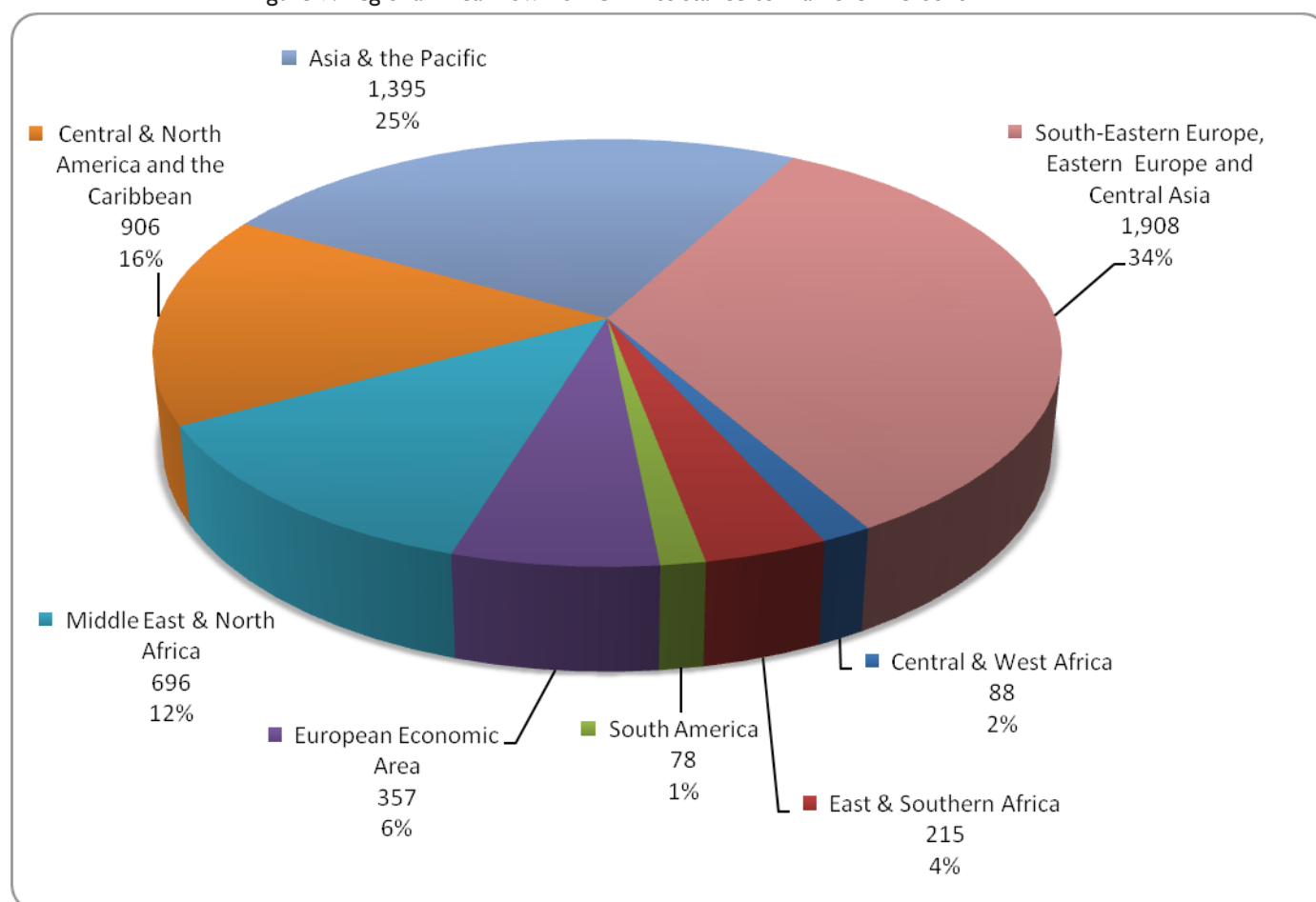
While it would be somewhat encouraging to be able to attribute the reduction in cross-border cases to improved international law enforcement cooperation, the reasons for this dramatic change are most probably internal to IOM; for example, the Organization remained greatly invested in post-earthquake Haiti in 2011 and assisted an unusually high number of internal cases because of its large field presence in this largely island nation.

Despite this change, IOM continued to provide more assistance (65%) in 2011 to migrants trafficked across international borders.

Assistance by IOM Region

More than one third (35%) of the cases assisted by IOM were assisted in the region of Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, and Central Asia. Another 23% were assisted in Asia and the Pacific, while Central and North America and the Caribbean saw IOM assist 16%, 13% in the Middle East and North Africa, 4% in the European Economic Area, 4% in East and South Africa, 2% in Central and West Africa and 1% in South America (Figure 7).

Figure 7: Regional Breakdown of IOM Assistance to Trafficked Persons



While the Asia-Pacific region is by far the most populous, and has been estimated to host the largest proportion of people living in forced labour situations²⁷, this regional breakdown is more generally reflective of the strength of IOM direct assistance programming than it is a reflection of the scale of the problem or an indication of direct assistance needs.

27-ILO. Global Estimate of Forced Labour. 2012.

Available at www.ilo.org/sapfl/Informationresources/ILOPublications/WCMS_181953/lang--en/index.htm

ASSISTED VOLUNTARY RETURN AND REINTEGRATION AS A PROTECTION OPTION

Respecting the right of a victim of trafficking or other crimes to return to his or her home country is a key feature of an effective protection response, as is ensuring that the return is safe and voluntary²⁸. Return carries inherent security risks that must be identified, assessed and mitigated. The risk posed to trafficked migrants by their exploiters often increases when they have managed to escape, interacted with law enforcement officials, or have testified in court. IOM and NGO caseworkers providing assistance also face such risks.

In cases in which a trafficked person has expressed a desire to return home, IOM conducts a risk assessment, and may then develop an individualized risk mitigation plan together with the beneficiary and relevant partners. Assuming the risks can be adequately mitigated, IOM can generally facilitate the return subject to the requirement that the decision to return is voluntary and based on his or her informed written consent.

IOM also works to ensure that a beneficiary's return is sustainable, and for this reason makes case-specific reintegration support an option for every trafficked migrant who chooses to return home. While not all beneficiaries wish to take advantage of the reintegration support available, IOM research has shown that reintegration assistance significantly reduces the risks of re-trafficking²⁹.

AVRR of a Trafficked Child, requires confirmation that:

- the child wishes to return home;
- the Best Interest Determination has been carried out by a credible child protection authority, and indicates that the return of the child is in his or her best interest, and;
- the child's legal guardian has been notified of his or her return and has the willingness and the means to receive and care for the child.

Respecting Protection Needs and Individual Preferences

Return to the country or community of origin is not always the best solution or the desired solution for the victim. Organizations working on behalf of victims therefore need to take into consideration that some trafficked persons may fear persecution or threats to their life or freedom in countries of origin and may thus be unable or unwilling to return. Victims who express an inability or unwillingness to return should be referred to asylum procedures or to other specific protection mechanisms for victims of trafficking in countries of destination or transit. Organizations may also wish to advocate on behalf of the victim for a longer stay in the country of destination or for permission to move to a third country, if that is the desire of the victim. Assistance providers should also keep in mind that return to the country of origin should not require that the victim return to the community of origin unless that is the victim's preference. If possible, services should be provided to assist the victim in relocating to a community of his or her choosing.

IOM Handbook on the Direct Assistance of Victims of Trafficking, 2007.

28-See United Nations General Assembly, United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime. 2000.

Available at: http://www.uncjin.org/Documents/Conventions/dcatoc/final_documents_2/convention_%20traff_eng.pdf. Also see Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Right and Human Trafficking. 2002.

Available at: <http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/Traffickingeng.pdf>.

29-Jobe, Alison. The Causes and Consequences of Re-Trafficking: Evidence from the IOM Human Trafficking Database. IOM, 2010.

Available at: http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=41_7&products_id=684.

A case-specific reintegration plan is discussed and decided upon together with the trafficked or exploited migrant based on his or her individual needs, desires, and skills as well as the options available (based on individual and situational reintegration assessment).

In many cases, IOM reintegration assessments will reveal that the resources available to effectively support reintegration assistance are not sufficient to ensure sustainability. Clear communication is essential for returning beneficiaries to understand the options available, appreciate the level of support to expect, and feel empowered to make an informed decision. In this regard, it is crucial that trafficked persons have access to sufficient information and contact with institutions that can help them make a decision regarding return and could assist them when in country of origin.

Resource constraints and capacity issues present challenges to the provision of the long-term support that is often necessary to promote a trafficked migrant's rehabilitation, especially in cases where an individual has returned home to a remote location. This creates an imperative for IOM to establish firm partnerships with a range of stakeholders and service providers at the community level that may be better positioned to monitor the reintegration process over the long term.

Reintegration Assistance in 2011

The aim of the reintegration process is to provide for a beneficiary's safe, dignified and sustainable reinsertion into society and a normalized life. Accordingly, the reintegration assistance provided to trafficked and exploited migrants can include a full range of services, from shelter assistance or other accommodation, medical and psychological care, social and legal counseling to reintegration grants, school reinsertion, and vocational training.

In 2011, most returning trafficking persons received some form of medical or legal assistance, with financial support also a common feature of reintegration assistance. Since returning trafficked persons have many needs, many receive multiple forms of assistance. At the same time, not all victims will need or want access to all of the services available.

Legal assistance was the most common form of support provided by IOM to trafficked persons who returned home, followed closely by medical assistance, and financial assistance (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Types Reintegration Assistance Provided to Trafficked Persons and Exploited Migrants

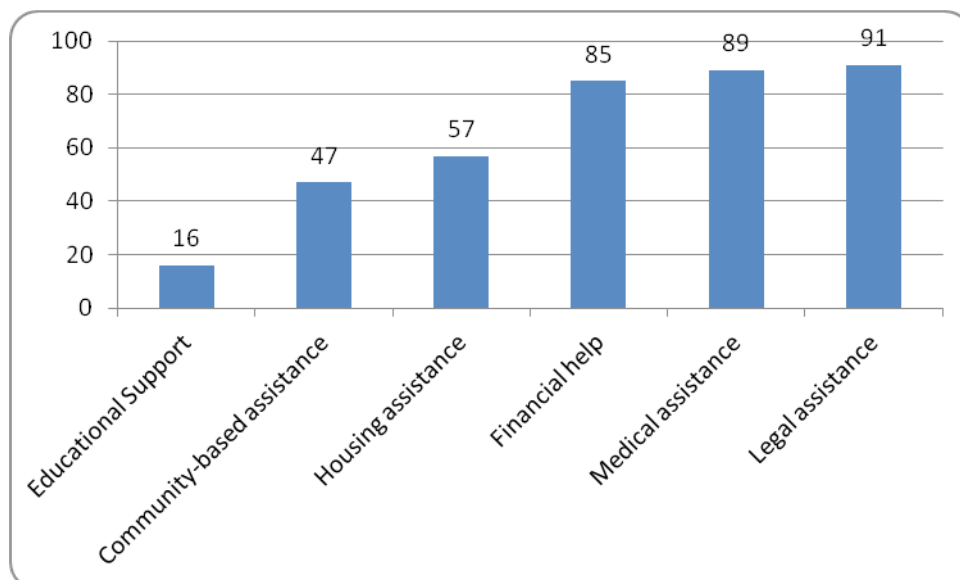
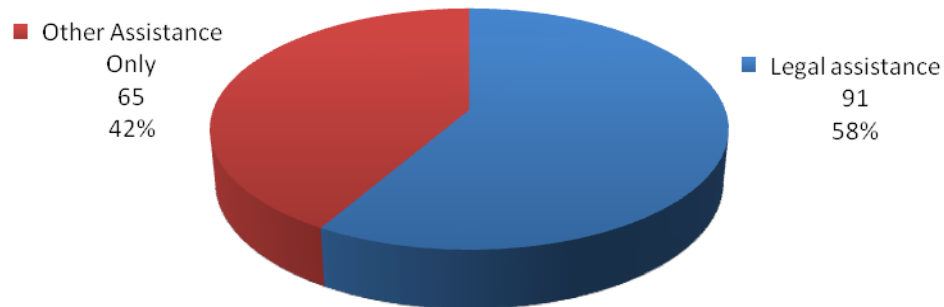


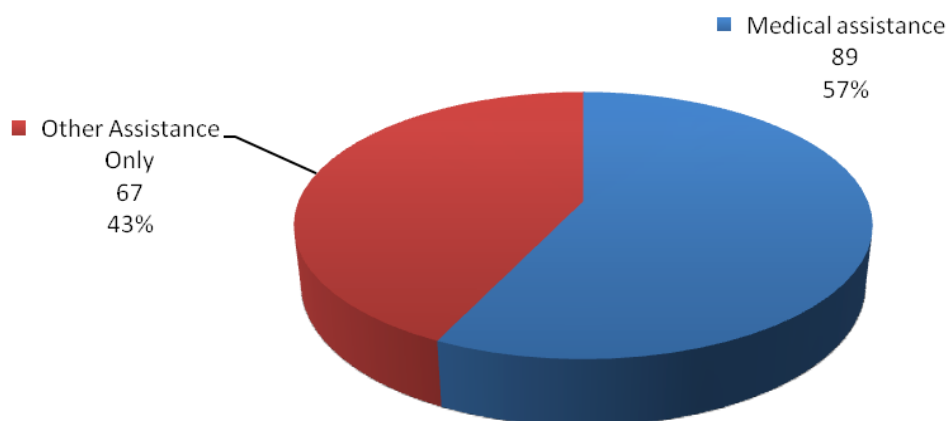
Figure 2: Legal Assistance



Of the trafficked persons who returned home and received some type of assistance, 58% received legal assistance, while 42% received other forms of reintegration assistance. Victims of trafficking may require continued legal assistance during the reintegration process regarding criminal proceedings or civil proceedings. Examples of the legal assistance provided to victims of human trafficking include:

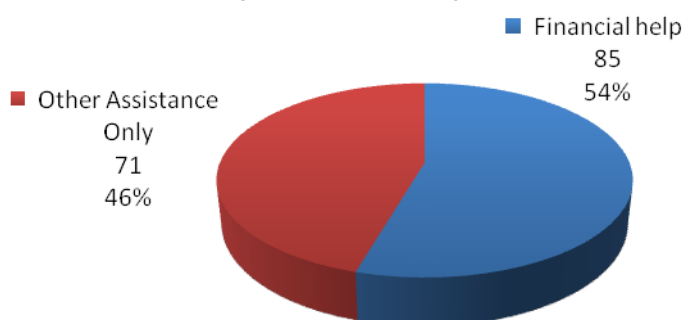
- Retrieval of passport and/or other identification papers
- Restitution of assets
- Compensation for loss and injuries or wages
- Visa applications or immigration proceedings

Figure 3: Medical Assistance



Of the victims of trafficking who receive reintegration assistance, 57% receive medical assistance. Many factors and experiences facing victims of trafficking, including violence, sexual assault, poor housing facilities etc, can lead to victims having wide-ranging health concerns. Among these are infections, post-traumatic stress disorder, Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD's), untreated injuries etc³⁰. For reintegration to succeed it is important to address both the victim's physical and mental well-being.

Figure 4: Financial Help

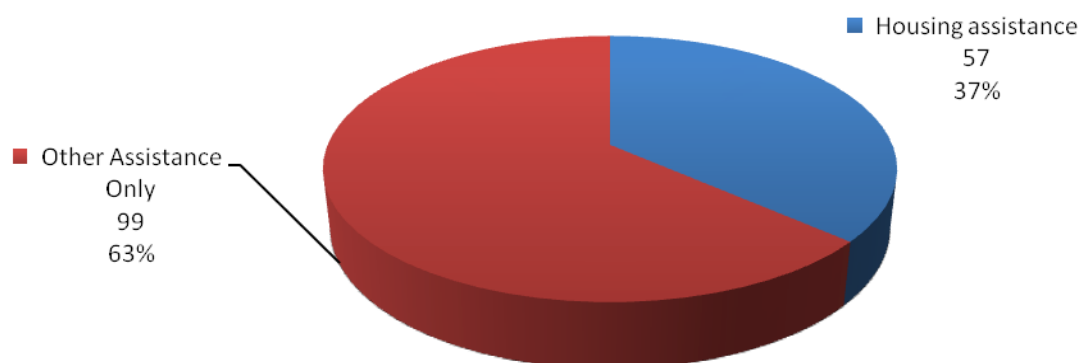


Of those receiving reintegration assistance, 54% received financial assistance. During the reintegration process, victims may have access to financial assistance in several forms, but this largely depends on the programs being operated by the assisting organization and amounts can vary widely³¹.

30-Zimmerman, Cathy and Rosilyne Borland. Caring for Trafficked Persons: Guidance for Health Providers. IOM, 2009. Pg. 19. Available at: http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/index.php?main_page=product_info&products_id=510.

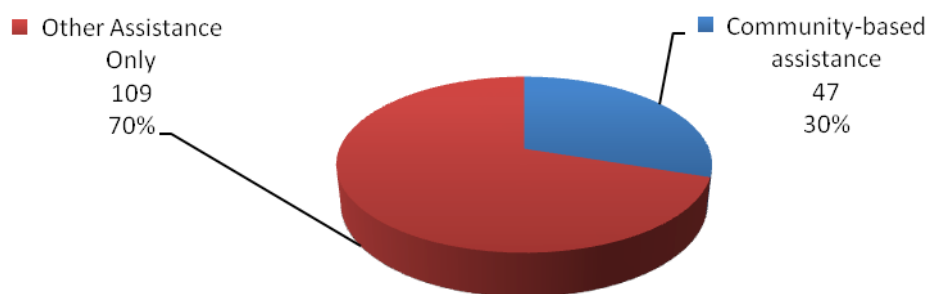
31-IOM. The IOM Handbook on Direct Assistance to Victims of Trafficking. 2007. Pg. 93-94. Available at: http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/free/IOM_Handbook_Assistance.pdf.

Figure 5: Housing Assistance

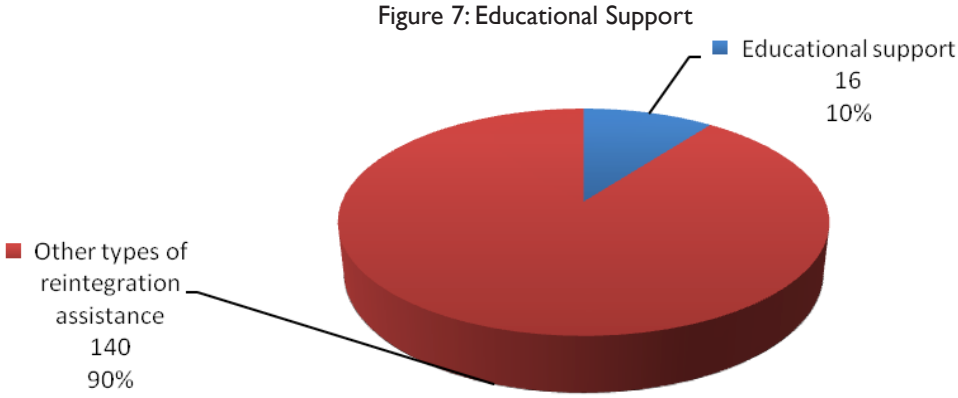


Of victims who received reintegration assistance, 37% received housing assistance. The availability and types of housing assistance will depend on the program structure in country, but can range from housing at rehabilitation centres, shelters or halfway houses. In some cases, a housing allowance may be available as part of a reintegration package³².

Figure 6: Community-Based Assistance



Community based assistance is a very broad term and can cover many types of assistance from establishing co-operatives, to assessing vocational opportunities based on the needs of the community. The main principle is to assess how best to help the victim to reintegrate within the community while recognizing the needs and resources available within that community. Community based assistance was provided to 30% of those receiving reintegration assistance.



Victims of trafficking have not always been able to finish their education. This can hinder them in obtaining work. For this reason, it is a priority to assist victims to complete their education, when possible³³. Of all victims receiving reintegration assistance, 10% received educational support.

33-IOM. The IOM Handbook on Direct Assistance to Victims of Trafficking. 2007. Pg. 96. Available at: http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/free/IOM_Handbook_Assistance.pdf.

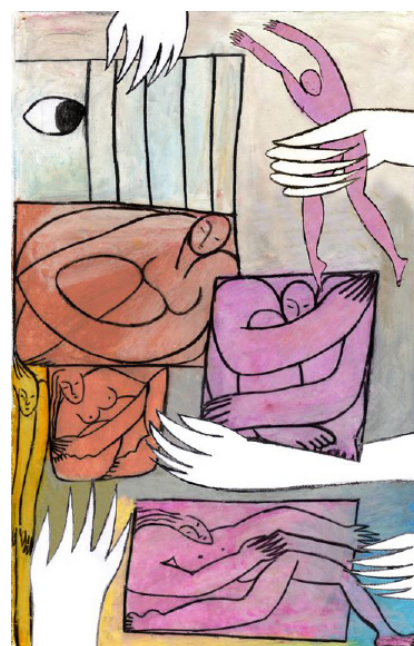
ASIA & THE PACIFIC

I. Regional Overview: Dynamics, Trends, and Profile of IOM Beneficiaries

The Asia-Pacific region hosts more than half of the world's population (3.7 billion persons)¹. The region generated 56 % of world GDP in 2010, and is characterized by dynamic and diverse forms of migration. The number of international migrants in Asia in 2010 was estimated at 27.5 million, which represented just fewer than 13 % of the total global figure². This number includes 4.3 million international migrants from South and Central Asia³. The Asia-Pacific region comprises not only major migrant countries of origin, but also traditional and emerging destination countries. Countries such as India and China have become simultaneously countries of origin, transit and destination, and three countries of the region belonged to the top recipient countries of recorded remittances (India, China and the Philippines)⁴. Widening north-south economic disparity coupled with demographic challenges continues to promote intra-regional migration⁵. At the same time, the region continues to host the largest number of refugees and displaced people in the world⁶, with Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran alone hosting 2.7 million Afghan refugees⁷

A significant share of the migratory flows in the Asia-Pacific region is irregular. The region hosts the largest undocumented flows of migrants in the world, mainly among neighbouring countries⁸. Irregular migration routes are not only intra-regional but extend beyond the region. Some of these movements are supported by smugglers, who may be engaged in transnational organized crime including trafficking in persons (TiP).

Through its 27 country offices IOM offers assistance, protection and voluntary return to victims of trafficking. Figure 1 below shows that in the region a total of 1395 cases were assisted in 2011 (39% of which were under 18 years of age). In the South Asia Subregion IOM assisted a total of 390⁹, whilst in East Asia and the Pacific 1005 cases were assisted¹⁰. The region as a whole has three out of the top ten countries of origin in the world (Laos (4), Cambodia (6), Afghanistan (8)) and three out of the top ten countries of destination for victims, Thailand (4), Afghanistan (6), Indonesia (7).



1-UNFPA. 2009. Asia and the Pacific at a Glance. Accessed 18 July 2012 at: <http://asiapacific.unfpa.org/webdav/site/asiapacific/shared/Publications/2009/AP%20at%20a%20Glance.pdf>

2-IOM. 2010. World Migration Report 2010.

3-The IOM Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific provides support to 27 country offices in Australia, the Pacific, East and South-East Asia and South and South-West Asia, excluding Central Asia which is covered by the Regional Office in Vienna.

4-World Bank: Migration and Remittances Factbook 2011.

5-Global Forum on Migration and Development 2011 Thematic Meeting. From Evidence to Action-Facilitating South-South Labour Migration for Development: Opportunities and challenges of South-South labour migration Background paper. 2011. Accessed 22 August 2012 at: http://gfmd.org/documents/switzerland/abuja/gfmd_swiss11_abuja_background_paper.pdf; IOM. 2011. World Migration Report 2011. pg. 68.

6-Numbers rising from 2.9 million in 2005 to 3.9 million in 2010, accounting for almost a quarter of the world's refugees. IOM. 2010. World Migration Report 2010.

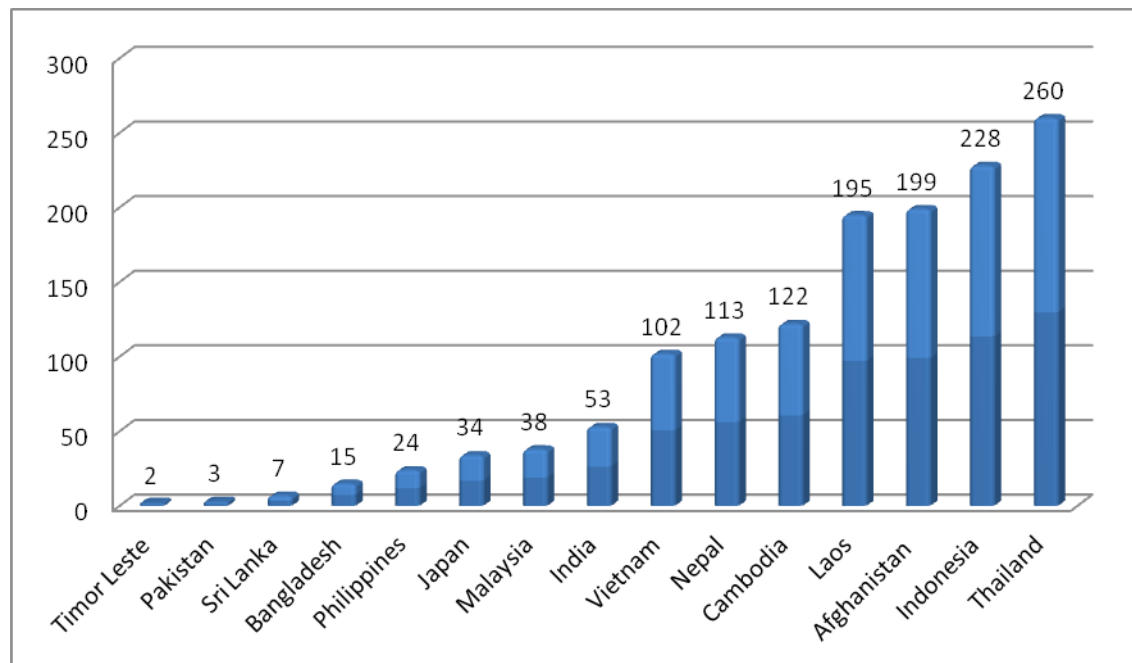
7-UNHCR 2012. Regional Operations Profile - South-West Asia. Accessed 18 July 2012 at: <http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49e45af26.html>.

8-World Bank: Migration and Remittances Factbook 2011.

9-South Asia: Afghanistan 199, Bangladesh 15, India 53, Nepal 113, Pakistan 3, Sri Lanka 7;

10-East Asia and the Pacific: Cambodia 122, Indonesia 228, Japan 34, Laos 195, Malaysia 38, Philippines 24, Thailand 260, Timor Leste 2, Vietnam 1032.

Figure 1: IOM Assistance to Trafficked Persons, 2011



East and South-East Asia

South-East Asia has long been recognized as a significant source of trafficking in persons. Sub-regional characteristics, such as high levels of irregular migration, lengthy land borders and disparities in economic, employment and education opportunities, enable the trafficking of people. The Greater Mekong Sub-Region (GMS)¹¹ is an area that experiences significant movements of populations across borders. Laos is a country of origin for trafficking. Of the 195 victims that received IOM assistance in 2011, 185 were female and were all exploited in neighbouring Thailand. Of the 195 victims, 108 were subject to sexual exploitation (forced prostitution). The remaining 77 (67 men and 10 women) were in domestic work (52), in-house factories (28), agriculture (3), and other (4).

Of the 122 cases assisted by IOM in Cambodia in 2011, 114 were male victims. The men were returned from Indonesia (69), Malaysia (26), and as far afield as Mauritius (24). One victim was returned from Timor Leste. The majority returned with IOM assistance through the Cambodian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and most received reintegration assistance upon arrival from IOM and NGOs. This highlights another important issue in South-East Asia: the prevalence of labour trafficking, exemplified by the trafficking of fishermen¹².

11-The GMS is formed by six states in South-East Asia: Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, Viet Nam and Yunnan Province in China. These states are aiming at enhanced cooperation in counter-trafficking through COMMIT (Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Trafficking (COMMIT)).
12-http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=41_7&products_id=720

Cambodian women and children are also trafficked internally and to neighboring countries such as Thailand, China, Malaysia and Vietnam to work as domestic workers, beggars and in the sex industry¹³.

Indonesia is both a source and receiving country for trafficking of persons in the region. Suffering from a high poverty rate¹⁴, Indonesia has become a main source country of low-skilled labour migrants, mostly women, working in the informal sector. 81% of the 3,943 victims assisted since 2005 were trafficked overseas (mostly to Malaysia) and nearly 76% were recruited through agents - including agents of legally registered recruitment companies (29%). In 2011, IOM assisted 228 victims of trafficking in Indonesia with more than half of the victims being Indonesian nationals (120), 66 from Cambodia, and 36 from Myanmar.

Thailand is a source, transit and destination country for human trafficking. It is a hub for exploitation in the Greater Mekong Subregion. Both internal and cross-border trafficking occurs in and from Thailand for sex and labour exploitation. Thailand continues to attract significant numbers of irregular migrants fleeing poverty, conflict and persecution; refugees and asylum-seekers; unaccompanied minors left alone as a result of conflict; women who are trafficked for sexual exploitation; and children for begging in its capital, Bangkok, and the country's main tourist locations. Thais are trafficked to wealthier countries in East Asia, the Middle East, and Europe. Rural to urban internal migration and trafficking prevails as well. The 2011 IOM report, *Trafficking of Fishermen in Thailand*¹⁵, highlights the severe maltreatment, abuse and trafficking of men in the Thai fishing industry.

In Japan, a country of destination for trafficking, all 35 victims assisted by IOM were adult females from Indonesia (13), the Philippines (12), Thailand (9) and China (1). Seventeen of the victims entered Japan with an entertainer's visa, 14 entered with a temporary visitor's visa, and 4 with a spouse visa. Traffickers favour using a spouse visa because it does not carry restrictions on work and activities and can be extended indefinitely as long as the marriage is not dissolved.

Malaysia is a destination country for migrants from Myanmar, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, India, Laos, Thailand, Nepal, Philippines, Bangladesh and Vietnam. The country continues to grapple with the challenges of managing its migrant population effectively. There are an estimated two million documented and two million undocumented foreign workers in Malaysia¹⁶.

13-IOM 2008: Situation Report on International Migration in East and South-East Asia.

14-Out of a population of 234 million, more than 32 million Indonesians currently live below the poverty line and approximately half of all households remain clustered around the national poverty line. World Bank. Indonesia Overview.

Accessed 18 July 2012 at: <http://www.worldbank.org/en/country/indonesia/overview>.

15-http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=41_7&products_id=720

16-United States Department of State. 2012. Trafficking in Persons Report, p. 234.

Of the 38 victims assisted by IOM in Malaysia in 2011, 17 were victims of sex trafficking and 16 of labour trafficking. A further 2 women were exploited as domestic workers. It seems that significant numbers of African women are being trafficked into Malaysia, showing a new trend. This is supported by the fact that of the 38 victims assisted in 2011, 14 were women from Uganda, including two of the victims' children¹⁷.

Despite the fact that no cases were assisted in 2011, it is worth noting that trafficking of women from Mongolia to other countries remains a serious problem, especially to neighbouring countries of P.R. China, Hong Kong and Macau SARs, as well as Korea. Trafficking cases of Mongolians to Russia, Turkey, Kazakhstan, and Czech Republic have also been recorded. There were also several reported cases of foreigners trafficked into Mongolia in 2011/2012¹⁸.

South and South-West Asia

Every year, over 1.5 million workers migrate abroad from South Asia alone, mostly to the Gulf region to perform low-skilled, temporary work. In the labour migration context, all countries in the South and South-West Asia Subregion are major countries of origin, while India and Pakistan are also classified as countries of destination and transit and to a much lesser degree Bangladesh, Bhutan, the Maldives, and Sri Lanka¹⁹. Migration from South Asia to Europe is mostly composed of high-skilled migrants. Due to porous borders in the subregion, there is a trend of irregular, undocumented movements, involving many risks for migrants, including labour exploitation and human trafficking. Labour trafficking of both men and women is believed to be on the rise from the region despite greater awareness to the exploitation and risk involved.

In the region, Nepal is considered solely as a country of origin for trafficking. Factors contributing to labour migration in general and trafficking in particular include lack of education and awareness, gender discrimination and gender-based violence, lack of desirable and sustainable employment opportunities for women, forced internal migration due to a decade long insurgency, an open and unregulated border with India, and the absence of appropriate cross border and sub-regional mechanisms²⁰. Of the 113 victims assisted in 2011 a total of 47 were trafficked for sexual exploitation, however 77 were trafficked for combined sexual exploitation and forced labour. Nine of the victims were children. A total of 81 were trafficked internally and 32 internationally, 27 of whom were returned from India and 5 from the Middle East.

17-In early 2012, there have been questions raised on the trend of rising Ugandan victims in Malaysia, which was picked up by international press. However, no official figures were made available, although some news agencies (in March 2012) quoted the figure of 600 Ugandan women forced into prostitution in Malaysia, this figure is unconfirmed and not corroborated by the authorities.

18-IOM 2008. Situation Report East and South-East Asia.

19-United States Department of State. 2012. Trafficking in Persons Report. Washington, DC.

20-Nepal and India employ a visa-free regime. However, there is no MoU and no SOPs in place to address the problem of human trafficking between the two countries. The SAARC convention provides grounds for effective regional cooperation in counter-trafficking, but the Regional Task Force overseeing the implementation of the regional SAARC convention is not an independent treaty monitoring body, as it consists mainly of government workers from the member states.

In **Afghanistan**²¹, IOM assisted 212 victims of trafficking in 2011. 49 victims of sexual exploitation (12 males, 37 females), 100 forced into labour, mostly in factories and on construction sites (80 males, 20 females), with the remaining being victims of domestic servitude and forced marriage. The main flow of cross-border trafficking is perceived to be from Afghanistan to Iran and Pakistan.

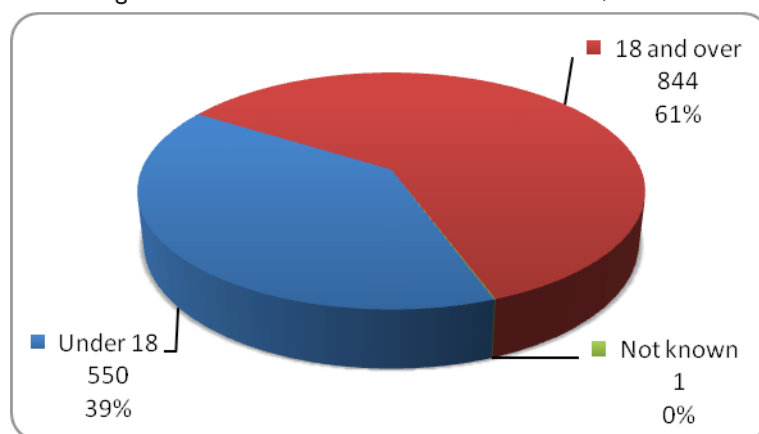
Profile of IOM Beneficiaries

Migrant Children

In the Asia Pacific Region, family-related factors, such as family breakdown, domestic violence, substance abuse, child abuse and neglect, and the low status and role of children, all contribute to increased vulnerability of children, who often lack adequate care and support within the family environment. Of particular concern are cultural contexts where children are viewed as 'possessions or commodities for economic gain'. It is in such circumstances, where children are in 'relatively powerless positions' that children may be trafficked in payment for a debt²².

Figure 2 shows that, in fact 39% of IOM assistance to trafficked persons in this region was provided to children in 2011, which amounts to 550 trafficked children in the region. As with adults, the majority of child trafficking in Asia is known to be intra-regional – from less developed to more developed countries.

Figure 2: IOM Assistance to Trafficked Children, 2011



21-Afghanistan's geography – it shares borders with six countries, many of which are nearly impossible to police, with inaccessible terrain and tribal links that pre-date existing borders – and the displacement of its population contributes to trafficking. Without modern border management techniques and with under-resourced law enforcement, human traffickers and smugglers can often cross borders freely. Finally, the growth of opium poppy production and the narcotics trade has contributed to the establishment of sophisticated cross-border criminal networks, willing to smuggle people as well as drugs across the country's porous borders.

22-There has been some analysis of trafficking of children in Asia, where trafficking persists despite significant prevention efforts, however, comparatively little is known about trafficking in the Pacific. Given that over one-third of the population in the Pacific region is under 15 years of age, anecdotal reports of circumstances which may amount to trafficking raise concerns for the large youth population in the Pacific Islands.

In **South-East Asia**, particularly in the GMS, Cambodian children are trafficked to Thailand (especially Bangkok) and Vietnam (especially Ho Chi Minh City) to beg, sell sweets or flowers, or shine shoes. A new trend in child trafficking sees human trafficking rings using Thailand as a transit country to send Lao girls to Malaysia where they are sold into prostitution. In 2011, police raids in Thailand freed Lao girls who had been trafficked as sex workers to brothels in Thailand²³.

In **Vietnam**, IOM assisted and returned a total of 70 Cambodian children trafficked for the purpose of begging, the vast majority of whom had been trafficked from the Cambodian border province of Svay Rieng. In 2010, with IOM support, the governments of Cambodia and Viet Nam, signed developed Cambodia-Vietnam Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the Identification and Repatriation of Victims of Trafficking²⁴. However, whilst the SOPs represent an excellent initiative in the identification, provision of assistance and return of victims, greater efforts are required to identify and prosecute traffickers²⁵.

In **Thailand**, IOM assisted a total of 241 victims in 2011 out of which 146 children (30 male and 116 female) were trafficked for sex work (77), factory work (25), begging (22), domestic work (5), street selling (3), agriculture work (2), restaurant (1), and others (11). A total of 38 victims from Myanmar were trafficked for sex work (18), fishing industry (9), factory work (3), domestic work (2), and others (6) were assisted. 36 victims from Cambodia were trafficked to Thailand for begging (22), factory work (9), street selling (3), agriculture work (1), and others (1)²⁶. A large majority of Cambodian child beggars are not trafficked through criminal syndicates or gangs, but travel to Thailand with their parents, other relatives or a friend of the family. However, especially babies and infants are exploited for long hours on the streets where they are exposed to other vulnerabilities and dangers.

In 2011, almost 10% of the assisted cases in **Indonesia** were child victims of forced labour and sexual exploitation. Almost all victims stated economic problems and job search as the main reason for migration. Male adults were mostly trafficked to work in construction or as fishermen²⁷, while women and girls mostly had to work as domestic workers (25 women, 7 girls), cleaners (20 women, 1 girl), cultural dancers (15 women), waitresses (11 women, 4 girls) and in factories (11 women, 1 girl). 4 of the 20 girls were infected with HIV.

In some countries of **South and South-West Asia**, children are trafficked internally, externally, for purposes of domestic service, begging, marriage, sale of organs, bonded labor, and sexual exploitation.

For example, in **Bangladesh** (see case study box 1), children were found to be working in very difficult situations of bonded labour in brick fields, sometimes being trafficked into commercial sexual exploitation or begging.

In **Afghanistan** (see case study box 2), there is evidence of boys being internally trafficked for forced labour in construction or other hardship sectors and begging in the capital, sometimes being subjected to sexual abuse in the course of labour exploitation.

23-Lipes, J. 21 May 2012. New Trafficking Route Ends in Malaysia. RFA's Lao Service.

24-http://endexploitation.org/resources/2010_mekong_trafficking_datasheet.pdf

25-[http://baliprocess.net/files/Vietnam/Vietnam%20agreement%20with%20Cambodia_SOP%20for%20id%20and%20repatriat%20trafficked%20victims_Eng%20\(small\).pdf](http://baliprocess.net/files/Vietnam/Vietnam%20agreement%20with%20Cambodia_SOP%20for%20id%20and%20repatriat%20trafficked%20victims_Eng%20(small).pdf)

26-IOM Thailand Statistics on Victims of Trafficking assisted returns in 2011.

27-see p. 3 in this report

Case study Box I Bangladesh

In Bangladesh, children often leave their homes for better opportunities, or are encouraged by their own parents, before falling prey to trafficked by a *dalal* (*Trand for agent, recruiter, trafficker*).

Children working in commercial sexual exploitation: For around a third of the cases (37.5 percent) the family members and relatives played critical roles in deciding and motivating the decision on initial departure of a child for work/in an urban area. For a tenth of the girls in CSE the husbands and boyfriends played the same role. For another third of the children the friends, neighbours, strangers and organizers of CSE (e.g. a *dalal*) played the key role in organizing mobility leading to trafficking. In addition a tenth of these girls were initially self-motivated to move out of their households in search of better life.

Children working in organized begging: For the children in organized begging, the initial mobility was decided or influenced less by relatives (24.4 percent) than by outsiders (56 percent). A self-motivated departure (17 percent) was also another key feature.

Children working in the brickfields: Around a half of the children left home for the brickfields initially with the consent and encouragement of their family members and relatives. More children were found to be more self-motivated (28 percent) than influenced by other actors (18 percent).

Children working in fishing: A quarter of the children and their family members were influenced by the active recruitment agents of the fishing sector.

Dalals are known to keep track of the communities at different seasons and situations – specially looking forward to the time of natural disaster and economic hardship.

According to one *dalal* in Dhaka: “*There is no specific time to recruit children. When there is natural disaster (storm or flood) or scarcity of food the family members of poor households look for work here and there. They go different places, stay at the railway stations, bus stop and shelters and head towards Dhaka city; at this time around I along with my workers select the younger and good looking ones and induce them to come with us by falsely promising of giving jobs, money or marriage.*”

Source: IOM 2008. The Child-Captives of the Land. The Status Report on in-country trafficking and seasonal bonded labour in Children in Bangladesh. Unpublished Draft Final Report, Dhaka.

The quantitative sample involved 150 children (50 girls and 100 boys) such that from each of the four sectors (i.e. begging, fishing in Dublarchar, brickfield and commercial sexual exploitation) at least 35 children were represented. The sample size of children of focused group discussion (FGD) involved 25 girls and 19 boys. In-depth interviews covered five girls and four boys spread within the four sectors. Thus the sample of the study involved a total of 203 children (80 girls and 123 boys).

Case Study Box 2 Afghanistan

Case 1: "S" was referred by social workers to a shelter in Jalalabad. The 14 year old boy was trafficked by a construction contractor, from Nawshehra in Pakistan, to Jalalabad in Afghanistan. He was forced to work for excessive hours in construction projects, receiving low wages. Since he had no passport and visa he was threatened by the employer to be taken to the police. He was found by a social worker during a community visit and sent to the shelter.

Case 2: Three boys (10-13 years old) from Kishm district in Badakhshan province were studying in a religious school (madrassa). In hope for better study opportunities, they agreed to an offer to go to Peshawar in Pakistan. They were transported to Kabul where they were forced to work. Then, their trafficker decided to relocate them to Pakistan across the Torkham border. They were arrested by the Afghan Border Police, while the man who accompanied them disappeared. The Border Police referred them to a shelter.

Case 3: A 14 years old boy from Badghis province in Afghanistan fled his father's regular physical abuse. When he was proposed to go to Heart province to work, he took up the offer. When the boy reached Heart together with his trafficker, he was sexually abused by him. After two days, the boy managed to escape from the offender and stopped by the police. The boy told his story to police and the police referred him to a shelter.

Case 4: "B", a 12 years old boy, was living with his parents. After B's mother died, his father got remarried. The boy was beaten by his stepmother and father. His stepmother convinced his father to send the boy away from home. The father handed over B to a person. That person brought him to Kabul and sexually abused him several times and forced him into begging. He was beaten when he brought little money from begging. One day, B was arrested by the police and referred to a shelter.

Sex

As demonstrated by Figure 3 below, 70% of assistance provided to trafficked persons in the region supported women and girls in 2011, while 30% went to men and boys.

In Asia, women represent over half the migrants²⁸, with an estimated six million women migrant workers in South Asia²⁹. In South-East Asia, exemplified by Indonesia, up to 83% of outgoing migrants are women³⁰ who leave to find work abroad, e.g. as domestic servants in East Asia and the Middle East. Just five years ago, the majority of Indonesia's six to nine million migrants were men³¹. Similarly, according to the most recent data from the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA), 185,000 newly-hired female migrant workers were deployed in 2010. This is an increase from 175,000 in 2009. Furthermore, females outnumbered males among newly-hired migrant workers.

28-Migrant Workers. UN Women. 2011. http://www.unwomen-eseasia.org/Women_Poverty_and_Economics/Migrant_Workers.html

29-Policy needed for South Asian women migrants, says UN report <http://india.nydailynews.com/business/ea6af7a18f55e9ed574b79c90c091fc8/policy-needed-for-south-asian-women-migrants-says-un-report>. Accessed on 07/06/12.

30-Labour Migration From Colombo Process Countries: Good practices, Challenges and Way Forward. IOM. 2011. P.24.

31-83% of all Indonesian migrants in 2009 were female. Labour Migration From Colombo Process Countries: Good practices, Challenges and Way Forward. IOM. 2011.

Anecdotal evidence suggests that cross-border trafficking of women is increasing in **China**. Undocumented migrants who are trafficked into China mainly come from Vietnam, Russia, Korea and Myanmar. The purposes of cross-border trafficking are diverse, ranging from commercial sexual exploitation and forced marriage to illegal adoption, forced labour, and begging³².

In **Afghanistan**, women are forced into prostitution, exploited in domestic servitude and forced labour, and exchanged in marriage for dispute settlement purposes.

In response to the increasing demand for caretakers, maids, and housekeepers, women migrate abroad to work **as domestic workers**³³. This work typically entails the unpaid labour traditionally performed by women in households, often not perceived as skilled or productive work³⁴. Domestic workers³⁵ are particularly vulnerable because they often live in their employer's house and rarely have a labour contract limiting their working hours or regulating their payment; circumstances giving the employer absolute power over them. About two thirds of Sri Lankan migrants and a majority of Indonesian migrant women to Saudi Arabia and Kuwait are employed as domestic workers or caregivers. The ability of governments to protect its migrants overseas is often limited. The receiving countries usually do not have legislation specifically to protect domestic workers³⁵, and there are widely reported cases of abuse of domestic workers³⁶.

Often, Common notion frames trafficking as a problem mostly affecting women and children³⁷. Thus, national counter-trafficking laws and policies often center on protecting women and children, lack recognition of male victims of trafficking, and do not reflect that trafficking of labour is a large component of human trafficking³⁸.

For example, in **China**, the 2004 Law on Protection of Rights and Interests of Women and the Regulations Punishing Criminals for Trafficking and Kidnapping Women and Children do not protect male victims of trafficking. In **Myanmar**, the offences of 'trafficking in and smuggling of women and children' are specifically included in the list of predicate offences under the Control of Money Laundering Law. However, trafficking in men is not listed³⁹. **Laos** incorporated several articles on trafficking in its Law on Development and Protection of Women, thus also disregarding men who are trafficked for labour.

Men from Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar, who have been trafficked to the fishing industry in Thailand, and who are sometimes passed on from boat to boat with some victims spending up to three years at sea.

The exploitation of men is often related to shortfalls in supply in host countries and again is symptomatic of the gaps in trafficking and labour migration laws and policy.

32-UNIAP. The Trafficking Situation in China. Accessed on 18 July 2012 at: <http://www.no-trafficking.org/china.html>.

33-ILO 2010. Report IV.

34-ILO Committee on Domestic Workers. Draft report (C.T.D./D.227). INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE, 99th Session, Geneva, June 2010.

35-IOM 2008. Situation Report on International Migration in East and South-East Asia. Regional Thematic Working Group on International Migration Including Human Trafficking, Bangkok.

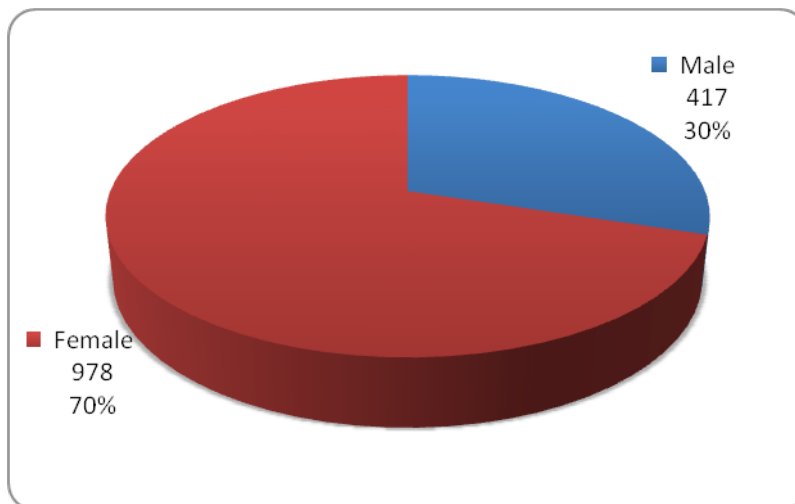
36-ILO 2010. Report IV.

37-Due to the serious nature and the wide prevalence of trafficking for sexual exploitation in [South-West Asia], many of these laws deal with this form of trafficking. Instead of a complete code dealing with different forms of trafficking, laws in this area are scattered across different legislations. IOM 2011. Situation Report on International Migration in East and South-East Asia.

38-<http://www.saarc-sec.org/userfiles/conv-trafficking.pdf>

39-ASEAN 2011. Progress Report on Criminal Justice Responses to Trafficking in Persons in the ASEAN Region.

Figure 3: Sex, 2011



Types of Exploitation

In many countries of the region, the purpose of trafficking is shifting from sexual to labour exploitation, and many victims of trafficking experience a combined form of sexual and labour trafficking. The line between **labour exploitation and sexual exploitation** is often very thin, as women, brought in as guest worker maids or waitresses, have been forced into prostitution as well as sexually abused by their employers. There is a likelihood that once trafficked, a victim will be trafficked to other sectors. Sexual exploitation occurs frequently in precarious working conditions where workers are isolated and have no or restricted freedom of movement. In addition, men are also being increasingly trafficked for the purposes of labour exploitation.

As shown in Figure 4 below, 78% of IOM assistance benefited persons who had been trafficked for forced labour purposes (48%) or sexual exploitation (30%), 10% combined forced labour and sexual exploitation, 2% for begging, and 5% others, including forced marriage.

In East Asia and the Pacific, out of the 1,395 cases assisted by IOM in 2011, there were 667 cases of forced labour, 421 of sexual exploitation, 139 combined sexual and forced labour, 25 begging and 129 other or unknown purposes of trafficking in the region. 241 of these cases were citizens of Cambodia (36), Laos (164), Myanmar (38), two from Yunnan Province (China), and from Colombia (1), trafficked to Thailand mainly for sexual exploitation, begging, domestic work and factory labour. Laos and Cambodia are the main countries of origin of trafficking victims assisted by IOM in the entire region. Research shows that in the GMS, there is an increasing trend to labour trafficking, especially of men into the fishing industry.

In 2011, a group of 63 **Cambodian** men trafficked to work in the Thai fishing industry were returned to Cambodia from eastern Indonesia with help from IOM and the Indonesian authorities⁴⁰. This case represents a larger trend in South-East Asia, with more and more reports surfacing on the prevalence of human trafficking for purposes of labour exploitation on fishing vessels in all major regions of the world⁴¹.

In **Thailand**, most of the assisted victims from Laos were sexually exploited (113) or domestic workers (25), while almost all Cambodian victims of trafficking were exploited for begging (22).

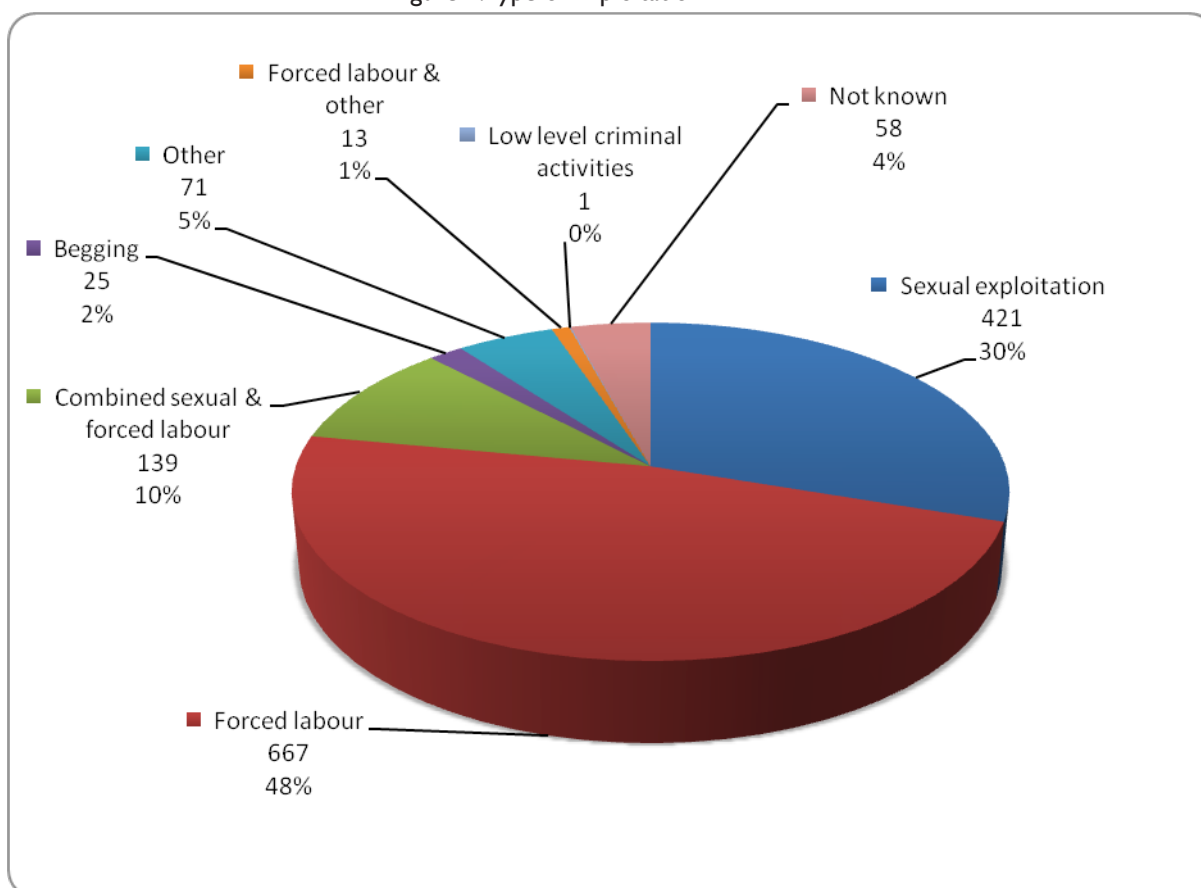
In **South and South-West Asia**, IOM assisted a total of 390 beneficiaries, many of whom also experienced forced labour or sexual exploitation or a combination of both.

In **India**, IOM assisted 53 beneficiaries in 2011, of whom all were female and all of them experienced combined labour and sexual exploitation.

In **Afghanistan**, out of the total 199 assisted cases in 2011, as many as 146 beneficiaries experienced forced labour or sexual exploitation or a combination of both.

In **Nepal**, all of the 113 beneficiaries assisted by IOM, were victims of sexual exploitation (47) or experienced combined sexual exploitation and forced labour (66).

Figure 4: Type of Exploitation



40-IOM Press Briefing, 12 June 2011: Trafficked Cambodian Fishermen Return Home from Indonesia. Accessed at: www.iom.int/jahia/Jahia/media/press-briefing-notes/pbnAS/cache/offonce?entryId=31015

41-International Organization for Migration, Trafficking of Fishermen in Thailand (2011). Available from www.iom.int/unitedstates/Home/PDFs/Trafficking%20of%20Fishermen%20Thailand.pdf. The report throws light on serious issues related to recruitment practices, the absence of enforcement practices, exploitative and abusive labour conditions and gaps in assistance and support services provided to victims.

Type of Trafficking

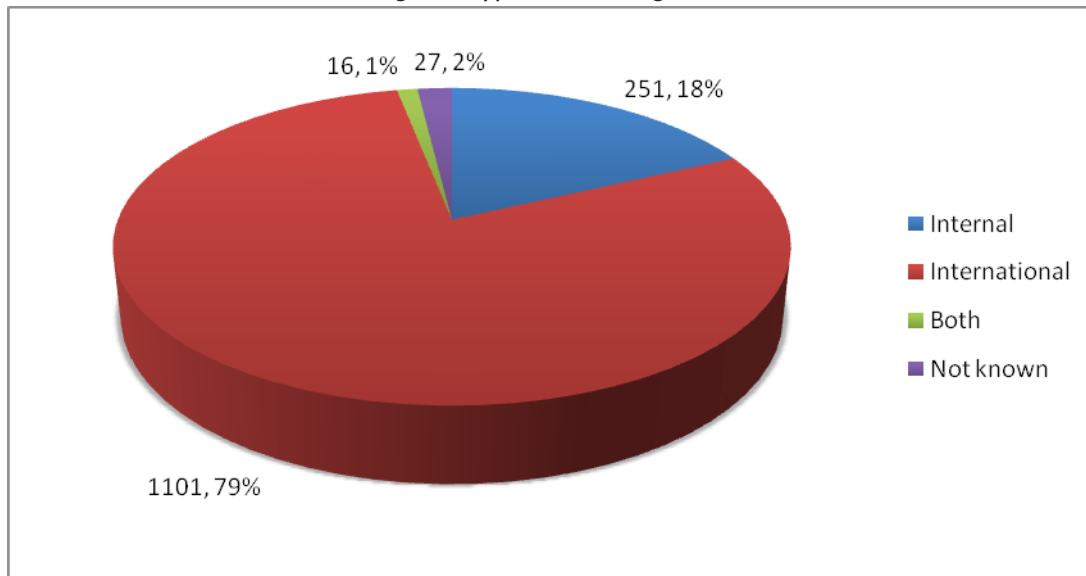
A total of 79% of IOM assistance provided to trafficked persons in 2011 was received by people, who had been trafficked across international borders, while 18% of assistance benefited persons, who were trafficked internally (see Figure 5 below).

Intraregional migration routes in South-East Asia lead mainly from Indonesia, Bangladesh, Nepal and the Philippines to Singapore and Malaysia as countries of destination. Routes of labour migration from South Asia to other regions include regular migrants from India, Sri Lanka and Pakistan going to Gulf countries⁴² to perform low-skilled, temporary work. Additionally, the Philippines and Indonesia provide a big workforce to the Gulf States.

In South Asia, current migration patterns between Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iran are primarily temporary and cyclical. It appears that despite the high levels of return to Afghanistan, families and individuals continue to move, and it seems unlikely that the back-and-forth movements will stop as they constitute a key livelihood strategy⁴³. Pakistan and Iran serve as a transit route for irregular migrants from Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, India and from other South Asian countries, with Iran also providing a major destination for human trafficking in the subregion⁴⁴.

Internal trafficking has also been identified as problematic in Indonesia, affecting mostly women and children. Data from IOM indicates that 10% (36% women and 64% girls) of the assisted victims were trafficked within Indonesia, mostly from rural to urban areas, for the purpose of domestic servitude and commercial sexual exploitation, including child sex tourism. Again, most victims (68%) were trafficked domestically by agents – including agents of legally registered recruitment agencies (4.5%) – followed by friends (31%).

Figure 5: Type of Trafficking, 2011



42-IOM. Labour Migration from Colombo Process Countries: Good Practices, Challenges and Ways Forward, 2012.

43-Arif/Farooq 2010. Migration Management within South Asia. Pakistan Institute of Development Economics, Islamabad.

44-Arif/Farooq 2010. Migration Management within South Asia. Pakistan Institute of Development Economics, Islamabad.

2- IOM Activities 2011: Focus on Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Assistance

IOM implemented 12 projects in 2011 that focused on providing safe and dignified voluntary return and/or reintegration assistance in Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Japan, Lao, Macao SAR China, Malaysia, Nepal, Thailand, and Vietnam. These projects include a wide-range of comprehensive rehabilitation and reintegration activities including shelter, counselling, medical, psychological, and legal assistance, vocational training, (re)qualification, sustainable support mechanisms, livelihood support and economic empowerment, and capacity-building and networking of NGO and government actors. One project focuses on promoting a common regional approach to safe return and reintegration of trafficked persons in the framework of the Bali Process.

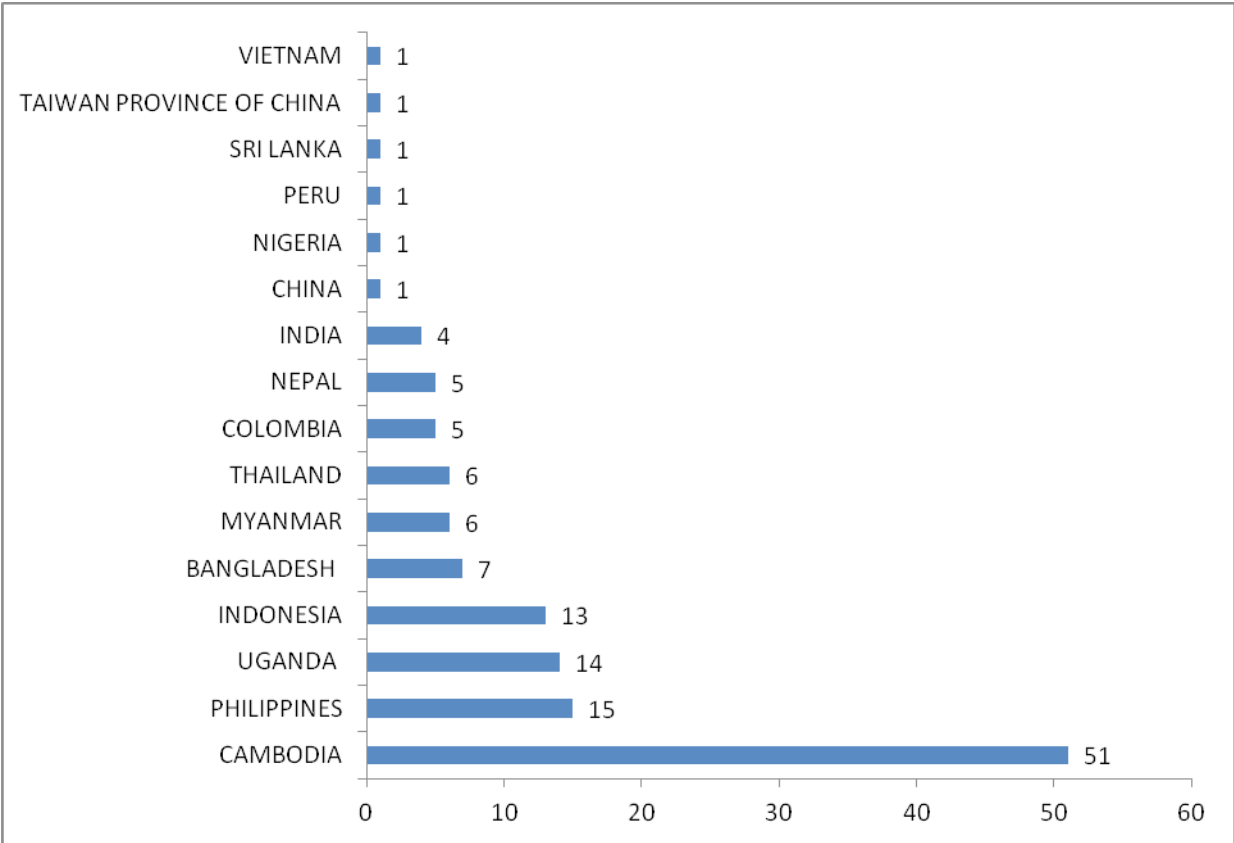
In **India**, a reintegration project that ended in 2011 provided over 150 survivors of trafficking with economic development opportunities and comprehensive psychosocial support.

In **Indonesia**, IOM is supporting the government's efforts to establish a comprehensive return and reintegration programme. Another project that ended in 2011, provided safe and dignified voluntary return and reintegration assistance to Japanese survivors of trafficking as well as supporting the Japanese government's efforts to improve future AVVR assistance for trafficked persons based on lessons learned from this project.

In **Vietnam**, IOM is conducting an assessment of previous and current return and reintegration activities for trafficked persons that will be used to promote the development and implementation of government policy in this area. In Macao SAR China IOM worked with the Social Welfare Bureau to provide safe and dignified AVRR assistance for trafficked persons, which included a focus on comprehensive risk assessments for every person wishing to return. The initiative put into place risk assessments to evaluate possible risks to victims in their country of origin and to provide arrangements special – if needed- for the victim's return.

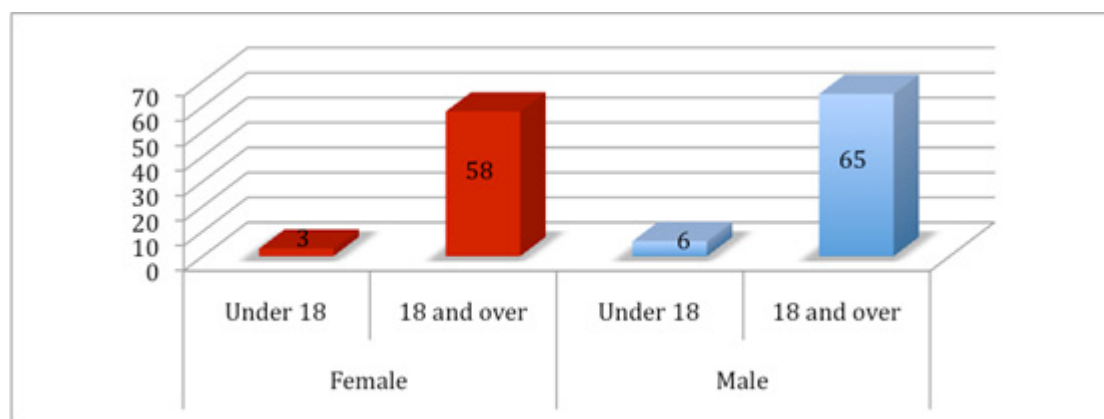
In **Nepal**, IOM works together with NGO partners to assist trafficked persons in reintegrating through vocational skills development, enterprise setup, job placement and market promotion assistance as well as individualized psychosocial counselling and assistance with day-to-day management of their businesses. Similarly, IOM partners with private sector/corporate houses to assist the trafficked victims and potential victims of trafficking with meaningful and sustainable economic rehabilitation through enterprise setup, skill development trainings and job placement opportunities. In addition, IOM worked with the University of Newcastle to examine how livelihood analysis in reintegration efforts of trafficked persons risks reproducing the same commodity-based conceptualisations of women that are at the heart of the problem of trafficking itself. Significantly, the study has revealed that processes of labour migration and vulnerability to trafficking is highly engendered as male migrants travelling to the Gulf region mostly use formal channels whereas female migrants take informal routes region which increases risks of trafficking.

Figure 6: Nationality, 2011



As shown in Figure 7, IOM assisted 132 trafficked persons/vulnerable migrants to voluntarily return to their community or country of origin in 2011. Of the 132 trafficked persons assisted to voluntarily return and reintegrate from this region, 99% were adults, 1 % were children, 46% female and 54% male.

Figure 7: Age and Sex 2011



3- Good Practices in Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration of Vulnerable Groups

There are several good practices in the area of sustainable assisted voluntary return and reintegration of trafficked persons and other vulnerable groups, including for the first time, reintegration support to victims of labour exploitation. In December 2008, 17 Cambodian men were formally returned to Phnom Penh, Cambodia, having been trafficked to Sarawak, Malaysia. Their return was facilitated by the IOM mission in Cambodia and funded through the Global Assistance Fund (GAF). With IOM support and prior to their return, the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (MoSVY) conducted family tracing and subsequently an assessment of each returnee's social and economic status. IOM provided funding to the Ministry to mitigate the returnees' vulnerability and provide immediate and on-going support towards the successful reintegration of 13 of the men. Given that previous victims identified were almost exclusively women and children, this was the first time that the Ministry had provided targeted economic assistance, follow-up and monitoring to male victims.

Since then IOM has worked with MoSVY to establish systematic mechanism in Cambodia to assist male victims of trafficking and labour exploitation through the drafting of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the provision of reintegration assistance for male victims of trafficking. The SOPs will serve as a tool to guide MoSVY in conducting family tracing, individual skills and needs assessments of victims, designing reintegration plans and referring victims to appropriate service providers in their local communities. The SOPs to support to male VoTs are the first to be established in the Asia Pacific region.

At the regional level, the Bali Process brings together participants from over 50 countries and numerous international agencies to work on practical measures aimed at combatting smuggling, trafficking in persons and related transnational crimes in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond. In second half of 2012, the Bali Process Steering Group will establish a Regional Support Office (RSO) under the auspices of the Regional Cooperation Framework (RCF) of the Bali Process at the IOM Regional Office in Bangkok. It is envisaged the RSO will be co-managed on a day-to-day basis by Indonesia and Australia as the Co-Chairs of the Bali Process, and staffed by representatives from IOM, UNHCR and other interested Bali Process Member States. The purpose of the RSO is to facilitate the operationalization of the RCF and to support and strengthen practical cooperation among Bali Process Member States in the areas of assisted voluntary return and migrant protection.

IOM is a member of the Bali Process Steering Group and is committed to directly contribute to the Steering Group's plans for the RSO. IOM has also been building upon work undertaken by the Bali Process membership to strengthen and improve law enforcement responses and capacities to combat trafficking in persons and deliver support to victims of trafficking⁴⁵. Bali Process members have acknowledged that victims of human trafficking require specialized services and protection bringing together relevant a range of stakeholders including government authorities and recognized NGOs and civil society groups to complement the delivery of support services and address capacity gaps. It was recognized that such coordination is greatly facilitated and crucially institutionalized by RCFs and it is envisaged that the establishment of the RSO will add significant value to this process.

Public-Private Partnerships – Economic Reintegration Activities for Victims of Trafficking in Bangladesh

As part of the economic reintegration process, a job placement initiative for trafficked victims was undertaken through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed by the Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters' Association (BKMEA), Department of Social Services (DSS) and IOM. Under the agreement, VOTs from government and NGO shelter homes were selected for training and eventual job placement in BKMEA managed factories.

IOM provided the beneficiaries with initial daylong orientation on various issues such as, conflict resolution in the workplace, safety and security issues, health and hygiene, as well as psycho-social trauma counselling. Following this orientation, the beneficiaries received 30 days training on knitwear manufacturing at the BKMEA run residential Training Institute.

A total of 120 beneficiaries were trained under this project and were provided with employment at different knitwear manufacturing companies and served as a good model for public-private-partnership and corporate social responsibility and generated significant for this innovative initiative.

⁴⁵-With reference to the final Co-Chairs' Statement of the 4th Bali Process Regional Ministerial Conference held in March 2011 noting: Ministers agreed that while border control and law enforcement initiatives are important and effective measures to combat people smuggling and trafficking in persons, these measures alone are not sufficient and that practical cooperative solutions that also address humanitarian and protection needs are required.

Multi-Stakeholder Approach to Prevention of Trafficking and Re-Trafficking in Nepal

Considering a lack of economic opportunities as one of the major factors causing women to fall victims to trafficking, the IOM mission in Nepal is implementing a best-practice multi-stakeholder approach to create opportunities for economic development of women vulnerable to trafficking and re-trafficking through project entitled “Trafficking Risk Reduction in Nepal” (TRRIN). Crucially, as part of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) approach this innovative approach involves Corporate Houses, who at the request of IOM, extend business opportunities to trafficking victims and further assist them by providing – business specific training, market linkages, skills training and job placements.



Beneficiaries were provided with on-the job training with a leading outdoor gear manufacturer



A canteen managed by victims of human trafficking has been established at a leading Nepali Airlines company



Signing Ceremony of the tri-partite agreement for the job placement of women in the knitwear sector

The key role of corporate houses is supported by NGOs, who in association with IOM, are responsible for psychosocial counselling and provide day to day handholding support to the survivors. Training institutions play a further vital role in imparting vocational and soft skills training to the beneficiaries. The Government of Nepal, through the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare (MoW-CSW) extends legal and infrastructural support to the project’s initiatives as and when required. Importantly, through the initiatives the Beneficiaries are transformed into Participants, having been empowered and given the skills and knowledge to earn an adequate and sustainable livelihood.

To date, the IOM TRRIN project has been successful in the economic rehabilitation of over 200 potential victims and victims of trafficking in Kathmandu and the surrounding area. The project has also supported the development of psychosocial counseling guidelines for the counselors and key stakeholders providing services to the survivors and potential victims of trafficking, which is now the national standard approved by the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare. The project has also been successful in maintaining good relations with the corporate houses, the Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FNCCI), NGOs, the Ministries and key government agencies, which will continue beyond after completion of the project.

CENTRAL & NORTH AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

I- Regional Overview: Dynamics, Trends, and Profile of IOM Beneficiaries

Central and North America and the Caribbean are characterized by complex migration dynamics, including internal flows, movement northward through the region, and migration into the region from elsewhere. The latest estimates of the Mexican National Migration Institute say there are 140,000 irregular migrants transiting through Mexico each year. About 95% of these migrants are from El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Guatemala. Additionally, approximately 250,000 Mexicans migrate irregularly to the U.S.A. each year. The principal destination countries are the United States and Canada, followed by European countries. According to the African Caribbean Pacific Observatory on Migration, the Caribbean experiences particularly high emigration rates - up to seven times higher than the inflows into the region. 4 per cent of migrants leaving their country are migrating within the Caribbean, for example with Haiti representing an emigration country and the Dominican Republic the main recipient.

Migrants from Asia and Africa are also transiting irregularly through Central America and the Caribbean, most often on route to the U.S. or Canada. For the most part, these migrants come from Mali, Nigeria, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Sierra Leon, Senegal, Cote d'Ivoire, and Somalia. For Asia, FLACSO indicates Bangladesh, China, Nepal, India, Iraq, and Sri Lanka¹. Whether from Africa or Asia, the migrants and refugees frequently travel by air (but also on large ships), often arriving in a South American country and then continuing their journey overland or by sea through Central America or the Caribbean. The migrants can also travel by sea vessel, and disembark in a port in South America, and then continue their journey.

Irregular migration is a major concern in the context of IOM's migrant assistance and protection activities, as it is often unsafe and can expose people on the move to abuse, violence and exploitation, especially by traffickers and smugglers.

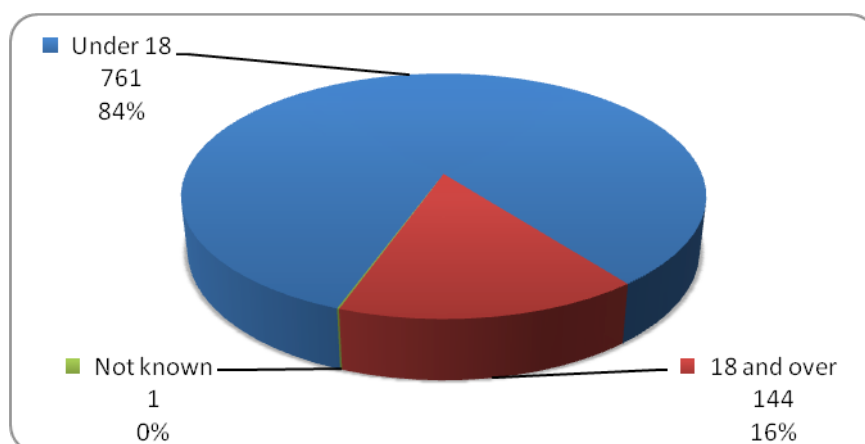
Profile of IOM Beneficiaries

Migrant Children

The irregular migration of children is of major concern to stakeholders in the region. Although migration can bring improved opportunities and benefits to children, in the context of irregular migration, they are often vulnerable to exploitation and abuse, especially at the hands of criminal groups, including smugglers and traffickers. In fact, 84% of IOM assistance for trafficked persons in the region benefited children and adolescents in 2011 (see Figure 1 below).

¹ I-FLACSO. Assessment of the Current Situation, Trends, and Protection and Assistance Needs of Extracontinental Migrants and Refugees in Mexico and Central America. 2011. Available at <http://www.rcmvs.org/documentos/investigacion/FLACSO%20-%20Diagnostico%20flujos%20extraregionales%20-%20Eng.pdf>.

Figure 1: IOM Assistance to Trafficked Children, 2011



While there are no available hard figures, anecdotal evidence suggests an increasing number of children travelling independently to rejoin family members already residing in the U.S. or Canada or in search of a better life there. Another important push factor is the recent increase in level of gang violence that threatens adolescents, who are often forcibly recruited, affecting also their families. This trend is a particularly worrying given the vulnerability of unaccompanied children, who are frequent victims of the exploitative and violent practices of trafficking and smuggling networks. On their own, these children are often unable to protect themselves from sexual abuse and gang-related violence in border regions. Border officials in the region are often neither equipped nor trained to provide children with the required care and assistance in manner that is sensitive to their needs. In addition, several governments in the region lack necessary safeguards and procedures to ensure full respect for migrant children's rights and needs and to conduct a proper determination of their best interests. Furthermore, given the criminal and often violent activities of youth gangs in Central America, teenage migrants are often treated harshly by border officials.

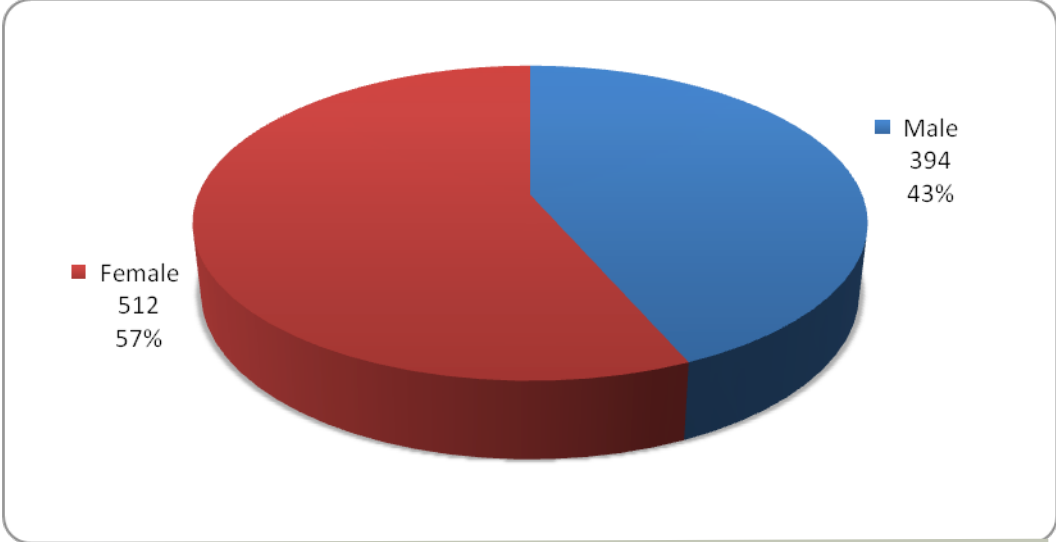
In the Caribbean, IOM discussions with child protection specialists and other officials from eight CARICOM Member States have identified three general categories of children requiring attention: 1) children who stay behind when their parents or legal guardians migrate, 2) children who have migrated unaccompanied or accompanied to a CARICOM country, and 3) children from CARICOM countries returning home. Some children who stay behind without their legal guardians lack basic necessities (food, shelter, and clothing) as well as proper adult supervision and care. Consequently, they can feel abandoned or rejected, become violent and delinquent, and face greater risk to their well-being and development. Children who migrate may not have access to basic services (education, health care, social services, identity documents) due to language barriers, lack of knowledge about available services, or fear of deportation. Children, who return to their country of origin/birth in the Caribbean, can encounter similar challenges in the context of a largely unfamiliar culture and social support system.

Migrant Women

Increasing numbers of women in the region are migrating to escape poverty and/or abuse, to better provide for their family and/or as a means to achieve personal goals. Most women in this part of the world migrate regionally, south-south, and circularly or seasonally, alternating periods of residence in their home countries with residence in other countries.

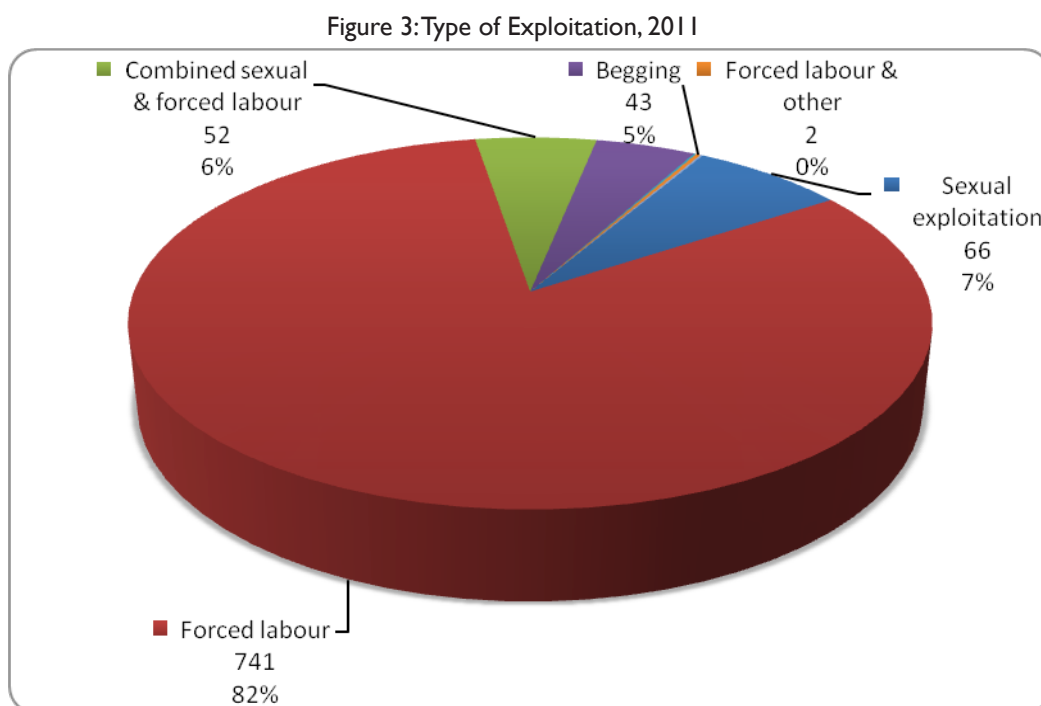
Most migrate irregularly, which exposes them to the many of the same types of abuse and exploitation as men in this situation. However, their vulnerability is exacerbated by traditional gender roles and the potential for gender-based violence. Acts of sexual abuse are committed against women throughout the migratory route. The impact of migration on women also includes increased risks of mistreatment and abuse in countries of destination, given frequent employment in unregulated or informal-sector economic activities. Trafficking for purpose of sexual and labour exploitation also continues to be a serious crime affecting migrant women in the region. In fact, 57% of IOM assistance in the region was provided women, both adult and underage, in 2011 (see Figure 2 below).

Figure 2: Sex, 2011



Type of Exploitation

43% of IOM assistance in this region in 2011 was provided to male victims of trafficking (see Figure 2 above). New trends identified in the preliminary results of a research study on trafficking for labour exploitation in Central America show that along with TiP for sexual exploitation (primarily affecting women and children), increasing numbers of men, women and children are trafficked for labour and other forms of exploitation. This includes domestic servitude, begging, and criminal activities (for example, in Guatemala and Mexico children are being used as migrant smugglers and/or “hit men”). Many victims are simultaneously exploited for more than one purpose. Some cases of trafficking in the fishing industry and agricultural sectors have been identified. As shown in Figure 3 below, IOM’s assistance in 2011 benefited primarily (82%) persons trafficked for forced labour purposes, as well as those trafficked for combined sexual and forced labour (6%), and begging (5%). Only 7% of assistance went to persons trafficked for sexual exploitation purposes.



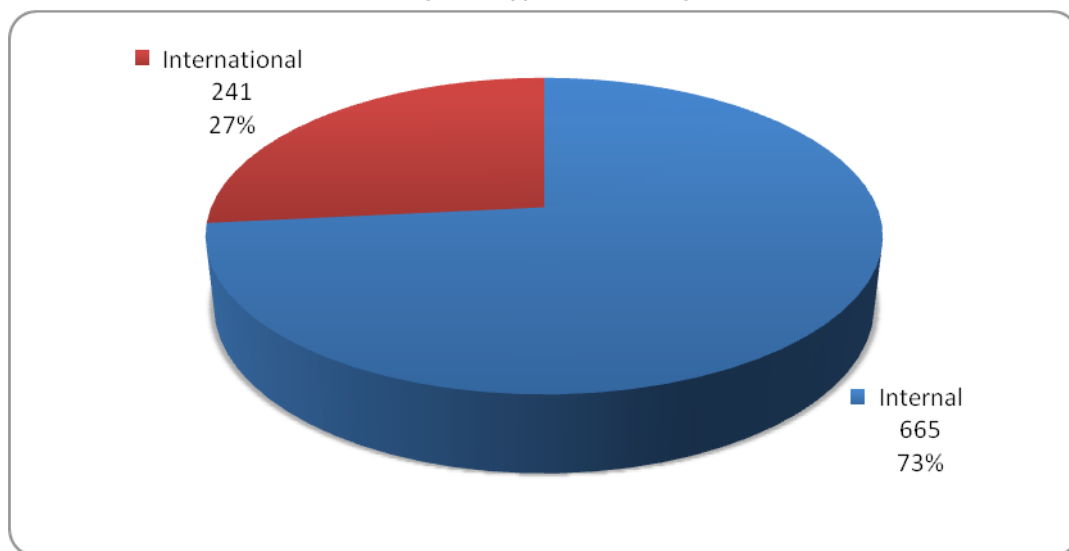
Migrants are increasingly affected by “the normalization of violence” in border regions, including the murder and kidnapping of migrants in Mexico for the purpose of extortion. Thousands of cases of kidnapping of migrants have been identified by research conducted by government institutions and civil society organizations, adding approximately 50 million dollars a year to the already profiting organized criminal groups². Persisting gang-related violence in several countries in Central America affecting their territory also affects border regions. It is becoming clear that criminal organizations, which have traditionally focused their activities on drug trafficking, are now “diversifying” their activities to include trafficking and extortion targeting migrant populations in Mexico to increase their profits.

2-Campaña para Terminar con los Secuestros de Migrantes en México. La Necesidad de una Visa Temporal de Protección para Transmigrantes. Available at : http://imprasc.net:29572/DocumentosyPub/Documents/exhortos/PROPUESTA_VISA_TRANSMIGRANTES.pdf.

Type of Trafficking

Criminal networks have been pursuing profit from trafficking within national territories, which does not entail the risk of smuggling their victims across borders, resulting in an increase of internal trafficking. In addition, changes in national legislation which now include trafficking within the territory as well as stakeholders in the region becoming increasingly aware of this phenomenon, has led to increased cases being detected and referred as internal trafficked victims— although these types of situations may have existed for many years. In fact, 73% of assistance provided by IOM in 2011 went to those who had been trafficked internally (see Figure 4 below).

Figure 4: Type of Trafficking, 2011



2- IOM Activities 2011: Special Focus on AVRR of Vulnerable Groups

In 2011, there were **34 migrant assistance related projects active** in this region. The primary donors were the United States, Mexico, and the IOM Development Fund.

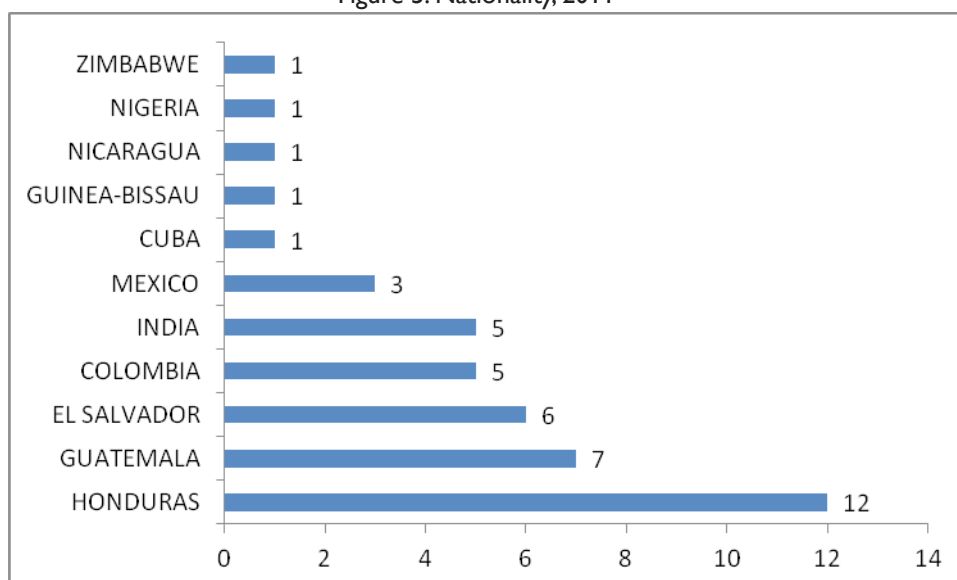
IOM projects focused on supporting stakeholders in the provision of direct assistance to vulnerable migrants, including shelter, medical, psychological and legal assistance, as well as assisted voluntary return and reintegration. In addition, projects aimed at providing training and technical support to strengthen the capacities of States and their NGO partners to design and implement public policies and procedures that facilitate the protection and assistance of vulnerable migrants. Several projects also include communication components that aim to inform migrants of safe migration options and the general public on how to detect trafficking in persons and seek assistance. Finally, projects focus on research of emerging trends in the region, including migration of children and trafficking for purposes of labour exploitation. Many project activities support existing initiatives, such as the Regional Conference on Migration (RCM) to promote dialogue, cooperation, and sharing of good practices at the regional and inter-regional level. IOM has also supported the creation and strengthening of the Regional Coalition of National Counter-Trafficking Taskforces, developed to increase cross-border and multilateral coordination for the prevention of TiP, prosecution of traffickers and assistance to victims.

The beneficiaries of IOM projects included a wide range of government and civil society actors, including judiciary, prosecutors, police, health providers, labour inspectors, local municipalities, social workers, the media sector, NGOs, religious workers, as well as trafficked persons and other vulnerable migrants.

2- Focus on Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Assistance

Of the 34 projects active in the region in 2011, 2 focused specifically on assisted voluntary return and reintegration, while another 9 had return and reintegration components (See Annex 3). An additional 6 had direct assistance components, which have provided return and reintegration assistance, depending on needs.

Figure 5: Nationality, 2011



As evident from Figure 5, IOM assisted 43 vulnerable migrants to voluntarily return to their country of origin in 2011. 70% returned to countries within the region, while the remaining 30% returned to South America, Asia and Africa.

In the case of assistance and possible voluntary return of extra-continental migrants to Asia and Africa, national authorities in the region face significant challenges. Language barriers and limited consular representatives of countries of origin of extra-continental migrants and refugees in the region hinder communication, verification of identity, issuance of travel documents, and efforts to identify the needs of such migrants and refugees, and managing these types of migration flows³. In addition, both voluntary return arrangements and other types of assistance for these migrants imply costs that many States do not have sufficient budgets to cover.

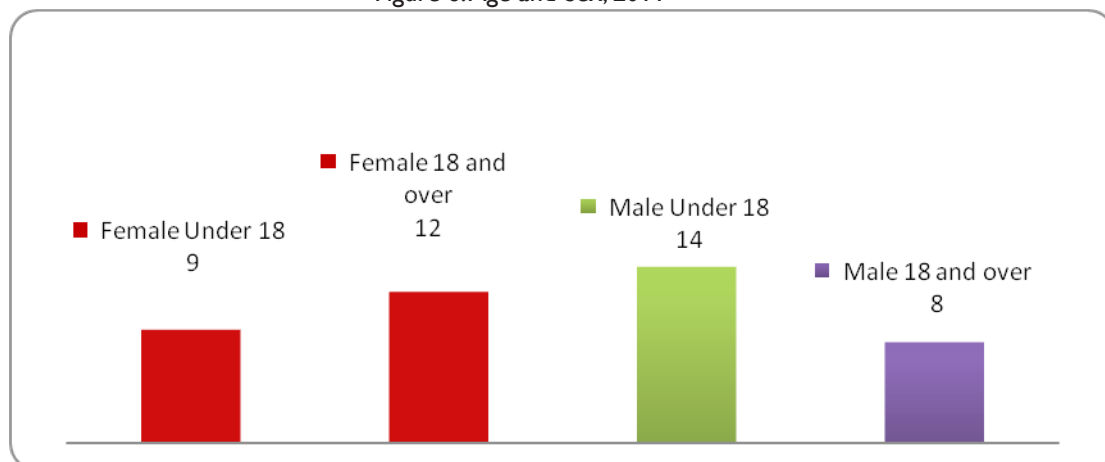
3-FLACSO. Assessment of the Current Situation, Trends, and Protection and Assistance Needs of Extracontinental Migrants and Refugees in Mexico and Central America. 2011. Available at <http://www.rcmv.org/documentos/investigacion/FLACSO%20-%20Diagnostico%20flujos%20extraregionales%20-%20Eng.pdf>.

Furthermore, there are practical challenges with the return of many extra-continental migrants, who cannot easily travel through the United States or Canada; resulting in higher ticket fares because of the indirect routes and transit points.

Given these challenges, national authorities have engaged in several regional cooperation initiatives over the past few years. States requested that IOM and UNHCR undertake an assessment of the situation in order to better understand the trends and assistance needs, as well as possible recommendations. In March 2011, the assessment⁴ conducted by FLACSO, on behalf of IOM and UNHCR, was distributed to RCM Member States. With regard to return, the study recommends the establishment of regional funds to facilitate the voluntary return and reintegration of extra-continental migrants, similar to the existing RCM Voluntary Return Fund, which is financed by RCM Member States to assist the most vulnerable migrants within the region and managed by IOM. Furthermore, the assessment concludes that more cooperation with countries of origin of extra-continental migrants is necessary to operationalize the protection of this migrant population. IOM has proposed to coordinate a meeting in the context of the RCM for this purpose in 2012.

In addition, the RCM and South American Conference on Migration (SACM) held a meeting in August 2011, in cooperation with IOM, to promote increased dialogue and cooperation to address this phenomenon which affects the two regions, given that many extra-continental migrants and refugees travel through South American countries prior to arriving in Mesoamerica. With regard to return arrangements, the participants recommended expanding voluntary return and reintegration programs as well as strengthening coordination efforts with consular authorities from the countries of origin.

Figure 6: Age and Sex, 2011



4-FLACSO. Assessment of the Current Situation, Trends, and Protection and Assistance Needs of Extracontinental Migrants and Refugees in Mexico and Central America. 2011. Available at <http://www.rcmvs.org/documentos/investigacion/FLACSO%20-%20Diagnostico%20flujos%20extraregionales%20-%20Eng.pdf>.

As shown in Figure 6 above, of the 43 vulnerable migrants assisted by IOM in this region to voluntarily return and reintegrate, 54% were children, 49% were female and 51% were male.

In this region, male migration, especially of adolescents, is more predominant than female migration. The figures show somewhat greater assistance provided to males than females in that age range. Most assistance provided to adult males was for extra-regional migrants. Women tend to migrate after reaching the adult age which is also reflected in the graph where IOM assistance has benefitted more adult women.

3- Good Practices in Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration of Vulnerable Groups

There are several promising practices in the area of sustainable assisted voluntary return and reintegration, including the RCM Intraregional Fund for Migrants in Highly Vulnerable Situations, multi-stakeholder approach to reintegrating vulnerable migrants in Nicaragua at the municipal level, and the promotion of education and involvement of family members in the reintegration efforts of IOM in Guatemala.

The RCM fund has helped to return the most vulnerable migrants, who have no other means of receiving assistance. Member States are committed to financing this fund, which benefits vulnerable migrants from any of the participating countries. Linking voluntary return funds to a Regional Consultative Process is a promising practice that could serve as a model for other regions as it ensure long-term sustainability and mutual benefit to migrants and States throughout a region. This fund is available only to nationals of the member countries of the RCM, who are returning to another member country.

IOM Helps 900 Vulnerable Migrants to Return to Countries of Origin from North and Central America since 2005.

IOM offices in North and Central America have assisted 900 vulnerable migrants, including over 500 minors, to return to their countries of origin since 2005. In the period from November 2011 until June 2012 a total of 153 females and 115 males were assisted in returning home. These AVRRs were funded by the Intraregional Fund for Migrants in Highly Vulnerable Situations, created by the members of the Regional Conference on Migration or RCM (Belize, Canada, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and the United States) and managed by the IOM Regional Office in Costa Rica.

The migrants were typically unaccompanied migrant children, pregnant women; people who had suffered serious accidents or fallen ill; victims of violence, including rape and assault; and victims of human trafficking.

"This is the only fund created and funded by one of the Regional Consultative Processes (RCPs) around the world to assist and protect vulnerable migrants," explains Salvador Gutierrez, the IOM Regional Officer who manages the Fund.

The RCM member states also authorize IOM, on a case-by-case basis, to assist migrants stranded by natural disasters such as floods, hurricanes and earthquakes. Most of the migrants assisted came from El Salvador and Honduras, and most were helped to return from Mexico and El Salvador.

"In the past couple of years, IOM has seen an increase in requests to assist migrant victims of violence. In the case of underage migrants, we coordinate very closely with authorities in the destination country to ensure these children are returned either to their parents, grandparents, or other family members or to child protection institutions," adds Gutierrez.

The fund also provides certain support for medicine, crutches, wheel chairs, canes and other medical needs.

Excerpt from: IOM Press Briefing, February 2012, available at: <http://www.iom.int/jahia/Jahia/media/press-briefing-notes/pbnAM/cache/offonce/lang/en?entryId=31206>

In **Nicaragua**, IOM's multi-stakeholder approach in the municipality of Chinandega has proven to be a sustainable model, which has been replicated in further municipalities of Nicaragua as well as in Honduras and El Salvador in 2011. This approach involves government ministries, local municipalities, businesses, and the media in strengthening their capacities and creating support networks for the reintegration of returning vulnerable migrants, including victims of trafficking. Return and reintegration assistance has been incorporated into local policies and agendas, which together with the multi-stakeholder network continue to support the reintegration of vulnerable migrants after the end of the project.

Engaging Families, Communities, and Local Authorities: Creating Sustainable Support Networks for the Reintegration of Vulnerable Migrants in Nicaragua

In August 2011, 37 vulnerable persons, including victims of trafficking, are starting new lives as they officially open their small enterprises with support from IOM, the Ministry of Labour and local governments of Ocotal, Somoto and Chinandega.

The participants, who received assistance to develop a business plan and financial support, are now the proud owners of small food stores, fast food stalls, bakeries, barber shops, bicycle repair shops, and new and used clothing stores, amongst others.

Since 2007, when IOM Nicaragua began providing return and reintegration assistance to victims of trafficking, with funding from the United States Department of States Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM), it has been working on forming a solid partnership with local governments and the private sector to ensure the successful economic reintegration of returned migrants.

"The initiative is now part of an IOM regional project and a model for Central America. Our principal strategy is inter-institutional coordination at the local level with the public and private sectors," explains Brenda de Trinidad, Manager of the IOM project in Nicaragua.

"IOM has carried out awareness raising activities, as well as training and capacity building with families, community leaders and entire communities, and local authorities that are now well-established support networks for these returning migrants," de Trinidad adds. "The persons we are assisting are all migrants, including victims of trafficking, who endured all types of abuse – rape, beatings, sexual and labour exploitation, and theft," concludes de Trinidad.

"To ensure success for the new entrepreneurs, IOM and its partners produced a practical guide for small businesses which includes lessons learned, developing investment and business plans and legal advice, as well as other important issues such as gaining self-esteem at the work place," explains Daizen Oda, IOM Programme Specialist in Economic Reintegration for Vulnerable Migration Population.

IOM partners include: the ministries of Interior, Labour, and Family, local mayors, Chambers of Commerce, NGOs, private companies, the media and volunteers.

Excerpt from IOM Press Briefing: <http://www.iom.int/jahia/Jahia/media/press-briefing-notes/pbnAM/cache/offonce/lang/en?entryId=30794>

Promoting Education and Involving Parents, Teachers, and Communities: Sustainable Reintegration of Migrant Children in Guatemala

In an effort to promote sustainable reintegration of unaccompanied migrant children and prevent irregular migration of children in vulnerable conditions, IOM works in 17 communities of Conception Tutuapa, the region of origin of a high percent of migrant children going to Mexico and beyond. To ensure that return and reintegration is sustainable IOM is promoting education and income generating projects. A total of 63 children and adolescents are currently raising sheep, chicken and pigs. In addition a total of 96 returnees have received scholarships and professional training. Tutoring in math, language and social sciences as well as providing special counseling and psychological support has proved to be useful in excelling their education. Special events to promote arts, emotional expression, and ecological education have also been held. To complement these activities, IOM holds workshops with parents and teachers to prevent irregular migration children and launched community level prevention campaign of irregular migration of children fully engaging the mayors of the 17 municipalities. As a result 95 % of initial beneficiaries passed the school year and will move on to the next grade.

*This initiative is part of the PRM-funded regional project to strengthen capacities to protect and assist vulnerable migrants in Mesoamerica.

Reintegration Project in Nicaragua

Alvaro and Sonia, two Nicaraguans are direct beneficiaries of the project. Their stories and experiences serve as an example of how through reintegration returned migrants in Chinandega and can develop their personal, economic, and social potential through the establishment of their own businesses.

Alvaro, 25 years old left Nicaragua in 2010. It took him 6 months to reach the United States and on his way he was captured, robbed and beaten by the Zeta Group. Immigration in US referred him to the Mayor's Office of Chinandega, one of the institutions leading the project. Once in Chinandega, he received health care as he was suffering from malnutrition, skin allergies and digestive problems.

CENTRAL & WEST AFRICA

I- Regional Overview: Dynamics, Trends, and Profile of IOM Beneficiaries

Migration flows in West and Central Africa are primarily intra-regional flows, with more than 70% percent of movements taking place within the sub-region¹, promoted in part by the Free Movement Protocol of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

Although it remains an important departure point for many West and Central Africans heading to Europe and the West, the region is increasingly being used by smugglers as a transit region for Asian migrants as well as Africans from other regions, who wish to reach destinations in Europe.

Given the absence or weakness of protection and assistance mechanisms in many countries of the region, migrants and refugees have been left stranded, detained and/or facing protection dilemmas. In this context, IOM offices have witnessed an increasing number of referrals from governments, partners and migrants themselves, often stranded and in dire conditions in West and Central Africa and asking for assistance to return to their countries of origin, in the region and outside the region. Referrals of stranded migrants from Asia are increasing and constitute a new migratory trend requiring a closer look. These migrants are often smuggled into West Africa to reach European and non-European destinations. Assistance has been provided on an individual basis, using emergency funds like the fund for Humanitarian Assistance for Stranded Migrants (HASM), but at least for West Africa, a new fully-fledged AVRR programme addressed to this category of migrants will be available in 2012.

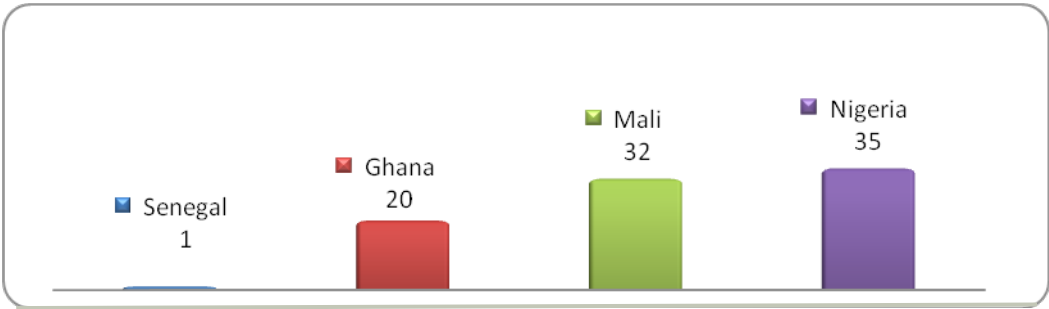
Emergency returns of migrants during and after the Libyan crisis has been an important destabilizing factor for the Sub-Saharan region, considering that as of December 2011, more than 200,000 had abruptly returned to their countries of origin (with peaks in some countries such as Chad and Niger). These particularly vulnerable migrants were leaving behind their sources of income, savings and sources of remittances and returning to the same areas where individual AVRR cases are also traditionally returning to, thus putting an extra burden to communities of origin. Individual or community-based reintegration activities represent yet a challenge for the region.

Assistance to trafficked persons and unaccompanied minors continues to be an important feature for the region. The majority of victims of trafficking assisted are male and minors, often exploited into agriculture, domestic labour and begging. Ghana, Mali and Senegal are indeed the countries where child trafficking manifests itself through labour exploitation (fishing in the Lake Volta in Ghana, mining sites in Mali) and begging (koranic schools pupils in Senegal and Mali). Nigeria continues to be the major sending country from the region for adult victims of trafficking exploited overseas.

1-IOM. World Migration Report 2011-Communicating Effectively about Migration. 2011. Available at: http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/index.php?main_page=product_info&products_id=752.

National capacities and means of caring for the identified victims of trafficking are still weak (apart from Nigeria that has a National Agency in charge of protection and prosecution of victims of trafficking), IOM is often providing coaching to national institutions and/or NGOs for ad hoc assistance.

Figure 1: IOM Assistance to Trafficked Persons, 2011

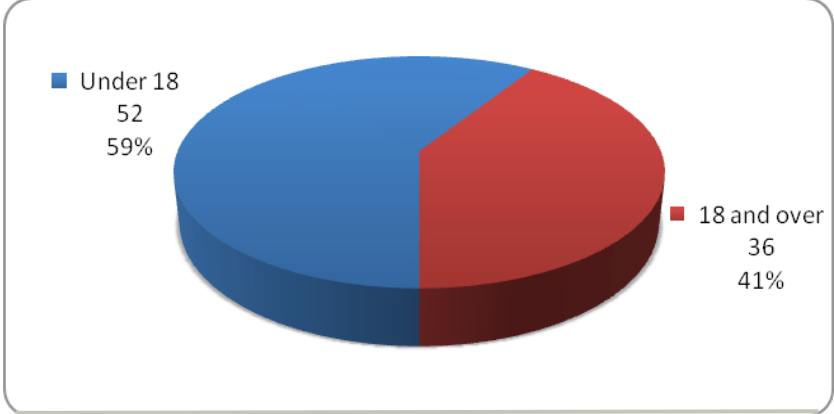


As evident from Figure 1 above, IOM assistance to trafficked persons was provided in 88 instances in 4 countries of the region. Nigeria and Mali had on-going assistance programmes in 2011 and provided assistance to both adult and child victims of trafficking identified in Europe and in the West African region. In Senegal and Ghana, IOM continues to receive referrals of victims of trafficking from NGO partners.

Profile of IOM Beneficiaries

Migrant Children

Figure 2: IOM Assistance to Trafficked Children, 2011



Child mobility is an important feature of migration dynamics in West and Central Africa region. Children from the region tend to move freely within the ECOWAS space both alone and with their families for many reasons, primarily to gain access to improved economic and educational opportunities. However, migration can also expose them to risks and make them more vulnerable to exploitation and trafficking. Trafficked children are often exploited in labour exploitation and begging. In fact 59% of IOM assistance to trafficked persons in this region was provided to children in 2011, as shown in Figure 2 above.

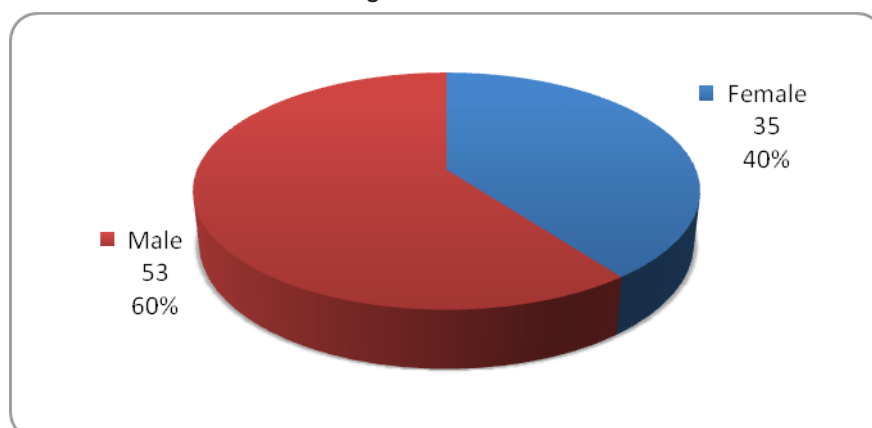
Trafficking of adults is largely unexplored in the region and, apart from the cases in Nigeria, does not stick out as a rising phenomenon.

Sex

As demonstrated by Figure 3 below, 40% of assistance provided to trafficked persons in this region supported women and girls in 2011, while 60% went to men and boys.

The majority of identified victims of trafficking are male and minors.

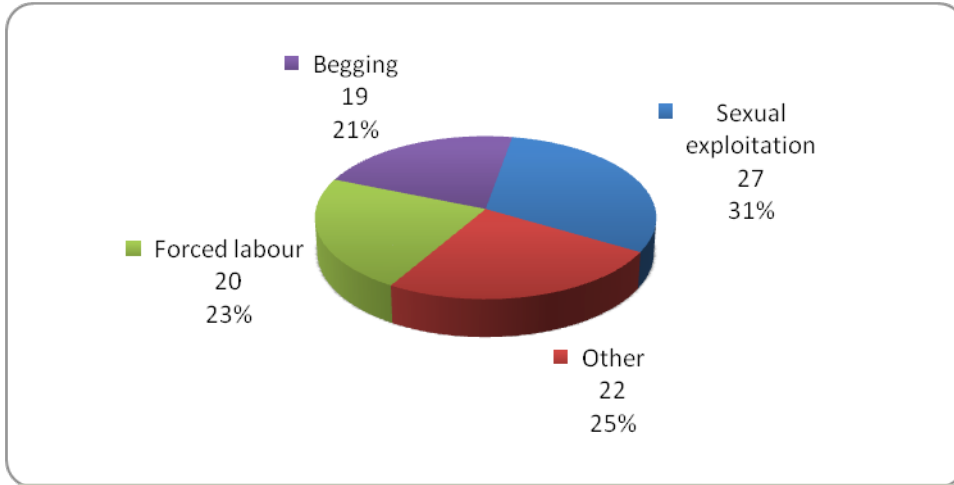
Figure 3: Sex, 2011



Type of Exploitation

As shown in Figure 4 below, 31% of IOM assistance benefited persons who had been trafficked for purposes of sexual exploitation, 23% for forced labour purposes, 21% for begging, 25% other. As noted above, many victims of trafficking are exploited in areas including agriculture, domestic labour and begging. In Ghana, Mali and Senegal, children are trafficked for fishing, mining, and begging.

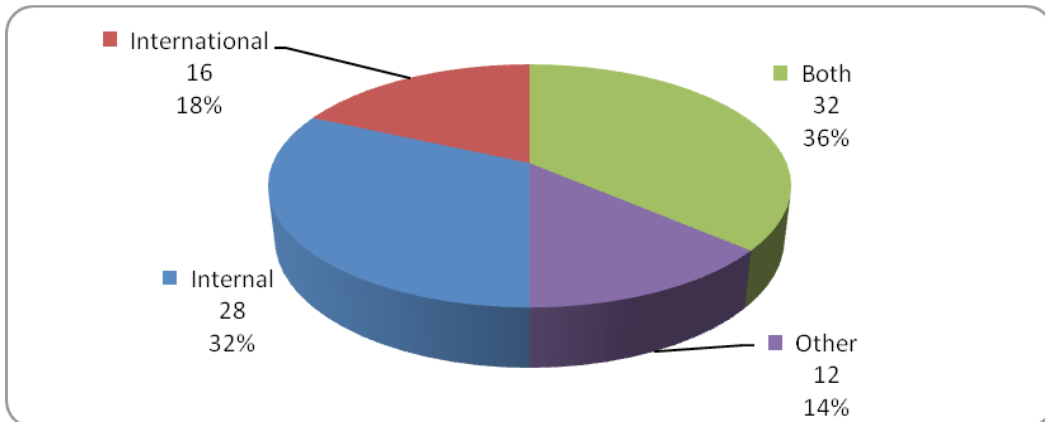
Figure 4: Type of Exploitation of Trafficked Persons Receiving IOM Assistance, 2011



Type of Trafficking

Victims in this region experienced several types of trafficking. While around 50% of victims are trafficked either internally or internationally, a significant portion of victims, 36% experience both.

Figure 5: Type of Trafficking of Trafficked Persons Receiving IOM Assistance, 2011



Gold Rush in Kédougou, Senegal: Protecting Migrants and Local Communities

Gold mining is considered to be an age-old activity by the people of the Kédougou region in eastern Senegal, who have been mining here for centuries. However, what was once a way to supplement one's income has become an economic necessity for local people from a number of villages who cannot support their families through agriculture, or whose agricultural land has been seized for use by foreign industrial mining companies.

The rising price of gold has attracted increasing numbers of migrants from Mali, Guinea, Gambia, Ghana, Burkina Faso, Togo and Nigeria looking for work on small-scale mines in Kédougou and other areas along the West African gold belt. In contrast to the modern technologies employed by private foreign companies, miners on these traditional artisanal mines use rudimentary tools and perform labour-intensive and hazardous work. Small groups of men and children work approximately 10 hours a day, digging 10- to 15-metre shafts, using makeshift pulleys to haul up bucketfuls of ore and pounding it to pan for gold using highly toxic mercury. These small-scale operations, requiring roughly 10 workers, are organized by the village chief, who is paid a royalty on the extracted gold. Each shaft may only yield very small amounts of gold, which are sold to intermediaries who resell the gold to bigger buyers. The profit is divided among the workers and the village chief based on pre-agreed terms. The miners' earnings in Kédougou are usually more than would have been possible in their home countries or in other activities such as agriculture, thus allowing them, despite the unpredictability of finding gold, to make a living and support their families.

Migrants working in artisanal mining are extremely mobile and continuously move to new sites with an absolute minimum of personal belongings. Despite an existing law with provisions to protect artisanal miners, the sector is not being officially regulated by the Senegalese Government. Owing to the difficulty of accessing mining sites, labour inspections do not take place and miners have little or no access to basic public services, including health care. Yet, mining can have significant health consequences (headaches; back, stomachaches, shoulder and muscle pain; fatigue as well as damage to lungs, kidneys, gastrointestinal tract, reproductive health, and immune system through mercury poisoning) for both locals and migrants who would require health services.

Despite the arduous working conditions and adverse impacts on miners' health, many local people and migrants have no other way of supporting their families. The poor working conditions in the mines, combined with the absence of government services and regulation in the area, pose serious risks of exploitation and abuse. Migrant children, for example, are especially vulnerable, and in some cases have been trafficked into gold mining in Kédougou. Although little research has been done on the situation in Senegal, Human Rights Watch reports that children in similar artisanal mines in Mali face serious exploitation, coercion and abuse (Human Rights Watch, *A Poisonous Mix: Child Labor, Mercury, and Artisanal Mining in Mali*, 2011). Children migrate by themselves, with their families, or with other guardians in order to work in mines, and they usually have no say in the decisions made by their parents. They do not attend school and are obliged to hand over most or all of their earnings to their family or guardian.

As the towns surrounding the mines grow, sexual exploitation has become common in Kédougou. According to journalists' reports and direct observation during an IOM mission to these sites, men working in the mines frequent bars in which women and girls from Senegal, Nigeria, Mali and Ghana are being exploited. Little is known about the situation of these women and girls, except that they live in terrible conditions in compounds near the bars and have limited access to health care or any public services, especially in the rainy season, when hospitals and health clinics are practically inaccessible. Senegalese authorities do not have much presence in the area and have not been able to determine if trafficking is occurring, although anecdotal reports suggest that this may be the case. For example, one Nigerian woman tells the story of how she was offered a job near the mines as a waitress, but upon arrival in Diabougou (in Kédougou), the trafficker confiscated her passport and demanded money from her. The health impacts of sexual exploitation of women and girls in mining areas have not been fully assessed, yet clinicians are beginning to evaluate the prevalence of HIV/AIDS in the area.

Despite the recent rise in gold prices, the expansion of gold mining has yet to translate into improvements in the well-being of local inhabitants of and migrants to the Kédougou region, who continue to be affected by poverty, child labour, trafficking, mercury use, and hazardous and arduous working conditions. However, the Senegalese Government, as well as private companies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), have started to address these growing concerns related to both industrial and artisanal mining. The Government's Support Programme for the Mining Sector (PASMI) has begun promoting actions to support and monitor the sector, including improved tools for gold washing and sensitization campaigns on education and health. NGOs and other international organizations are also active in the region notably aiming to carry out health and education programmes, improve the health and environmental safety of mining techniques, combat child labour and develop alternative avenues of income for the benefit of local communities. Private companies with high profits from industrial gold mining in the region have increased their efforts to carry out activities in the name of social responsibility, such as improving infrastructure, access to mining zones, and construction of schools and wells. IOM is exploring ways to provide support to the Senegalese Government and local partners and gain improved knowledge of both artisanal mining and the sexual exploitation linked to it in Kédougou, to prevent conflict between different stakeholders and to assess the needs of the region's migrant and local populations.

Source: Dafee, Lamine. *Gold Rush in Kédougou, Senegal: Protecting Migrants and Local Communities*. Excerpt from *Global Eye on Human Trafficking*. Issue 11. March 2012.

2- IOM 2011 Activities: Special Focus on Vulnerable Groups

In 2011, there were **11 projects active** in Central and West Africa that focused on vulnerable migrants, including victims of trafficking. The primary donor in the region is the United States. One project in Nigeria was funded by the Netherlands, Norway and Italy.

IOM's activities in this area focused on capacity building and training efforts to support government and civil society actors in preventing, investigating and prosecuting trafficking as well as protecting trafficked persons. Several projects dealt specifically with the protection of children from trafficking and other forms of abuse and exploitation and helping them to safely and sustainably return and reintegrate into their communities of origin. Some projects promoted coordination between multiple stakeholders in counter-trafficking efforts, including those at a local level, such as village community leaders (i.e. projects in Senegal, Nigeria and Mali). Public awareness activities were carried on human rights, slavery-related practices, and safe migration. IOM also carried out an assessment of the trafficking legal framework in Niger in 2011 (not for distribution but used as baseline assessment and foundation for the project). Finally, IOM worked to promote regional dialogue and capacity building on mixed migration flows and protection of vulnerable migrants in the framework of the Migration Dialogue for West Africa (MIDWA), a project part of the Regional Consultative Process established in West Africa in 2001.

The beneficiaries included a wide range of government and civil society actors, including village community leaders, human trafficking surveillance committees, law enforcement and border officials, religious leaders, social welfare, shelter and healthcare providers, NGOs, prosecutors, task forces, as well as trafficked persons, migrant children, migrant women, labour migrants, and stranded migrants.

3- Focus on Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Assistance

Of the 11 projects active in the region in 2011, 4 aimed to provide safe and sustainable voluntary return and/or reintegration assistance to trafficked men, women and children in Chad, Ghana, Mali, and Nigeria. A project in Ghana, which ended in 2011, provided hundreds of children trafficked to fish in the Lake Volta the opportunity to reunite with their family and received reintegration assistance to reduce the poverty of their parents. A network of local stakeholders worked cooperatively and in line with international standards to provide comprehensive protection and reintegration assistance. Individual private donations allowed rescue and reintegration activities of the trafficked children to continue beyond the project's life-span. However, reintegration and monitoring of returned victims of trafficking continues to represent a challenge in remote areas of the countries, where there are limited project partners.

4- Good Practices in Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration of Vulnerable Groups

Family tracing linked to the voluntary return and reintegration of unaccompanied migrant children is also important activity for West and Central Africa, a region characterized by children on the move. Besides several on-going projects on family tracing leading into returns and reintegration of unaccompanied migrant children hosted in Europe originating from the region, in 2011 an emergency related activity focused on the family tracing, return and reintegration of stranded unaccompanied and separated migrant children in Tunisia, following the Libyan crisis. Thanks to the existing networks of local NGO partners, IOM offices in countries of origin were able to quickly reach out to families and take care of the safe return and reintegration of unaccompanied minors stranded during the Libyan crisis (90 children were assisted between May and November 2011).

Despite the lack of a proper legal guardianship system in countries of origin and the absence of best interest determination procedures, concerned actors were able to carry out best interest determination for each individual case.

In addition to above mentioned issues, Nigeria continues to be one of the biggest recipient countries of returning migrants from Europe in the region. Some of these migrants are particularly vulnerable, such as victims of trafficking. IOM has established a fruitful partnership with the National Agency for Prosecution of Trafficking in Persons –NAPTIP, a national independent agency working as a one stop shop for legal aid, sheltering facilities, prosecution and investigation activities vis-à-vis Nigerian victims of trafficking. NAPTIP ensures protection and follow-up to the reintegration victims of trafficking and represents a leading institution within West Africa. NAPTIP needs reinforcement of its capacities and monitoring of quality of services rendered to victims, an area where IOM will continue to work in the future.

EAST & SOUTHERN AFRICA

I- Regional Overview: Dynamics, Trends, and Profile of IOM Beneficiaries

Almost all countries in the East and Southern Africa region¹ are origin, transit or destination countries for victims of trafficking. There has been a rise in the identification and assistance of victims of internal trafficking, particularly children.

The majority of cases assisted by IOM under direct assistance to victims of trafficking programmes in the in 2011 in this region, were female adults. However, several child beneficiaries (male and female) and some male adult beneficiary were also assisted.

Vulnerabilities leading to trafficking included: poverty and lack of job opportunities. Most beneficiaries assisted moved either to urban areas (for internal trafficking) or to other countries, where they perceived that living conditions would be better. This was particularly the case for women, who appear to have (or perceive there to be) more limited options for employment than men. The case of children mostly involved the family members, who place them in the care of more affluent families, often related to the children themselves, who exploit the children for domestic servitude. Male victims assisted during 2011 include fishermen working under slavery like conditions on boats and who escape their exploiters to seek IOM assistance when the boats dock in countries in the region.

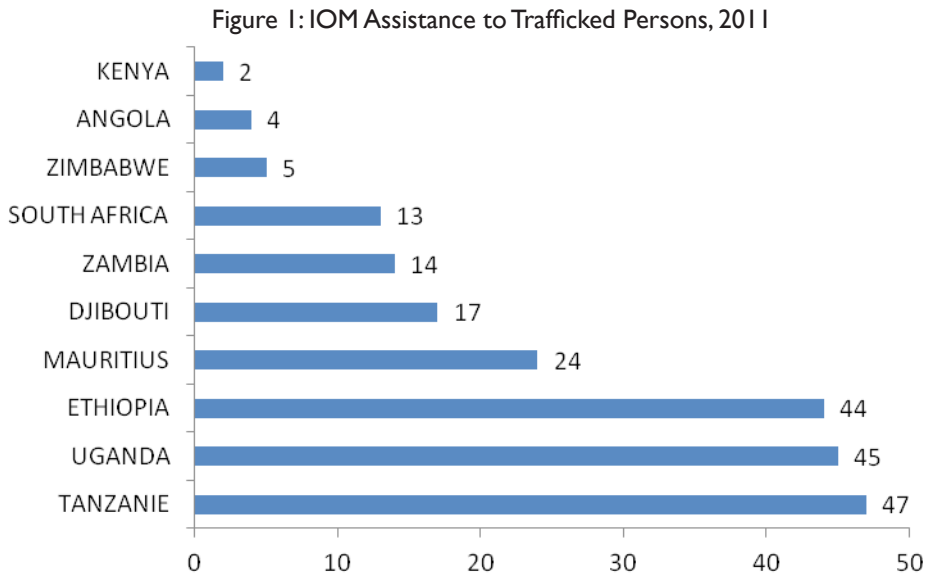
Closely linked to trafficking, the region has also become increasingly characterized by both, intra-and international mixed migratory movements. Large groups from Ethiopia and Somalia, pushed by conflict, drought, floods, political oppression, endemic poverty or simply an inability to thrive, have been moving away from their countries. Many of the migrants travelling within these movements seek asylum in the vast, overcrowded refugee camps of Kenya (Dadaab and Kakuma). The two major migratory routes for Eastern and Southern Africa are the following: 1) The North-Eastern Route: through Puntland or Djibouti into Yemen normally with the intention of getting into Saudi Arabia and beyond, 2) The Southern Route: through Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi and Mozambique or another 'frontline state' into South Africa. An IOM Research Report² estimates that some 50% of the Somali and Ethiopians who manage to reach South Africa in this way will continue to North America, Europe and Australia. However, of the estimated 20,000 individuals who take this route every year, many do not manage to reach South Africa.

A number of stranded migrant cases were referred to IOM. The majority of stranded migrants were intercepted either on entry to or exit in transit countries, usually en-route to South Africa. They are either abandoned by those that were facilitating their irregular travel, and often arrested by immigration officials. These individuals include men, women, and children (often ending up as unaccompanied minors, when left stranded at the border).

1- Eastern Africa: Burundi, Comoros, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mayotte, Mozambique, Réunion, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe; Southern Africa: Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland.

2- IOM. In Pursuit of the Southern Dream: Victims of Necessity. 2009. Available at: http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/index.php?main_page=product_info&products_id=507.

The majority of these cases travel in groups and are usually from the same locale within country of origin, although are not always known to one another. Cases originate from Somalia, Ethiopia, DR Congo, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Rwanda and Burundi. Due to the inability of governments to repatriate these individuals, IOM is requested to assist with the AVRR. Asylum seekers are normally referred to UNHCR.

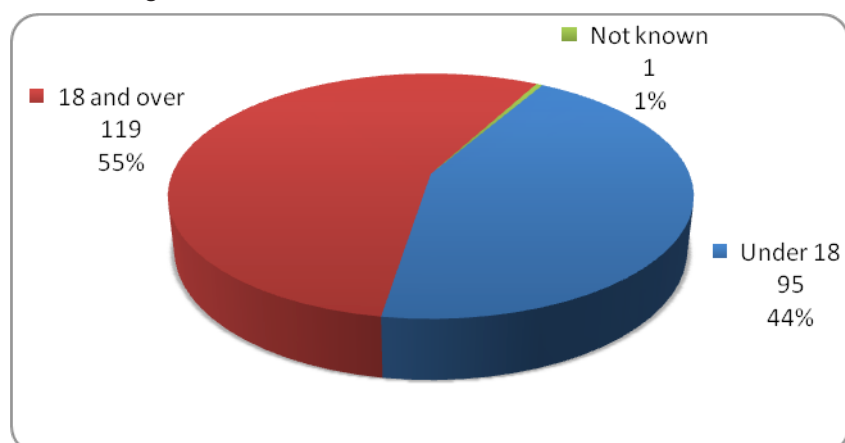


Showing a total of 215 instances of assistance of trafficked persons in the region in 10 countries (countries in which IOM provided assistance).

Profile of IOM Beneficiaries

Migrant Children

Figure 2: IOM Assistance to Trafficked Children, 2011



44% of IOM assistance to trafficked persons in this region was provided to minors in 2011, as shown in Figure 2 above. The exploitation of children assumes various forms and often involves members of close or extended families. This is for instance true for Tanzania where, the high birth rate, the traditional custom to foster children, the increasing rural-urban migration, the rapid cultural change of the Tanzanian society in the urban setting and the need for free labour force in informal sectors fuel internal trafficking. In these settings, children are normally exploited in the form of petty trade, begging and prostitution. The exploitation of children also takes place on the tea plantations and in mining to a lesser extent. Most children were aged from 12 to 17. There is a close correlation between failing to access secondary school and the risk of being recruited. Similar conditions were observed in the preliminary findings from a recent research³ into child domestic work and internal trafficking in Zambia that consistently showed vulnerability of rural children to economic migration and exploitation in urban households. Gender, age and lack of parental care (both resulting from death of the parents and circumstances in the household of origin) were indicated as the main factors affecting the risk of children entering domestic work situations at the individual level.

3- United Nations Joint Programme on Human Trafficking. Sweeping the Bedroom Floor. research on internal trafficking for domestic work in Zambia.

There are indications that Ugandan children are trafficked abroad for various purposes, while internal trafficking is a major problem within the borders of Uganda. Children are trafficked from the North and Karamoja regions. A peculiar case is that of the Karimojong Children. These are children from an ethnic group called the Karimojong of north eastern Uganda; an area called Karamoja. These children are often trafficked from Karamoja to the capital city Kampala and other major towns such as Jinja, Iganga, Mbale and Busia where they are exploited in various ways such as begging on the streets of Kampala and other major towns, domestic work, restaurant work, scrap or garbage collection, pick pocketing, monitoring children tasked with begging on the streets and prostitution for girls. Some of the factors that render children vulnerable to trafficking from Karamoja are food insecurity, poverty and high prevalence of cattle rustling in the region.

Existing and emerging trafficking trends observed in 2011 include the recruitment of youths from Zambia for job and training opportunities in South Africa. The recruitment involves school going children and out of school youths, who are deceived to go for educational, employment or training opportunities, in South Africa. A number of cases, which appear to fit this profile have been referred to IOM Zambia for advisory by law enforcement officers that have received IOM training. Such cases have been addressed prior to the departure of individuals to South Africa, in coordination with IOM South Africa.

Sex

As demonstrated by Figure 3 below, 59% of assistance provided to trafficked persons in this region supported women and girls in 2011, while 41% went to men and boys.

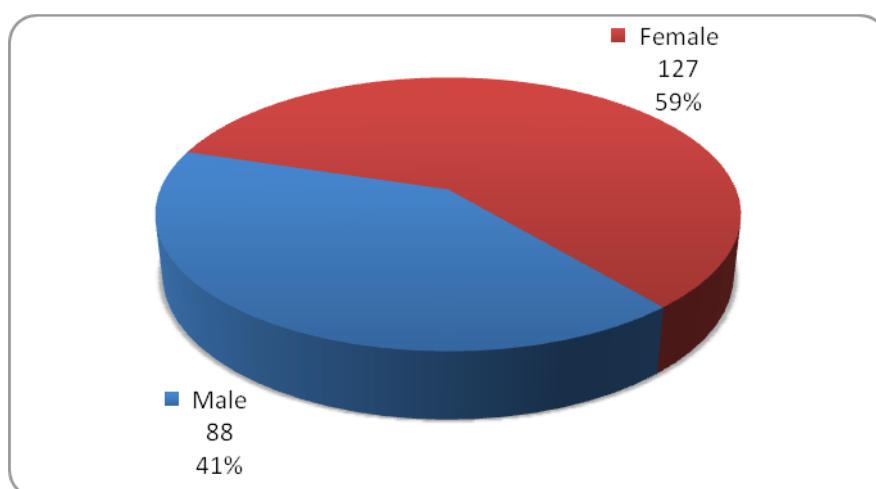
With rising cost of living, high unemployment rates, scarce jobs and abundant young populations in the region, many young people are turning to job opportunities outside their home areas and countries in search of prospect for earning a living and sending money back to support families.

Women and girls are more vulnerable to trafficking than men. Poverty, lack of employment, HIV/AIDS pandemic that has created a large number of female and child headed households and lack of information all make people, especially women and children, easy prey for traffickers. In many instances, women and children are unable to fend for themselves economically but bear the social burden of taking care of their families. They often desperately search for work opportunities or sources of income. Women often readily give away their children to others promising to educate the children or put them to work for a steady income to the family. Women are also prone to accepting job offers that end up in exploitative conditions including prostitution.

Cross border trafficking often involves young women between 16 and 25 years of age who are trafficked to Asia, the Middle East and Europe often for sexual exploitation and domestic servitude. Young women are lured with job offers in restaurants or salons, businesses such as buying clothes and other items, promises of a better life with enough money to send home as well as save, or enrolment in language school learning English. This observation is particularly true for Ethiopian and Ugandan victims of cross border trafficking who received assistance.

Male beneficiaries included Cambodian fishermen who have been exploited on board fishing vessels for extended periods where they worked very long hours, under horrendous conditions, and where their wages and travel documents were withheld.

Figure 3: Sex, 2011



Type of Exploitation

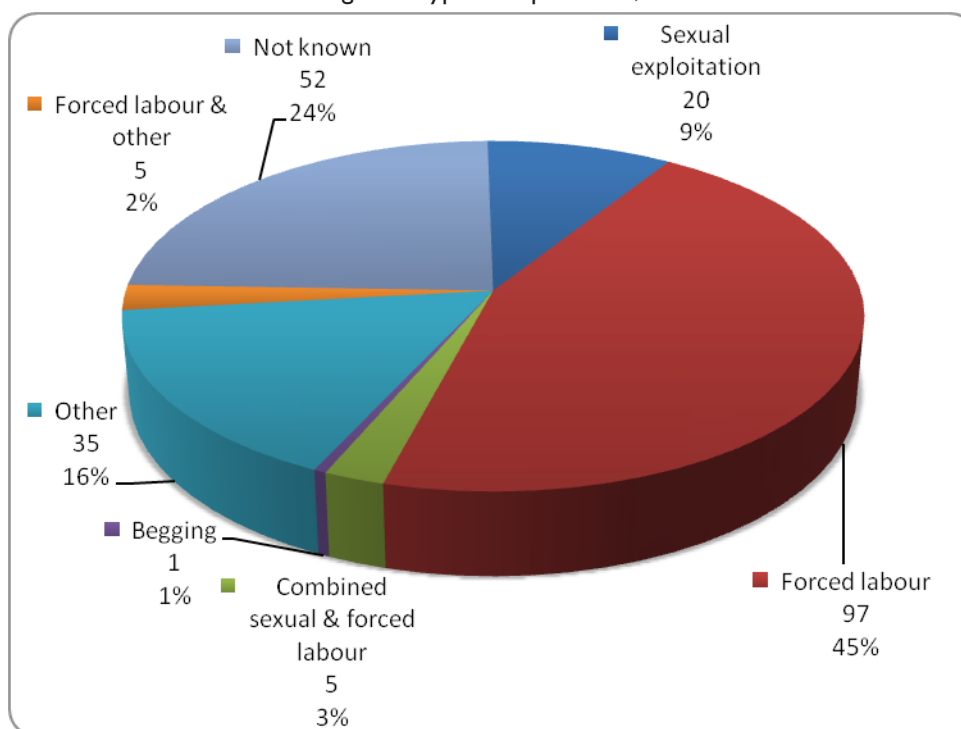
As shown in Figure 4 below, 45% of IOM assistance benefited persons who had been trafficked for purposes of forced labour (largely domestic servitude and to a lesser extent fishing, construction, mining), 3% for sexual exploitation and forced labour purposes, 9% for sexual exploitation, 16 % for other purposes including, mostly in the case of children, petty trade, small criminal activity, begging and scrap or garbage collection.

Over the last three years there has also been an increase in the number of trafficking cases involving young Ugandan women trafficked abroad for sexual exploitation. They are often forced to engage in prostitution threatened with huge debts of money usually the amount used to purchase air tickets and arrange for the payment of passports and visas. The women are forced to work long hours, service a set number of clients and meet client demands (e.g. demands for unprotected sex). In 2011 all the Ugandan individuals assisted had been trafficked for purposes of sexual exploitation.

Ethiopian women continue to be trafficked to the Middle East for **domestic servitude** purposes with some of them reporting **sexual abuse and exploitation**. Those who travel to Yemen across the Gulf en route to Saudi Arabia and other countries in the region in the context of mixed migration flows report severe abuse and exploitation at the hands of smugglers. Children are also trafficked for purposes of domestic servitude. Most often they are trafficked internally from poor and vulnerable communities to more affluent families (including relatives) in the city.

Another trend observed includes the smuggling and possible trafficking of youths (mostly male) from the Horn of Africa and Asia to South Africa through East Africa. These men are recruited from vulnerable communities through deception. Before traveling, they usually sell all their assets to raise money for the trip. Upon their arrival in East Africa, the traffickers confiscate their travel documents and demand extra fees from them. They are smuggled to and often through countries in the East and Southern Africa region where law enforcement officers arrest them and put them in prison. The intended purpose of such movements is unclear as these individuals are intercepted in transit – however, it is possible that exploitation may have occurred upon arrival in final destinations.

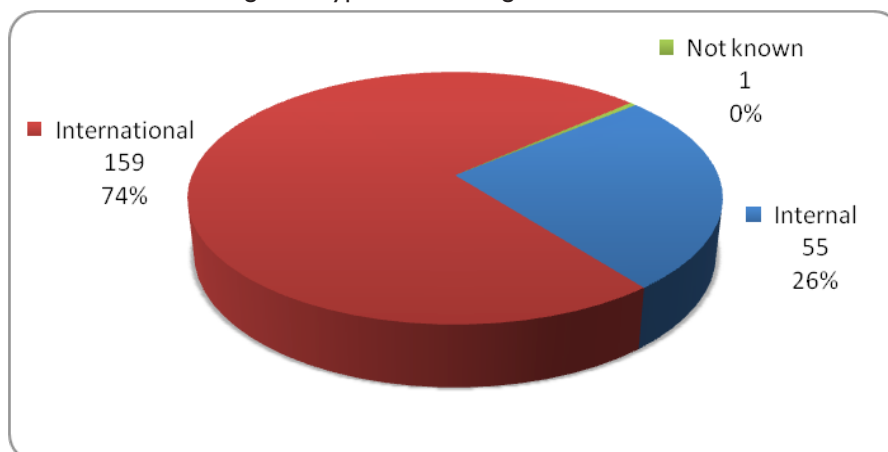
Figure 4: Type of Exploitation, 2011



Type of Trafficking

74% of IOM assistance provided to trafficked persons in 2011 was received by people, who had been trafficked across international borders, while 26% of assistance benefited persons, who were trafficked internally (see Figure 5 below). Cross border trafficking cases largely consist of Ugandan nationals trafficked to the Middle East and Asia for sexual exploitation; Ethiopian women trafficked to countries in the Gulf region largely for domestic servitude and to a lesser extent for sexual exploitation purposes. Cambodian Fishermen exploited on board fishing vessels and identified in the region; as well as victims of trafficking from various countries, mostly from the region identified, in South Africa.

Figure 5: Type of Trafficking, 2011



2- IOM Activities 2011: Special Focus on Vulnerable Groups

In 2011, there were 24 projects active in East and Southern Africa that focused on vulnerable migrants, including victims of trafficking. The primary donors are the United States, Norway, the EC, and the United Nations.

Projects focused on capacity building and training efforts to support government and civil society actors in preventing, investigating and prosecuting trafficking as well as protecting trafficked persons and other vulnerable migrants. Several projects worked to strengthen national and local-level referral and assistance mechanisms for the identification and protection of trafficked persons and other vulnerable migrants by mapping, coordinating, and building capacity of government and civil society organizations. IOM also worked with partners to provide technical assistance and capacity building in support of regional counter-trafficking efforts, including dialogue and coordination as well as implementation of plan of actions, such as the Africa Union's Ouagadougou Action Plan and the inter-agency Mixed Migration Task Forces (MMTF). In several countries, IOM supported the government in developing and implementing counter-trafficking policy and legislation. In Zambia, with the support of J/TIP, IOM is providing training for law enforcement officers on investigation skills with the aim of operationalizing the Anti-Human Trafficking Act. Building on this experience, IOM will in the next stage offer capacity building to prosecutors to increase the number of successful prosecutions/ convictions of traffickers.

Several projects also allowed for IOM to provide direct assistance to victims of trafficking and other vulnerable migrants, such as medical, shelter, psychosocial care, legal aid and AVRR.

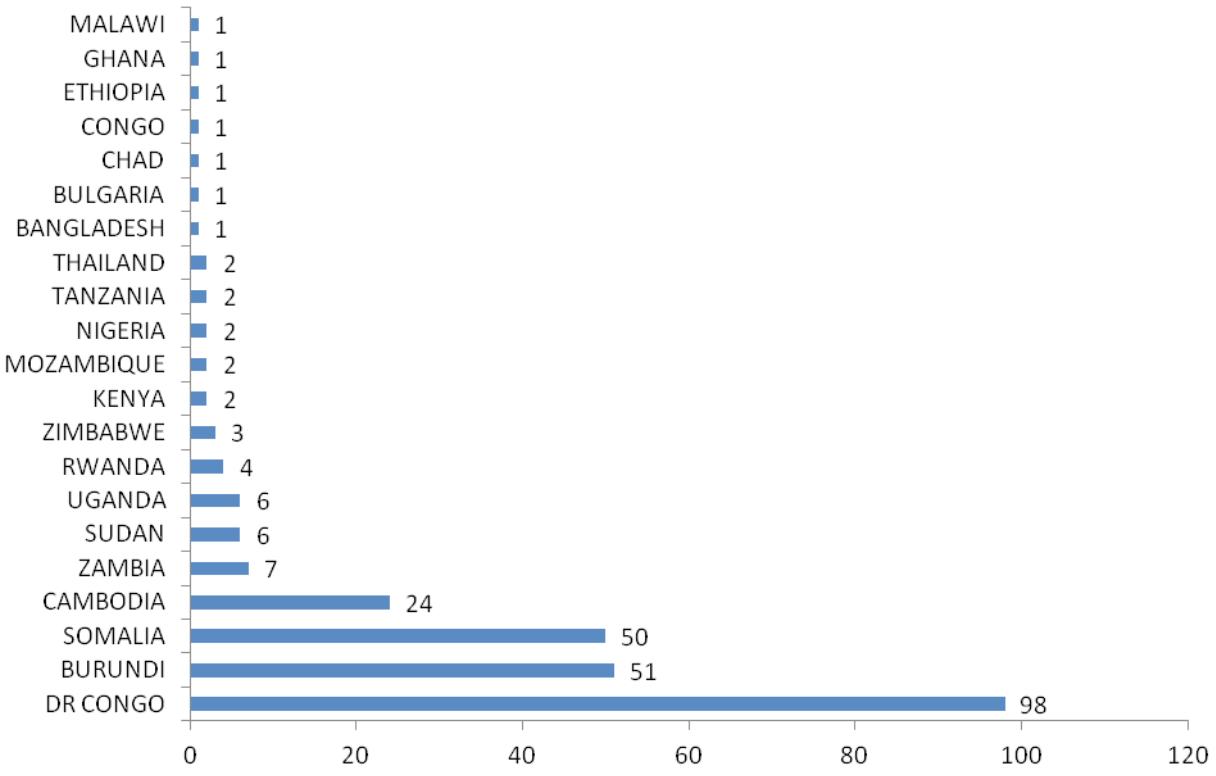
Overall, the beneficiaries of IOM programmes in the region included a wide range of government and civil society actors, including law enforcement officers, protection service provider, shelter and healthcare providers, NGOs, task forces, as well as trafficked persons, migrant children, migrant women, labour migrants, and irregular and stranded migrants.

3- Focus on Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Assistance

Four projects in the region supported voluntary return and/or reintegration assistance for trafficked persons and other vulnerable migrants. One project focused on improving protection of migrants from Somalia and Ethiopia, who travel through Somaliland and Puntland through the Gulf of Aden to Yemen. Another project led to the development of uniform standards and procedures in the East Africa region for the safe return and reintegration among the countries in this region. In addition, IOM provided the option of AVRR for irregular migrants in South Africa, who wished to return home.

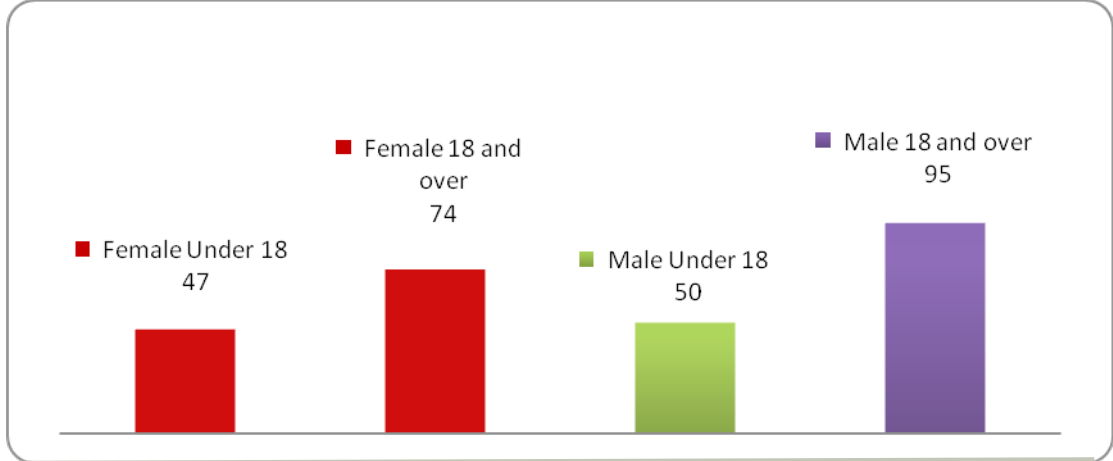
As shown in Figure 6 below, IOM assisted 266 trafficked persons/vulnerable migrants to voluntarily return to their community or country of origin in 2011, (98 to DRC, 51 to Burundi, 50 to Somalia, 24 to Cambodia).

Figure 6: Nationality, 2011



Stranded migrants in detention and victims of xenophobia in South Africa constitute a large majority of the Congolese and Burundian cases assisted by IOM. The Cambodians assisted were fishermen, who escape from their vessels, while docked at ports in South Africa and Mauritius.

Figure 7: Age and Sex, 2011



As shown in Figure 7 above, 55% of the trafficked persons/vulnerable migrants receiving AVRR assistance were male, while 45% were female. 64% of trafficked persons/vulnerable migrants receiving AVRR assistance were over 18, and 36% under 18.

4- Good Practices in Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration of Vulnerable Groups

The East and Southern Africa Region exhibits an acute need for tailored AVRR initiatives, particularly in the context of the large mixed migration flows experienced by the region. Given that such flows continue to grow and pose increasing challenges to government in the region, IOM is actively exploring ways of establishing and maintaining mechanisms for screening and assisting vulnerable migrants, who often spend extended period of time in detention. The dire conditions of detention often faced by vulnerable migrants caught in this flows add urgency to implement return operations. Government in the region have repeatedly highlighted their lack of capacity to address mixed migration flows and in particular the ability to ensure the safe and dignified return of migrants to countries of origin. While admittedly, long term solutions must, as of necessity, require addressing these flows in countries of origin through such programmes as community stabilization and awareness raising, the current magnitude of such flows has left little options other than emergency evacuation exercises. While there is an acute need to move away from short term strategies, tailored AVRR programmes will continue to remain at the core of future responses aimed at assisting vulnerable migrants in the region.

A noteworthy project in this regard is the 'Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Assistance to Undocumented Congolese Women and their Children stranded in Northern Uganda.' IOM provided return and reintegration assistance to 43 undocumented Congolese women and their children stranded in Acholi and Lango regions, and Wakiso district in Uganda. IOM assisted with the following services: psychosocial, shelter, medical and nutritional assistance, family tracing; return and transit assistance; and socio-economic reintegration assistance.

These women were supported by IOM through individual case management and assistance to establish or re-establish businesses. The local NGO partner and IOM staff on the ground in DR Congo identified and conducted mapping for socio-economic opportunities and referred beneficiaries for services like education, health/medical care, employment, identification documents. Activities undertaken as part of socio-economic reintegration included peanut grinding, cassava milling and rice threshing, water purification, soap making business, dry food sales and saloon services. The project approach focused on providing immediate and sustainable employment in the form of jobs, allowing women to gain sustainable financial independence, rather than provision of cash assistance.

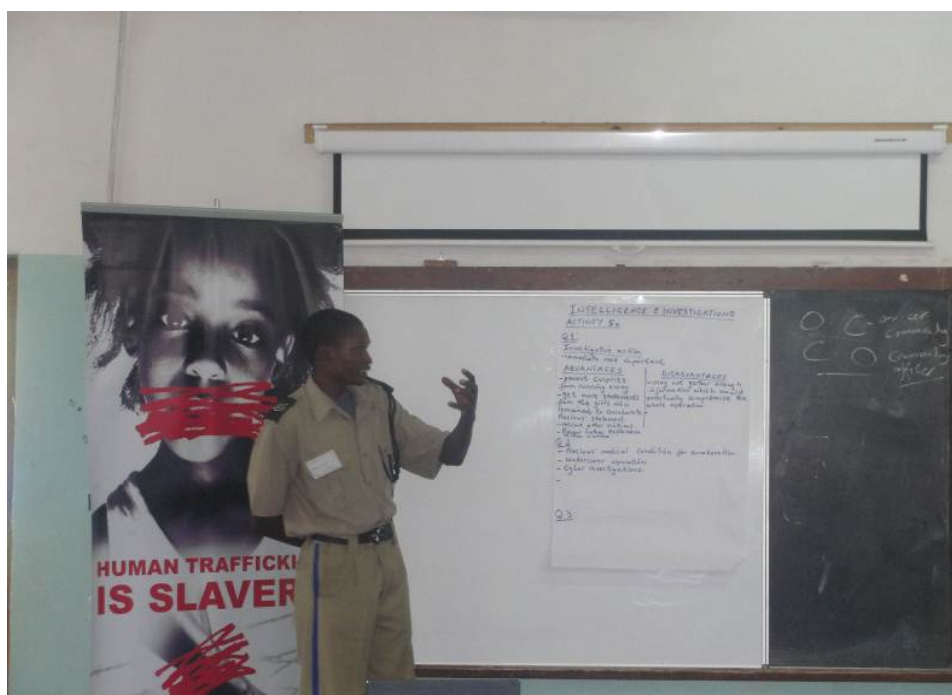
As of March 2012, thirty one (31) women were still employed and their children were enrolled in school.

Coordinated Response to Human Trafficking in Uganda (CRTU)

This program is a response to an increasingly dire human trafficking and exploitation environment within Uganda. In close coordination with local NGOs, select ministries of the Ugandan Government, select district governments, local leaders, Uganda Human Rights Commission and local law enforcement agencies, IOM aims to break the cycle of exploitation among vulnerable populations, particularly Karamojong street children, using a multidimensional approach.

The project includes a coordinated case management approach between caseworkers and victims of exploitation, who accompanied survivors of trafficking through the reintegration process.

IOM is developing a Victims of Trafficking Database capable of tracking socio-economic trends and providing social network analysis based on client data. Unique to the project is the use of smartphones for data collection that enables internet access for caseworkers to the various forms (e.g. screening and assistance forms) used throughout the identification and reintegration process. The use of smartphones facilitates the instant transmission of data to the Database wherever a caseworker and client are situated. A community based socio-economic approach for return, resettlement, and reintegration activities is emphasized. IOM is working closely with community level partners to address the roles of guardians and parents, take preventative measures to provide alternative activities to address economic needs, as well as assist with vocational skills training for women and heads of household, and extension of livelihoods support from existing projects in communities of origin or develop new livelihoods opportunities and ensure job placements. To ensure sustainability IOM is conducting a market survey, referral mapping, supply chain analysis and is working closely with the local government and private sector entities. In addition, IOM is providing technical assistance and capacity building to our local partners in the form of professional development training and programme monitoring and evaluation.



Officer from Zambia Police during training of trainers

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

I- Regional Overview: Dynamics, Trends, and Profile of IOM Beneficiaries

In recent years, more and more migrants are finding themselves in situations of vulnerability during their migration experience to, from and within the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). The year 2011 was no exception: Despite conflict within the region as a whole characterized by the 'Arab uprising', IOM continued to work with governmental and non-governmental partners in all of the above countries to assist migrants in need including trafficked persons and those at-risk of trafficking such as exploited, extorted and smuggled migrants, displaced populations, unaccompanied and separated migrant children, migrants with health-related needs, and other vulnerable groups.



Migration and assistance trends in 2011 in relation to trafficked and vulnerable groups within the MENA region were – and in coming years will continue to be – myriad and complex. The Arab uprising and aftermath within the region in itself rendered many migrant workers vulnerable to exploitation and, as was in the case of Libya in particular, exposed previously undocumented instances of trafficking such as the grave exploitation and abuse of trafficked domestic workers. As the affected countries start to stabilise and rebuild the demand for cheap and exploitative labour has become apparent and there is a need to ensure that the rights of migrant workers (and displaced nationals) are duly protected.

Another particular example concerns the plight of sub-Saharan African migrants who often risk their lives en route to the Gulf, Israel and eventually Europe. Pushed by economic uncertainty, conflict and natural disaster, migrant men, women and children find themselves reliant on human smugglers; and many in these 'mixed migration' scenarios are at risk of trafficking and exploitation. IOM missions have responded to this humanitarian situation through the provision of multi-faceted and comprehensive direct assistance to trafficked persons along the Eastern Africa migratory route. In addition, IOM continues to work in partnership with governments and civil society actors in the affected countries, building capacities to continue to respond to these complex issues.

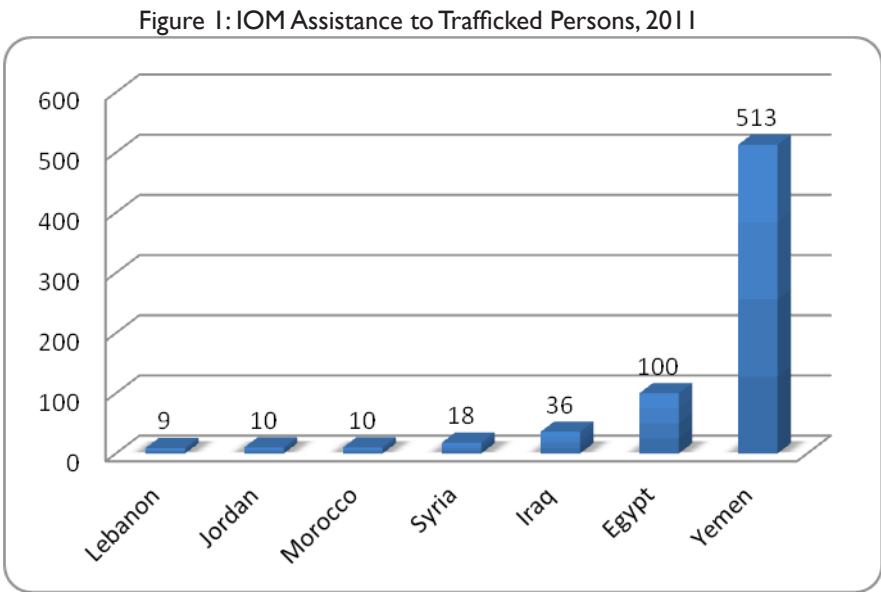
Displaced populations vulnerable to trafficking and exploitation equally remained a priority, such as the protracted situation of displaced Iraqis. Between September 2010 and August 2011, IOM's 'regional project for the identification and provision of assistance to Iraqi victims of trafficking including those at-risk of trafficking' protected 1841 beneficiaries through the provision of direct assistance. Representing a third increase on the target number (of 1400), vulnerable and exploited Iraqis in Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria were provided with access to medical, legal, and educational services, Non-Food Items (NFIs), and improved shelter and accommodation.

In terms of trafficking trends, the MENA region is confronted as much by inter-regional trafficking as it is by intra-regional and internal, in-country trafficking. For example, many countries within North Africa, in particular, are faced with the challenging situation of being source, transit and destination countries for trafficking. IOM is aware of North African nationals trafficked to the Middle East and GCC for forced labour, or to Europe for sexual exploitation and forced labour. By the same token, the trafficking of sub-Saharan, Western African and South and south-east Asian migrants to the MENA region continues, largely for forced labour, sexual exploitation and servitude, including extortion. An upwardly concerning trend relates to the maltreatment of domestic workers. Following the passage of the Domestic Workers Convention in summer 2011, IOM missions within the region have focused on supporting national efforts to assist migrants exploited and trafficked in this vulnerable sector of work.

Further, and in as much as IOM missions together with host governments in the region take action to respond to the trend of cross-border trafficking, more than 50% of assisted cases relate to internal trafficking. IOM ensures equal access to trafficking services for national and foreign victims.

Profile of IOM beneficiaries

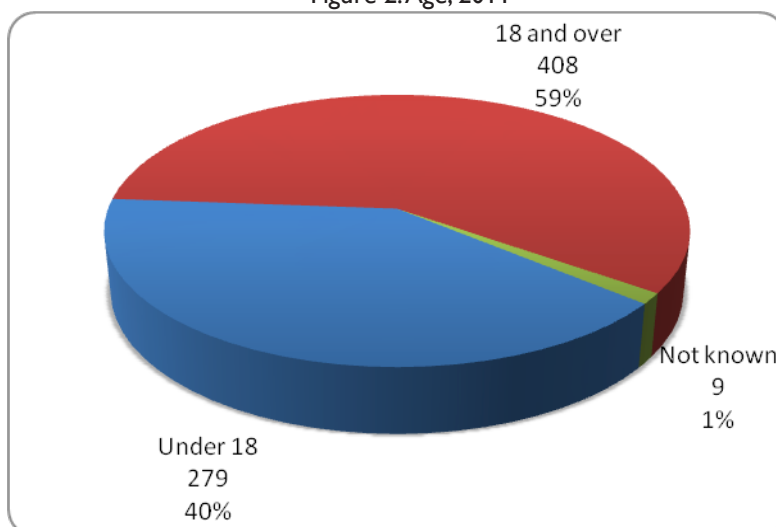
As shown in Figure 1 below, IOM assistance to trafficked persons was provided in 696 instances in 7 countries of the region.



Age

As demonstrated in Figure 2 above, 40% of IOM assistance to trafficked persons in this region was provided to minors; 59% of IOM assistance to trafficked persons benefited adults. Such a finding reveals the need for an age-sensitive approach to anti-trafficking. For example, within the region IOM works together with governmental, civil society, and international actors to ensure that minors, especially where unaccompanied, benefit from a Best Interests Determination, family tracing, and ensured guardianship.

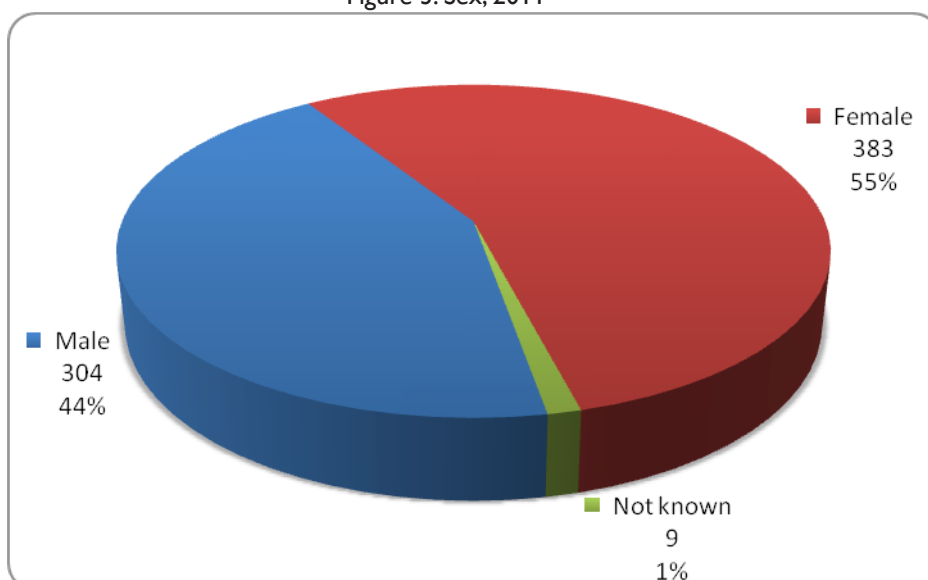
Figure 2: Age, 2011



Sex

As demonstrated by Figure 3 below, 55% of assistance provided to trafficked persons in this region supported female victims in 2011, while 44% went to male victims. While the identification of male trafficked persons remains a challenge globally, IOM's projects within MENA are able to provide services to both males and females.

Figure 3: Sex, 2011



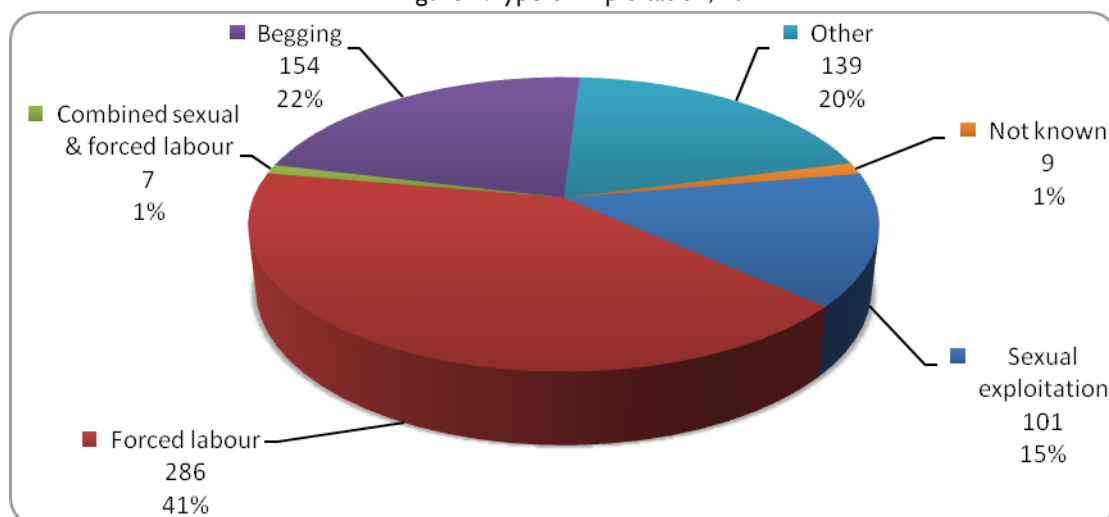
Type of Exploitation

As shown in Figure 4 below, 41% of IOM assistance benefited persons who had been trafficked for purposes of forced labour, 15% for sexual exploitation, 21% for begging, 20% for other purposes, including forced marriage, slavery, servitude and slavery-like practices. The trafficking of domestic workers is particularly apparent in the region, and demands particular attention, specifically concerning possible revisions to the Kafala sponsorship system to better protect the rights of domestic workers. In addition, IOM has assisted cases trafficked into the construction work sector. As many countries in the region will embark on a reconstruction process throughout 2012 and onwards, it will be important to ensure that the rights of migrant workers are duly protected. IOM will be closely monitoring this situation in the coming years and will work together with respective counterparts to ensure an anti-trafficking approach that includes not only protection but prevention efforts too.

The trafficking of minors, largely for the purpose of begging, is also an issue that demands acute attention. In several countries in the region, children can be found living on the street, some of whom are unaccompanied and hardly any of whom who have access to education. Any approach to trafficking must also therefore be grounded in development policies.

An additional upward trend concerns the grave exploitation of smuggled migrants and refugees, many of whom are Ethiopians, Eritreans and Sudanese passing through Egypt's Sinai en route to Israel. IOM is aware of accounts of extortion and torture and will work together with relevant national counterparts to in countries of origin and destination to prevent this abuse.

Figure 4: Type of Exploitation, 2011



The Cost of Iraq's Reconstruction: Trafficked Labour Migrants

As Iraq continues to repair its infrastructure, which has been damaged by decades of war and sanctions, the demand for cheap labour by foreign companies investing in Iraq has increased the incidence of trafficking, exploitation and abandonment of labour migrants. Whereas problems of internal displacement and cross-border trafficking of Iraqi women and girls for sexual exploitation is well known, little is known about the exploitation and trafficking of labour migrants.

And yet, the number of labour migrants trapped in Iraq is steadily increasing. Over the years, IOM has assisted many victims of trafficking who were being exploited in Iraq's construction, domestic and service industries. In 2010, for example, IOM helped a group of trafficked Georgian labour migrants to return home. The young men had been recruited to work in a factory in the Kurdistan region, only to have their passports confiscated upon arrival and to be forced to live for months in deplorable conditions.

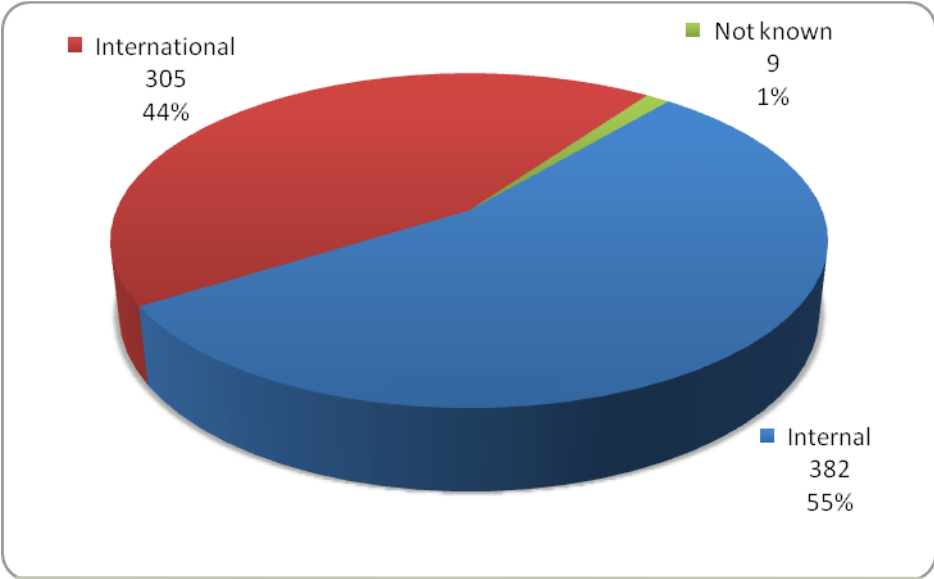
Similarly, in August 2011, IOM identified a group of 35 Ukrainian and Bulgarian workers stranded in the heart of Baghdad's International Zone – the seat of the Iraqi Government, foreign embassies and international organizations. Brought to Iraq in December 2010 to build a convention centre, these workers were promised salaries and living conditions that never materialized. Abandoned by the Turkish contractor and left without food or water, the workers required immediate humanitarian assistance. IOM therefore supplied hot meals while also leading an advocacy campaign for the workers to be paid the USD 300,000 they were collectively owed. Regrettably, the workers eventually received only a small fraction of that amount before going home. They did not receive this compensation directly from the contracting company, but rather from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Iraq. However, the men continue to pursue a case on labour violations against the contractor in the Central Criminal Court of Baghdad.

In another example, a group of 80 labour migrants from India and Bangladesh was brought to IOM's attention in late 2011 after being trafficked by their Turkish contractor. The myriad of human rights violations included limited freedom of movement, lack of access to medical care, and withholding of full payment of salaries. After months of negotiations and a labour strike, the workers successfully forced their contracting company to pay them a portion of their owed salaries and cover the costs of their transportation home. Iraqi authorities face severe challenges in investigating and prosecuting such cases, given that the exploited men wish to return home as soon as possible due to their immediate needs. In the absence of the victims, cases are being pursued in civil courts by power of attorney, yet criminal charges of trafficking have still to be brought against employers, who remain unpunished to date.

Type of Trafficking

44% of IOM assistance provided to trafficked persons in 2011 was received by people, who had been trafficked across international borders, while 55% of assistance benefited persons, who were trafficked internally (see Figure 5 below).

Figure 5: Type of Trafficking, 2011



2- IOM Activities 2011: Special Focus on Vulnerable Groups

In an attempt to address such complex trends, IOM's response has sought to be equally comprehensive. In 2011, there were 22 projects active in the Middle East and North Africa that focused on vulnerable migrants including victims of trafficking. These were funded by the United States (12), IOM (3), Italy (2), the EC (1), Finland (1), Kuwait (1), the Netherlands (1), and Switzerland (1). Such projects aimed to promote systematic victim identification, raise awareness on human trafficking and provide referrals and protection to vulnerable, exploited and trafficked persons within the region. In doing so, IOM has provided individualised and comprehensive direct assistance to nearly 700 trafficked victims. This included, for example, support to nationally run shelters for trafficked persons, the provision of legal aid, or to the distribution of food, medical and other relief items to stranded and detained migrants within the region. IOM has also provided support to national governmental and civil society counterparts through legislative review, technical assistance, and capacity building.

Highlights of IOM MENA-based projects

- **Capacity building and training** efforts for government and civil society actors, including areas such law enforcement; investigation techniques; judicial prosecution; shelter management; identification; assistance and protection of VOTs, overseas workers, and vulnerable migrants; media and communication; data collection and management (MENA-wide)
- Mapping, technical assistance and coordination of **identification, referral and protection mechanisms** (MENA-wide)
- Comprehensive **direct assistance**, including targeted livelihood support initiatives, educational opportunities, vocational training, emergency kits, psychosocial care, shelter (Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Syria, Yemen)
- **Technical assistance to enhance cooperation** and improve internal governmental coordination on trafficking, including inter-ministerially, between criminal justice and victim assistance agencies, between criminal justice agencies (MENA-wide)
- Assistance to ministries of labour in enhancing their **reporting mechanisms** for cases of forced labour among migrant workers (MENA-wide)
- Comprehensive **awareness raising** activities to alert the general public, vulnerable communities, employers, and recruitment agencies to the presence of trafficking in persons (MENA-wide)
- Technical expertise to **enhance counter-trafficking legislation** and assist in its implementation (MENA-wide, including regional bodies such as the League of Arab States)

3- Focus on Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Assistance

As mentioned above, one important form of IOM assistance available to trafficked persons is AVRR. IOM's provision of AVRR in the region increasingly covers trafficked persons, smuggled migrants, unaccompanied and separated migrant children, migrants with health-related needs, and other vulnerable groups. And for many vulnerable migrants wanting to return home, it provides durable solutions for migrants in need.

As shown in Figure 6 below, IOM assisted 77 trafficked persons/vulnerable migrants from Nigeria, Moldova, Indonesia, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan, Tanzania, Belarus and Georgia, to voluntarily return to their community or country of origin in 2011.

Figure 6: Nationality of VOTs/Vulnerable Migrants Receiving IOM AVRR Assistance, 2011

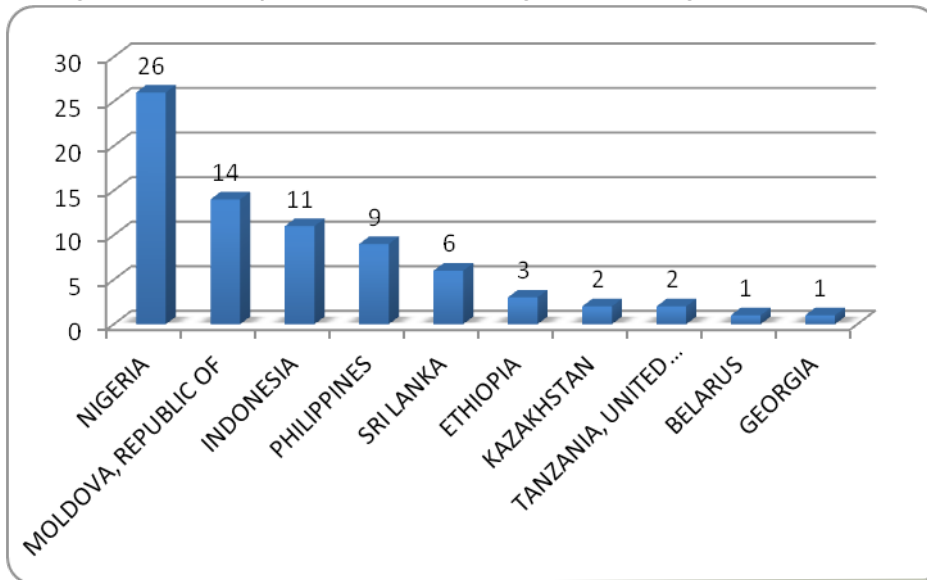
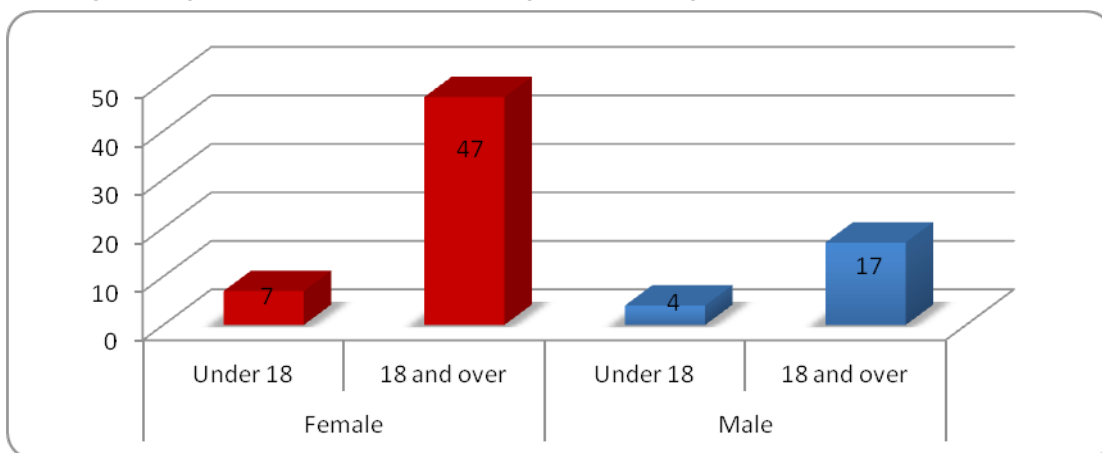


Figure 7: Age and Gender of Vulnerable Migrants Receiving IOM AVRR Assistance, 2011



3- Good Practices in Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration of Vulnerable Groups

There are several promising practices in the area of sustainable assisted voluntary return and reintegration of trafficked persons and other vulnerable groups. For example, IOM has been able to work together with the embassy of Indonesia in Cairo and the Government of Egypt to not only ensure the safe and voluntary return home of trafficked domestic workers, but has equally secured compensation for a number of cases; providing increased sustainability to reintegration efforts. As 2011 came to a close, and as much of the MENA region moved from a crisis to post-crisis response, it was all the more apparent that assistance, including AVRR, to trafficked, exploited and vulnerable migrants is much needed.

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA¹

I- Regional Overview of Dynamics and Trends²

The 27 European Union Member States, plus Iceland, Norway and Switzerland, as a region and at first glance show great similarities when it comes to main trends and characteristics of trafficking in human beings. At the same time there are still important differences.



Almost all countries in the region report in 2011 being both countries of origin, transit and destination, even though some countries such as for example, Bulgaria and Romania report being primarily countries of origin, meanwhile others, like for example Sweden and Norway, report being primarily countries of destination. Others, like Slovenia, report being principally a transit country. But again, perhaps the most important acknowledgment in recent years for the countries in the region is the fact that even their citizens are being subjected to trafficking in human beings. That is, countries that traditionally have been considered as solely countries of destination, as for example the United Kingdom, are today identifying victims of trafficking with a nationality of the same country in which they are exploited. They have become also countries of origin of trafficking in human beings.

Trying to describe the profile not only on the persons who have been subjected to trafficking in human beings, but also on the trafficking routes and on the traffickers, has proved to be extremely difficult for the States and even more when trying to do it at a regional level. There are multiple methodological difficulties³ when it comes to collecting and analysing data on trafficking in human beings and even in the cases where quite extensive and coherent data seem to exist, this data is

most of the time relatively outdated. Considering the responsiveness of the traffickers to the counter-trafficking efforts this is an extremely important challenge: if the counter-trafficking actions are based on outdated information, the traffickers will always be one step ahead.

Today, the greatest source of information on trafficking in human beings is the information shared by the persons who have been subjected to it, one of the reasons why identification of victims of trafficking in human beings (VoTs) has become one of the top priorities for all countries in the region. So; what does this information tell us?

Within the European Economic Area (EEA), the numbers of newly registered or recognised victims at national level in 2011 range from around 1200⁴ to less than 10. However, all countries in the region recognise that these numbers are probably only the tip of the iceberg. At the same time, it is important to note that the general increase – in comparison to previous years - of victims identified in the region does not necessarily mean that the phenomenon of trafficking of human beings is increasing. It is widely recognised that it can also mean that the national stakeholders are becoming each time better at proactively identifying victims of trafficking.

1-Please note that the definition of the European Economic Area in the context of this report and for the IOM Regional Office in Brussels, include also Switzerland.

2-The information in this section is based on an analysis of the information shared by the EU National Rapporteurs on the EU anti-trafficking website, as well as the US TiP report 2012.

3-IOM, "Beneath de surface – Methodological issues in research and data collection with assisted trafficking victims"

4-US Department of State, "US Trafficking in Persons Report 2012"

As during previous years, there is no single country in the region that in 2011 did not report female victims of trafficking. In addition, today most countries also report male and child victims. Again, this does not automatically mean that there were no, or less, male or child VoTs earlier, but it can also mean that the national stakeholders are becoming better at identifying these groups. There are moreover, a limited number of countries that report having identified transsexual VoTs. The age and the gender elements are important factors in the analysis not only of what kind of assistance and protection the VoTs might need, but also in terms of establishing the most efficient and effective prevention strategies. The age and gender elements should be included in any study on trafficking in human beings or action being designed and implemented as it influences the ways the victims are recruited, on the trafficking routes, on the type of exploitation, on the way the trafficked persons identify themselves as a victim or not⁵.



When it comes to the **origin** of the persons who have been subjected to trafficking, they appear to come from a wide range of countries around the globe. Despite this, there are a couple of countries both from outside and within the region that do stand out in terms of appearing as countries of origin. These countries are principally Brazil, Bulgaria, China, India, Nigeria, Moldova, Pakistan, Romania, Russia and Ukraine. Important to note is that some of these countries are more dominant countries of origin when it comes to trafficking for sexual exploitation, meanwhile others are more dominant when it comes to trafficking for labour exploitation, as for example Pakistan. Another important point to note is the European intra-regional trafficking routes; with countries of origin that previously were outside the EU and that now, when becoming new EU Member States, are benefiting from the principle of free movement within the EU. The right of free movement pose some challenges when it comes to providing assistance to the victims of trafficking as most assisted voluntary return programmes are designed to target only non-EU citizens.

In addition to the element of country of origin, there are other important pre-conditions determining the **vulnerability** to trafficking of human beings in the region. For example, in the cases where more in-depth information was provided for, several countries in the region reported particular vulnerability of persons with an irregular migration status, persons with mental or physical disabilities, unaccompanied migrant children, homeless adults and

children, persons who have lost their jobs, women with dependent residence status obtained through forced or fraudulent marriage and persons from ethnic minorities as for example Roma groups, or other socially excluded groups. With reference to the Roma groups, there was a significant number of countries in the region that during 2011 reported that Romas are disproportionately represented among the VoTs registered.

Even though almost all countries also report having identified victims of trafficking for labour exploitation, trafficking for sexual exploitation continues to be the most frequent type of exploitation identified. However, in the same sense as regarding the increase in numbers of victims of trafficking identified and the predominance of women identified as victims of trafficking, it is hard to say whether the increase in the number of cases of trafficking for labour exploitation identified is a sign of an increase in trafficking for labour exploitation per se, or a sign of stakeholders increasing their focus and efforts in the area.

5-IOM Migrant Research Series No 36 "Trafficking of men – a trend less considered: The case of Belarus and the Ukraine"

In the area of trafficking for sexual exploitation though, it is worth pointing out how some countries report trafficking for sexual exploitation has shifted from being more open, to be more hidden. Also, one country reports the use of victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation being used in several sub-areas of the sex industry and some countries reported cases of trafficking where the victim was exploited in not only one, but several countries in the region.

Another type of exploitation frequently highlighted during 2011 by the countries in the region, as for example the UK and Belgium, is trafficking for domestic servitude in diplomatic households. Other type of exploitation highlighted was exploitation in cannabis plantations.

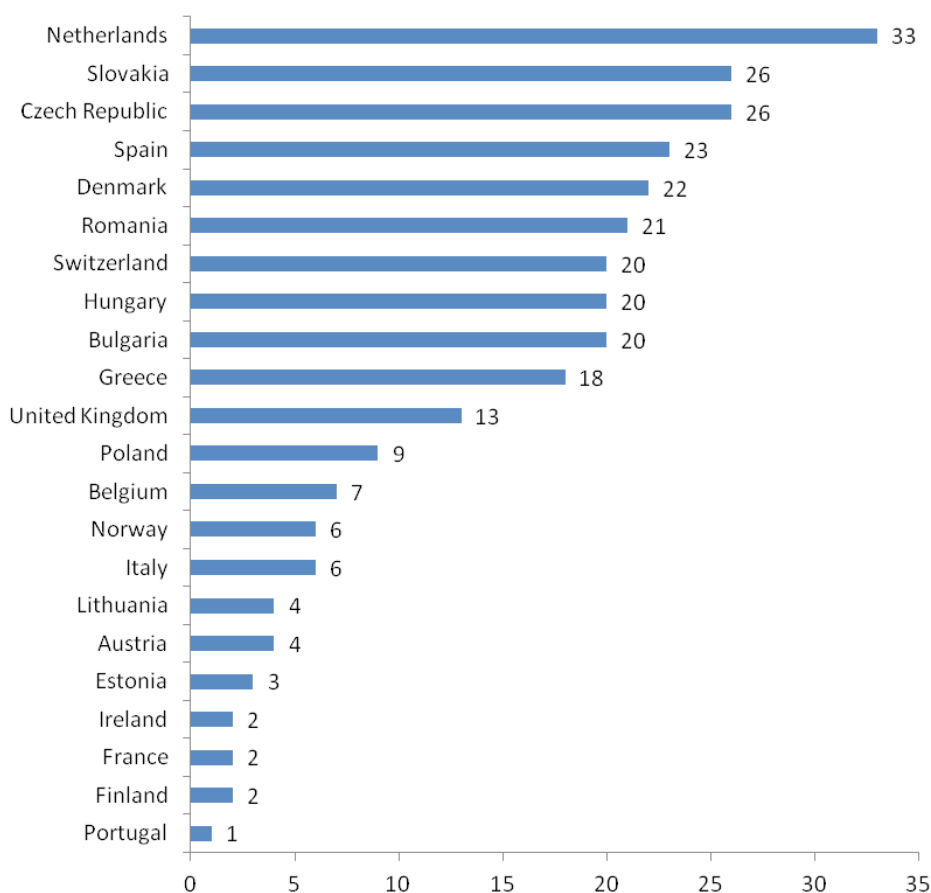
In regard to types of exploitation, the EU MS were invited to report not only on the main types of exploitation, but also on isolated cases as it was extremely hard to say if these might be exceptional cases or signs of new trends. As a final point, it is worth mentioning that most countries in the region noted that more subtle control mechanisms were used, leaving the victims with some rights, even though limited, as for example psychological or economic control mechanisms instead of physical ones.

Profile of IOM Beneficiaries

As shown in Figure 1 below, IOM assistance to trafficked persons was provided in 357 instances in 23 countries of the region in 2011.

The countries in which IOM did not provide any assistance depended either on the lack of an IOM office in that particular country – such as for example in Cyprus or Slovenia - or on the absence of an IOM programme for assisting VoTs in a particular country – as for example in the UK.

Figure 1: IOM Assistance to Trafficked Persons, 2011



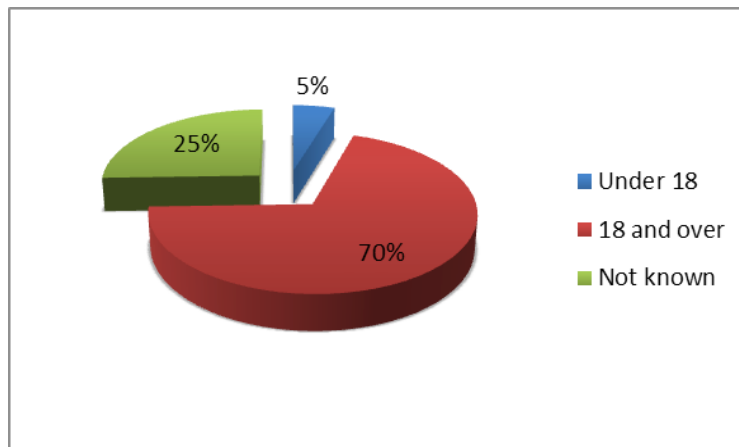
The numbers presented in Figure 1 are primarily influenced by the type of programmes that the IOM is running in a particular country and of the existence of other actors offering the same or similar services to the VoTs. They cannot therefore indicate much about the existence of trafficking in a certain territory in the region or if the numbers of VoTs assisted by IOM reflects the numbers of VoTs in that territory.

However, it is important to point out that other information that can be withdrawn from the IOM case data base; in which the majority of the cases of victims of trafficking assisted by IOM are registered, and that will be exposed as follows, has shown to be to a great extent coherent with the trends and dynamics reported by other stakeholders working in the field of counter-trafficking.

Age

When it comes to age, as demonstrated in Figure 2 below, 70% of the VoTs benefiting from IOM assistance in this region in 2011 were adults and 5% were VoTs under 18 years old. For 25% of the cases, age was unknown. In relation to the child VoTs assisted by IOM, in coherence with information reported by other stakeholders in the region, the highest concentration was in the age group 16-17 years.

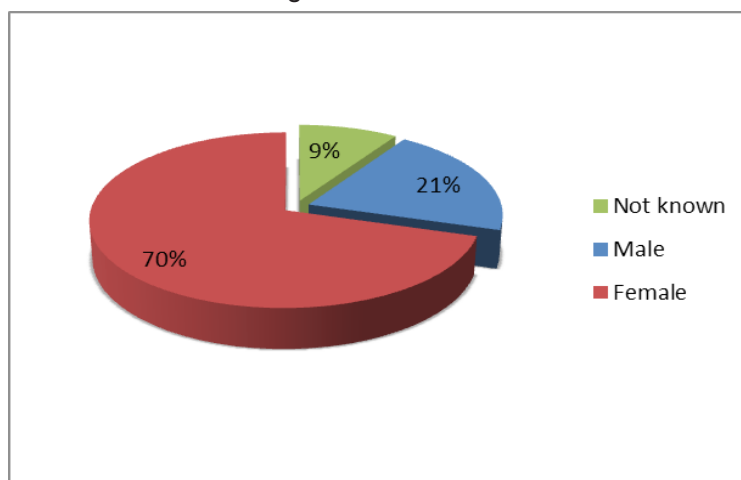
Figure 2: Age, 2011



Sex

As well as for age, the IOM statistics on the gender of the VoTs assisted are coherent with the division between male and female VoTs reported by other stakeholders in the area of providing assistance and protection to VoTs. As demonstrated by Figure 3 below, 70% of the VoTs assisted by IOM in the region were female VoTs, while 21% were male VoTs. For 9% of the cases, the gender was not registered.

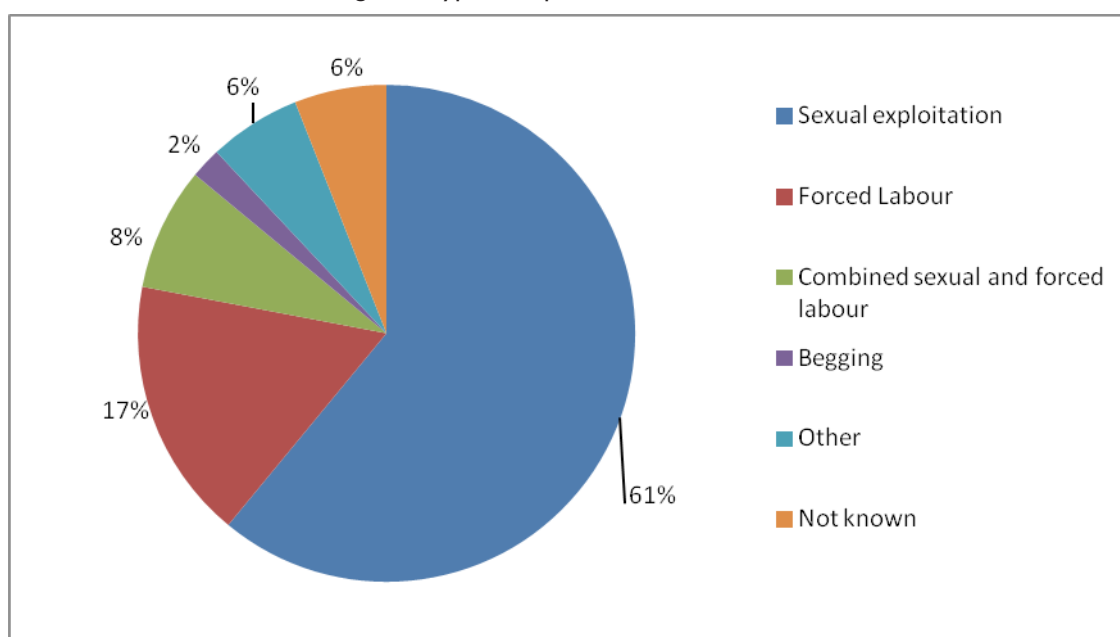
Figure 3: Sex, 2011



Type of Exploitation

With reference to the type of exploitation, the IOM statistics again show consistency with what is reported by other stakeholders: the majority of the persons assisted by IOM had been exposed to trafficking for sexual exploitation and a lesser number to labour exploitation or other types of exploitation. More specifically, as shown in Figure 4 below, 61% of the VoTs who benefited from IOM assistance had been subjected to trafficking for sexual exploitation, meanwhile 17% had been subjected to trafficking for labour exploitation. Yet another 8% of the VoTs in the region benefiting from IOM assistance in 2011 had been subjected to trafficking for combined sexual and labour exploitation and 2% for forced begging. 6% of the VoTs had been exposed to other forms of exploitation and for 6% of the cases, the type of exploitation was not registered.

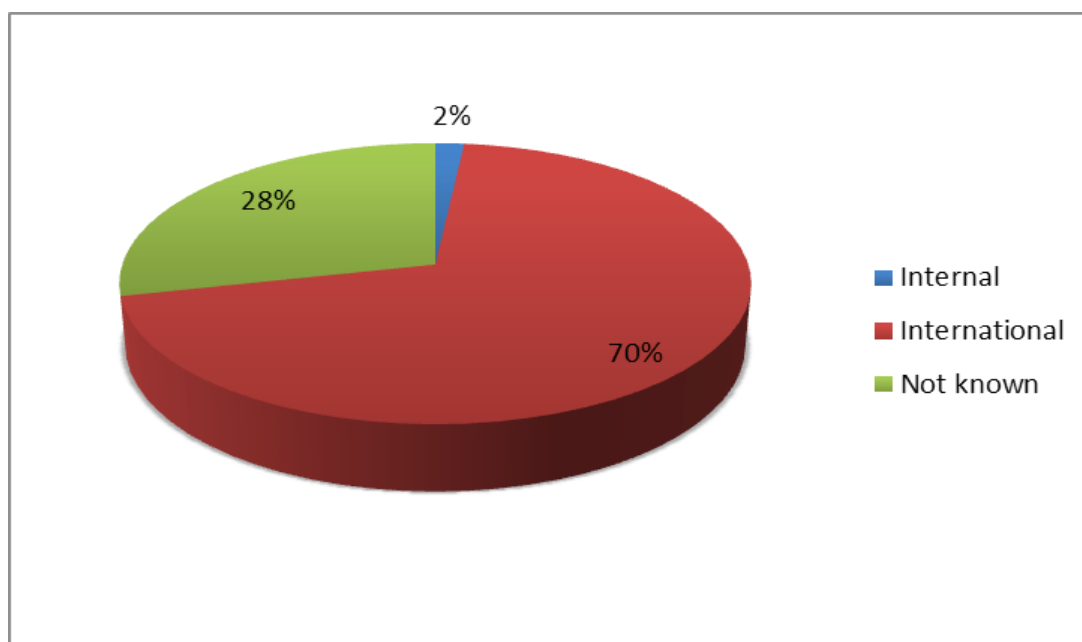
Figure 4: Type of Exploitation, 2011



Type of Trafficking

70% of IOM assistance provided to trafficked persons in 2011 in the region was received by people who had been trafficked across international borders, while only 2% of assistance benefited persons, who were trafficked internally (see Figure 5 below). However, as mentioned above, in the case of programs in which IOM provided assistance in voluntary return and reintegration of victims in the EU MS, most of those are only targeting non-European citizens; a focus that might have an influence in the statistics provided for on type of trafficking.

Figure 5: Type of Trafficking 2011



2- IOM Activities 2011: IOM Activities 2011: Focus on Vulnerable Groups

In 2011, there were 17 projects in the region that focused on vulnerable migrants including victims of trafficking. Cyprus, the European Commission, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, private donors, Slovakia, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, UNGIFT and the United States of America (USA) were the primary donors.

The 17 projects focused on a wide range of activities including:

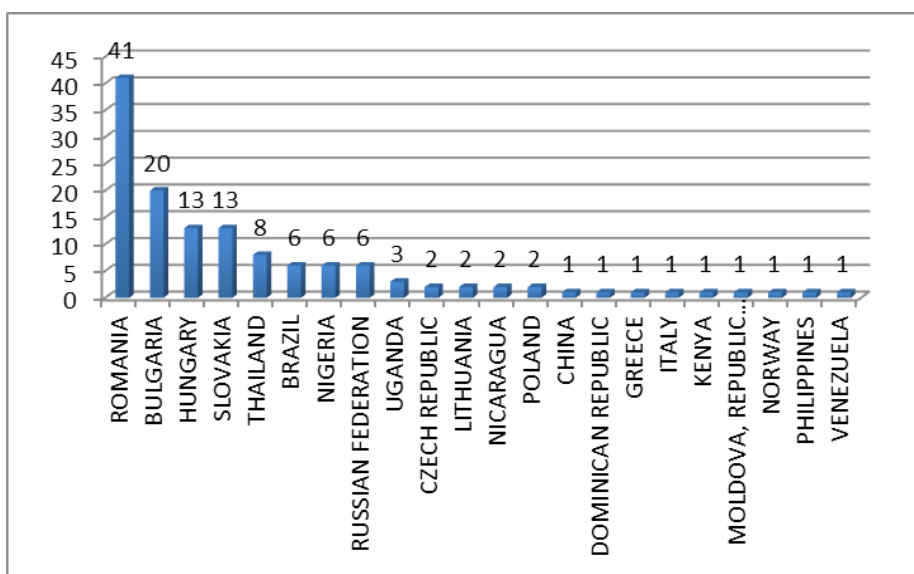
- Dignified and safe voluntary return and reintegration assistance for persons who had been subjected to trafficking in human beings.
- Technical assistance and capacity-building for governmental and non-governmental actors; including officials in the asylum system, peace-keeping personnel, NGOs and religious workers, with the aim to improve their ability to develop proactive and sustainable identification mechanisms, to protect and assist persons who had been exposed to trafficking in human beings and other particularly vulnerable migrants and to strengthen national referral mechanisms, as well as prosecute the crime and collaborate with other relevant actors in these efforts.
- Awareness-raising and communication/media activities for the prevention of trafficking in persons.

3- Focus on Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Assistance

Several projects included assistance for voluntary return and reintegration of VoTs and other vulnerable groups among their project activities, as for example the projects in Bulgaria, Denmark, Greece, Norway and the United Kingdom. However, in addition to the projects in the region focusing particularly on assisted voluntary return and reintegration of victims of trafficking in human beings it is important to mention that a large number of IOM's broader assisted voluntary return and reintegration (AVRR) programmes also included VoTs among their beneficiaries, as for example the AVRR programmes in Finland or in Poland.

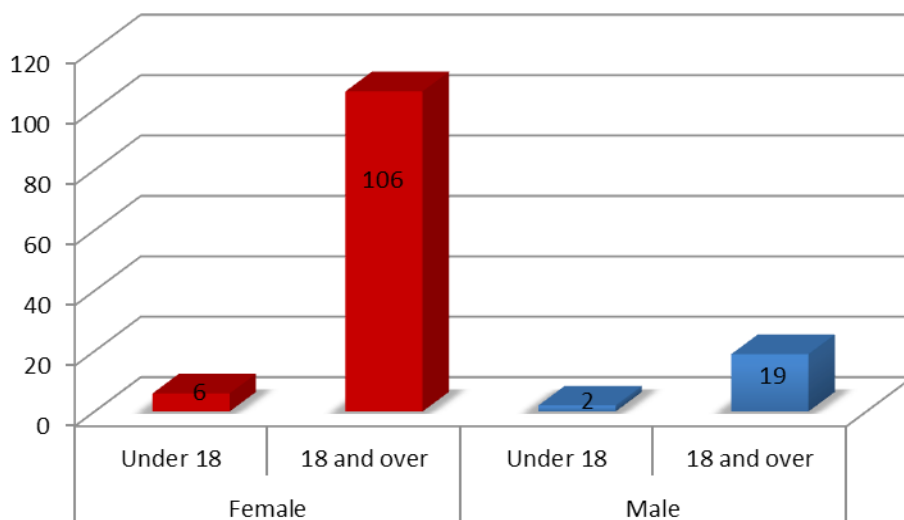
As shown in Figure 7 below, IOM assisted in the region 133 trafficked persons/vulnerable migrants to voluntarily return to their community or country of origin in 2011. In the same sense as mentioned in relation to the number of instances and countries in which IOM provided assistance in 2011, these numbers are influenced by a number of elements, such as for example: the existence and level of access for victims of trafficking to AVRR programmes in the country, the design of the AVRR programme, the number of stakeholders providing access to AVRR services, the trust of the victims of trafficking in the service providers, the other alternatives provided to victims of trafficking in terms of a medium or long-term solutions to their situation and the access, availability and willingness of IOM staff to register the cases in the IOM case data base.

Figure 7: Nationality, 2011



As shown in Figure 8 below, 94% of the trafficked persons/vulnerable migrants receiving AVRR assistance in 2011 through IOM were adults and 6% minors. 84% were female and 165 were male.

Figure 8: Age and Gender, 2011



As mentioned above, one of the biggest gaps identified by IOM missions and their partners around the region is that all except two AVRR program were in principle only accessible to non-EU citizens victims of trafficking due to the rules and regulations of the European Return Fund; the main funding-source for most AVRR programmes in the region.

A couple of other issues have been highlighted in the framework of the AVRR programmes for VoTs in the region; one of them being the need to improve and go into more details in terms of the standards and procedures around the risk-assessment that is essential in the process of discussing assisted voluntary return and reintegration. The second big issue is related to the need for improving the reintegration element in terms of linking pre-departure with post-arrival assistance and establishing sustainable and effective partnerships in the countries of origin with stakeholders that can support the individual reintegration projects. A third big issue is related to the way how to design the process and procedures around the AVRR programmes so that these can be a way to (re-)empower the victims.

4- Practices in Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration of Vulnerable Groups

Most IOM missions in the region apply similar approaches, standards and procedures in their AVRR programmes to vulnerable groups, including victims of trafficking.

In an initial phase, IOM works together with the national authorities to establish the details of the AVRR package to be offered to the VoTs and to prepare an information package to be shared with, on the one hand, the service providers from the national authorities and the civil society providing direct assistance to VoTs; and on the other hand, with the VoTs themselves. IOM is then training the service-providers on how to share the information with the VoTs in their counseling sessions. The training also includes sessions on the standards and procedures to follow. Even though IOM is working mostly through the service providers from the national authorities and the civil society providing direct assistance to VoTs; in some cases IOM is also interacting directly with the VoT.

The AVRR package differs slightly from country to country depending on the national legislation and finances and in correspondence to each individual's needs, but should ideally involve the following:

- Logistic support in organizing the travel to the country of return (travel documents, tickets, escorts (if necessary), transit- and arrival-assistance).
- A reintegration package consisting of:
 - **Monthly allowance:** given to all beneficiaries for immediate needs in the country of return.
 - **Housing support** (needs-based): Housing assistance is aimed at covering the cost of shelter for a limited period of time or to subsidize the rental of private accommodation for the returnee for the first months after return. Assistance under this category is only offered when the returnee is not able or willing to reside with relatives or otherwise does not have own accommodation in the country of return. In practice, the use of the housing-support has shown to be more flexible than here stated though.
 - **Reintegration support:** A maximum amount is set to be available for in-kind assistance to each returnee. The reintegration support can be in form of a small business start-up, vocational training, reinsertion into the education system, a job-placement or other activities where appropriate in a flexible approach to suit the individual's needs. The reintegration support, in form of a draft reintegration plan or project, is agreed with the VoT pre-departure and finalised at the post-arrival stage in the country of return. The reintegration plans/ projects can at that point of time be slightly adjusted.
 - **Medical support** (needs-based): Medical assistance, to a maximum amount agreed with the national stakeholders, is aimed at covering the cost of medical examination and / or medication after return.



The AVRR procedure itself follows IOM's Handbook on Direct Assistance for VoTs and internal policies, as well as Data Protection Principles.

These AVRR schemes can be considered a note-worthy practice as they are a good example of a structured and systematized AVRR package offered to the VoTs and has a potential to be replicated in other countries. They reflect inter-agency and trans-national coordination and are based on clear and formal procedures for undertaking the return, provide individually tailor-made assistance and to a reasonable extent, comprehensive reintegration plans.

SOUTH AMERICA

I- Regional Overview: Dynamics, Trends, and Profile of IOM Beneficiaries

South America is characterized by complex migration dynamics, including multiple intra- and extra-regional flows. In the Southern Cone, a regime towards the free movement of people within MERCOSUR (Southern Common Market) and its associate States has been established and countries are adapting their legislation in order to fully implement the new regime. In the Andean countries, an integration process has been agreed under the framework of the Andean Community (CAN). Argentina, and to a lesser extent Brazil, is receiving, for instance, significant numbers of immigrants from the Plurinational State of Bolivia and Paraguay. Peruvian migrants continue to move to Argentina and Chile, while Colombian migrants move particularly to other Andean countries. An increasing number of emigrants are returning to their South American home countries, which have set up programmes to receive returnees and assist in their reintegration. A significant number of migrants from the Southern Cone and particularly the Andean countries continue to move also to Europe, where the principal countries of destination are Germany, Italy, Spain and Portugal.

Migrants and refugees from the Caribbean, Asia and Africa are also moving to the region or transiting through South America on their way northward to the United States or Canada. African and Asian migrants come from countries including Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Cameroon, China, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Ghana, Guinea, India, Japan, Morocco, Mozambique, Nigeria, the Philippines, Senegal, South Africa, South Korea, Syria, and Zimbabwe⁸⁷.

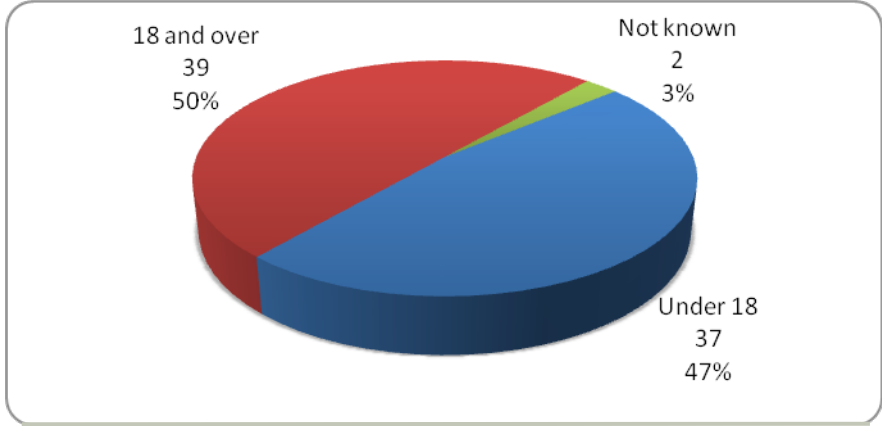
In South America IOM works to support Member States to promote and protect the human rights of vulnerable migrants, particularly in areas highly impacted by migration, such as borders and specific labour sectors with high levels of informality and exploitation. In particular, IOM aims to strengthen the capacity of government and civil society partners to protect and assist migrants in need including those who have been trafficked, exploited or abused.

In 2011, victims assisted under IOM counter-trafficking projects in the region were predominantly women, and nearly half were minors (see below). As in other regions, migrant children in South America are particularly vulnerable to exploitation and abuse, including trafficking in persons. In fact, 47% of IOM assistance to trafficked persons in South America went towards children in 2011. In Ecuador, for example, a recent study by FLACSO has identified new trends indigenous communities, in which children are trafficked for forced labour purpose in Colombia and Venezuela⁸⁸.

87-IOM. Extra-Continental Migration in South America. 2011. Available at: http://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=migrantes%20extracontinentales%20en%20sudamérica&source=web&cd=1&ved=0CCQQFjAA&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.csm-2011.com%2Fattachments%2Farticle%2F99%2FD%25201%2520Sec.%2520Tec.%2520Migrantes%2520Extracontinentales.doc&ei=4GSeT_DoDoabOujw8fsB&usg=AFQjCNEQEfj-B6TxM_JD5WwRtUMUES2Sw

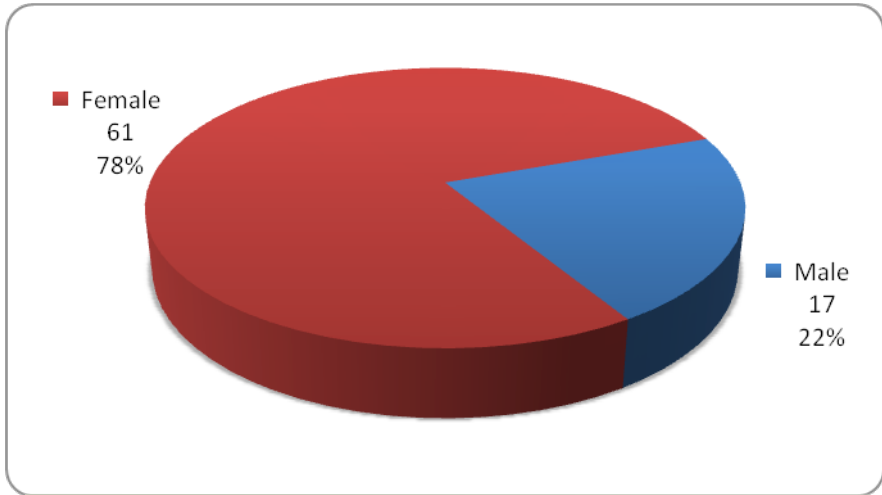
88 "Diagnostico sobre la trata de personas en los cantones de Colta y Guamate, Provincia de Chimborazo. FLACSO, USAID, OIM. Mayo de 2012."

Figure 1: IOM Assistance to Trafficked Children, 2011



As demonstrated by Figure 2 below, 78% of assistance provided to trafficked persons in South America in 2011 went to women and girls.

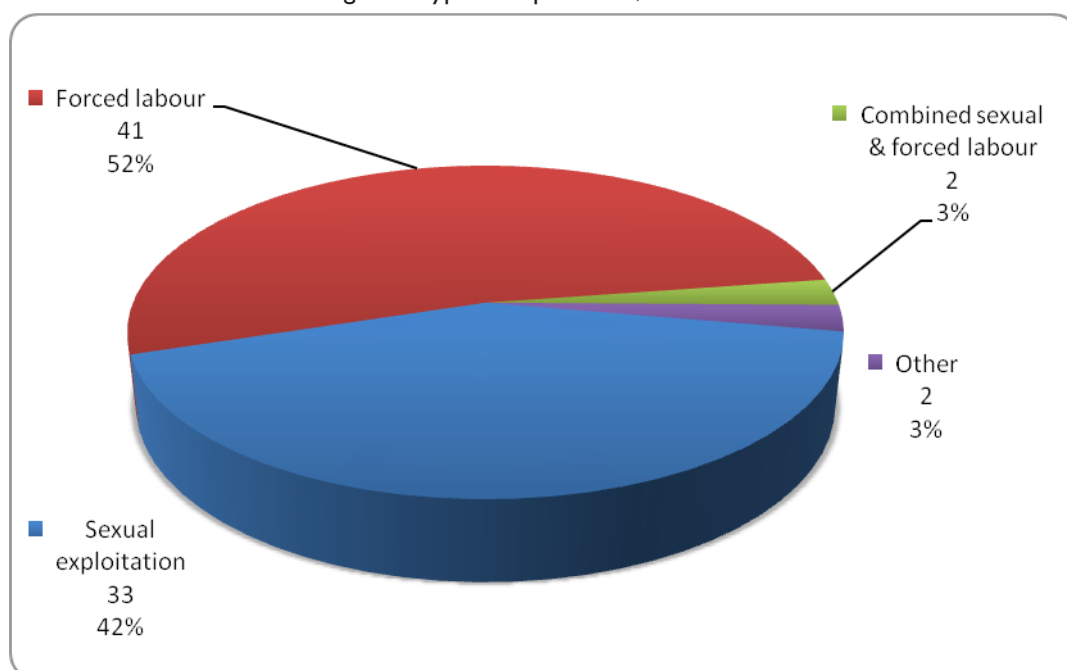
Figure 2: Sex 2011



The Argentinean Office for the Rescue and Assistance of Victims of Trafficking (Ministry of Justice and Human Rights) informs that since the initiation of their activities in 2008, the forms and methods of the crime in the region have changed due to the criminals' adjustments to the Argentinean trafficking in persons law. For example, in some cases victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation are no longer recruited by personal contact, but by deceptive newspaper ads (trafficking victims for labor exploitation are still mostly recruited by personal contact). Some victims do travel alone and in the place of exploitation are allowed to keep their identity documents. Some trafficking victims for sexual exploitation are prevented from leaving through systems of fines and debt bondage and threats to the victims' families, compounding vulnerabilities related to education levels and situations of poverty.

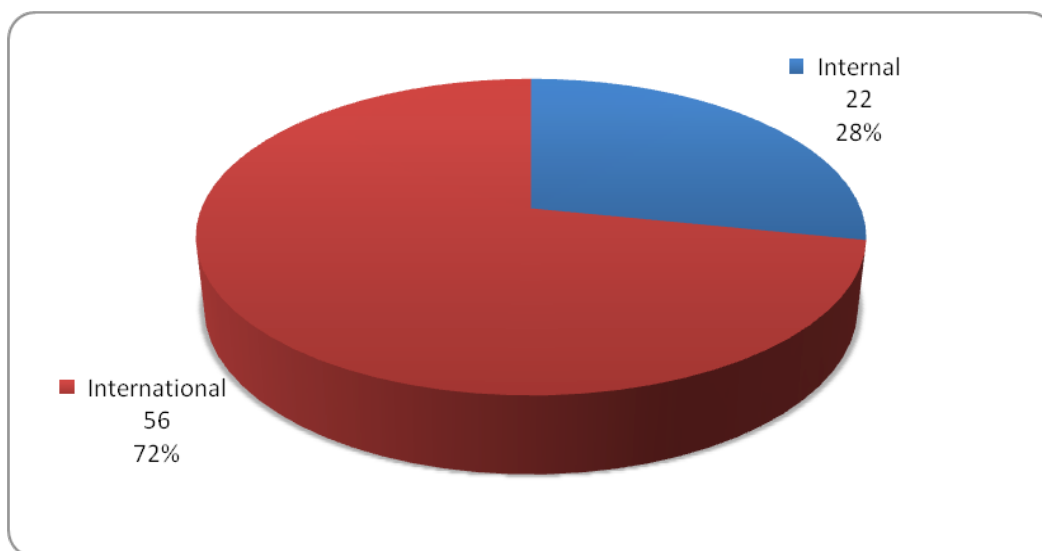
In terms of new trends of recruitment, in 2011 in Argentina for example, there have been some cases of trafficking victims with cognitive disabilities (increased vulnerability to recruitment). New emerging trends show that along with trafficking in persons for sexual exploitation (primarily affecting women and children), increasing numbers of men, women and children are trafficked for labour and other forms of exploitation. This appears to include domestic work, gold mining in Peru, factory work and agricultural sectors. As shown in Figure 3 below, 52% of IOM assistance in 2011 benefited persons who had been trafficked for forced labour purposes, 42% for sexual exploitation and 3% for combined sexual exploitation and forced labour. Given that much of the existing counter-trafficking responses in the region are heavily focused on trafficking for sexual exploitation, this is an important trend, that will require some adjustments in responses.

Figure 3: Type of Exploitation, 2011



Nearly three quarters of assistance provided by IOM in 2011 went to those who had been trafficked across international borders, while 28% of assistance benefited persons, who were trafficked internally (see Figure 4 below).

Figure 4: Type of Trafficking, 2011



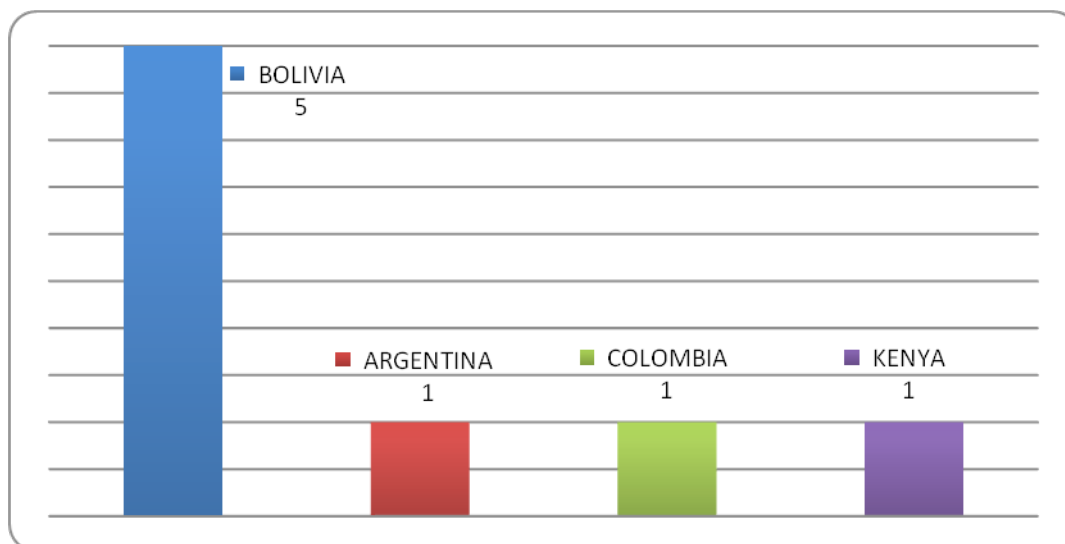
2- IOM Activities 2011: Special Focus on Vulnerable Groups

In 2011, there were 10 active counter-trafficking projects in South America, funded by 8 different donors, including the European Commission, the United States, Canada, Colombia, Belgium, UNICEF, UNODC and IOM. IOM projects focused on strengthening the capacity of law enforcement officials to investigate, prosecute and sanction trafficking cases; providing comprehensive return and reintegration assistance to child victims of trafficking and support local stakeholders in building their capacity to provide this assistance; providing technical assistance and training on development of holistic counter-trafficking policies at a national and local level; providing technical support and training on the implementation of policies and plan of action; raising awareness on trafficking; and providing targeted services and income-generating opportunities to displaced women and children who had been trafficked.

In addition to the trafficked persons themselves, the beneficiaries of IOM activities included a wide range of governmental and civil society actors, including members of the judiciary, prosecutors, police, health providers, labour inspectors, local municipalities, social workers, and civil society organizations.

Of the 10 projects active in the region in 2011, 3 included assisted voluntary return and reintegration of trafficked persons assisted in South America, primarily in Argentina, Ecuador, and Colombia (See Annex 3).

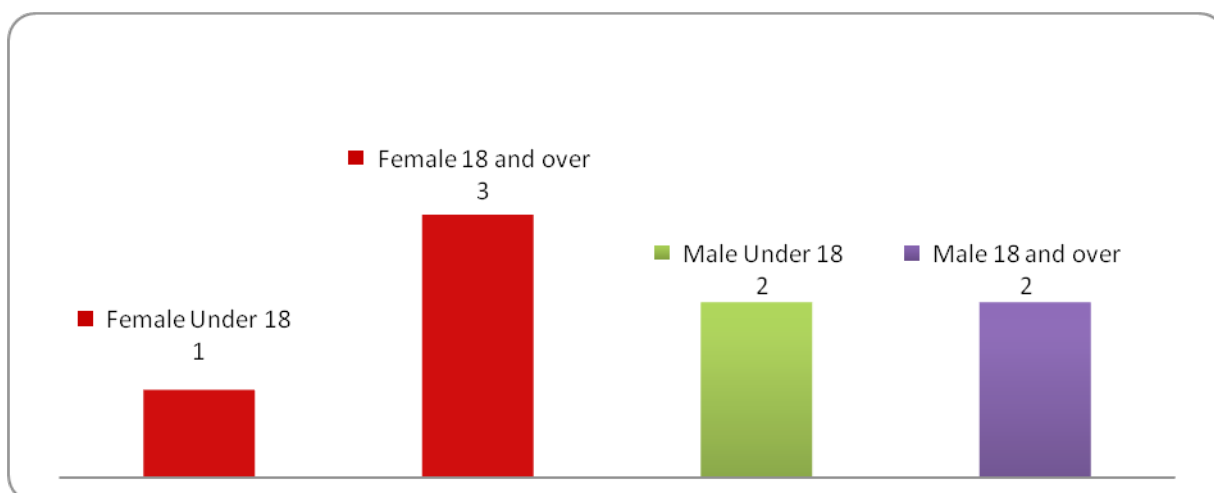
Figure 5: Nationality, 2011



As shown in Figure 5, IOM assisted 8 vulnerable migrants to voluntarily return to their community or country of origin in 2011. Most returned within the region, while one was returned to Kenya. Although there are increasing numbers of stranded migrants in South America, who in may request voluntary return assistance in a limited number of cases, authorities face severe constraints related to language barriers, consular representation, and costs of such assistance.

As mentioned previously, the South American Conference on Migration (SACM) and the RCM held a meeting in August 2011, in cooperation with IOM, to promote increased dialogue and cooperation to address this phenomenon which affects the two regions, given that many extra-continental migrants travel through South American countries prior to arriving in Mesoamerica. With regard to return arrangements, the participants recommended expanding voluntary return and reintegration programs as well as strengthening coordination efforts with consular authorities from the countries of origin.

Figure 6: Age and Sex, 2011



As shown in Figure 6 above, of the 8 vulnerable migrants assisted by IOM in this region to voluntarily return and reintegrate, 63% were children, half were female and half were male.

IOM missions in South America also worked closely with other offices around the world to receive a large number of migrants returning to the region, primarily from European countries (such as Portugal, Spain, and Switzerland). Many migrants returned voluntarily to Brazil and Ecuador, for example, with the support of IOM, including unaccompanied migrant children.

3- Good Practices in Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration of Vulnerable Groups

There are several promising practices in the area of sustainable assisted voluntary return and reintegration: With regards to reintegration of children or adolescents who have been trafficked, IOM cooperates not only with national governmental actors, but also local or provincial governments to facilitate psychological assistance or basic health insurance. For example, when supporting the reintegration of children trafficked internally within Argentina, IOM collaborated closely with local and provincial governmental assistance programs (including social subsidies, primary health assistance, and housing support) to ensure the children received comprehensive services. In addition, IOM works very closely with local NGOs, for example in Brazil, when assisting migrants to return to that country. This helps ensure that all possible local resources are mobilized to support the returning migrant.

It is recommended that assistance to unaccompanied migrant children be based in a legal framework and child rights perspective, preferable with a family tracing activity that contemplates a formal letter from the legal guardian and caretaker in the country of destination, explicitly stating their commitment. Additionally it is essential to coordinate with the local child protection institution that usually cooperates with an evaluation and follow-up of all psychosocial aspects of the reintegration. IOM Buenos Aires's best practices involve a strong articulation with such organisms and with the educational centre where the child will be enrolled. However, it is important to also note the primary role of the family within the implementation of the reintegration assistance and the maintenance of the reintegration plan after return.

During 2011, best practices concerning health-related cases included: articulation with national services of transit assistance in cases the returnee needed special assistance during transit; networking with the national health public system previous and after return; gathering information about best and long-term sources for treatment at the place of return (private and public); strengthening the adherence to psychological treatments when recommended (by phone call counselling); and using family and local community as a supporting network for the reintegration and recovery.

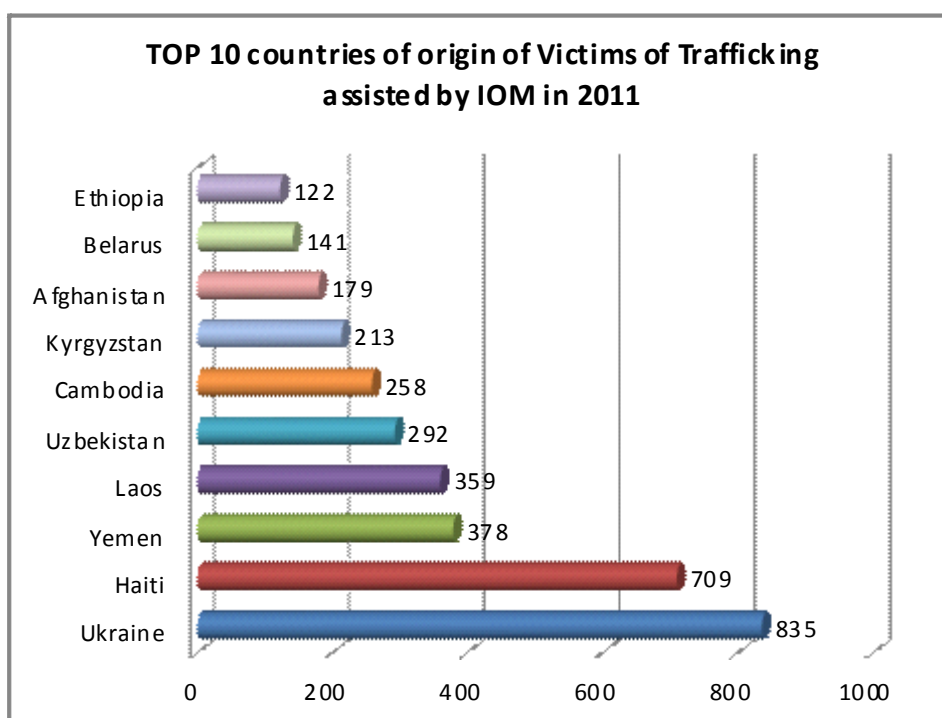
SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE, EASTERN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

I- Regional Overview: Dynamics, Trends, and Profile of IOM Beneficiaries

Countries in Eastern Europe, South Eastern Europe and Central Asia can be categorized as both countries of origin and transit of trafficked migrants. This equally holds true for the countries of the Western Balkans, which represent important transit countries for mixed migration flows including vulnerable migrants and potential trafficked migrants from within the region and further East.

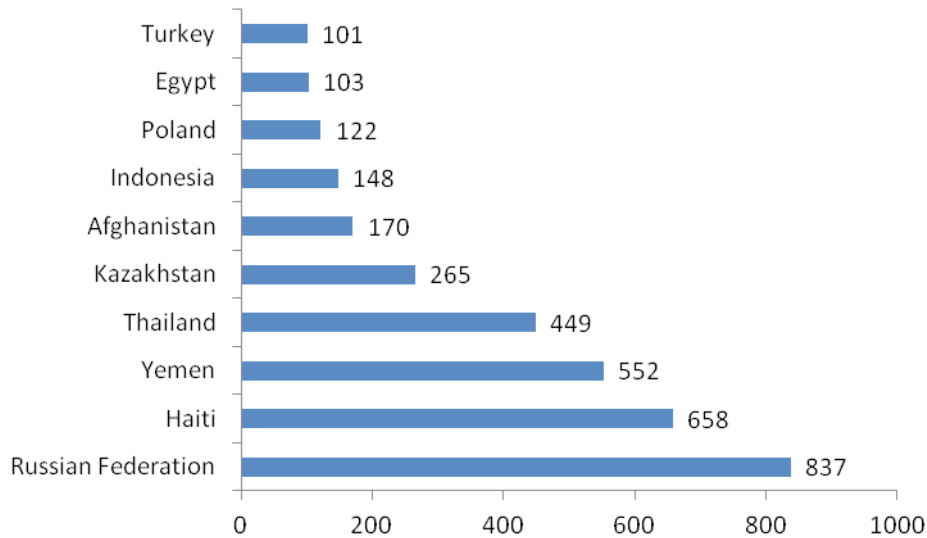
In 2011, Ukraine (835), Uzbekistan (292) and Kyrgyzstan (213) are among the list of the top ten countries of origin for trafficked migrants assisted by IOM.

Figure 1: Top 10 Countries of Origin, 2011



At the same time, some countries in the region such as Russia (837), Kazakhstan (265) and Turkey (101) represent destination countries of trafficked migrants. In 2011, these 3 countries are among the top ten countries of destination for human trafficking victims assisted by IOM.

Figure 2: Top 10 countries of destination in 2011



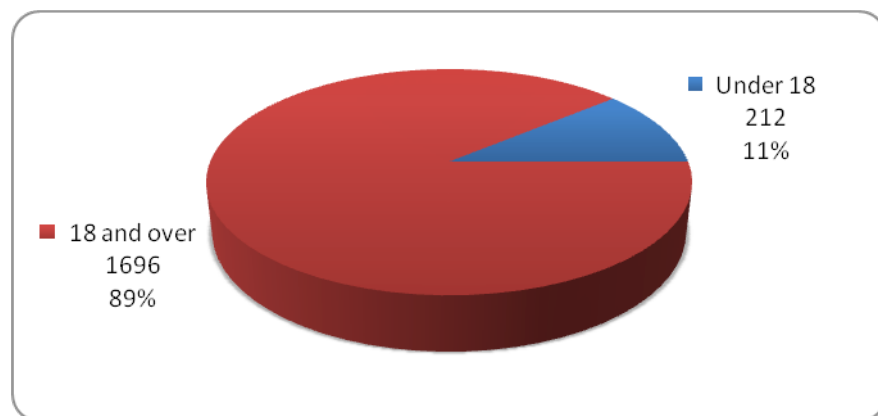
In 2011, IOM in Ukraine recorded the most victims assisted with 814 of the total. In Central and South Asia, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan topped the totals in victims' assistance, accounting for 202 and 204 cases respectively.

Main types of cross-border trafficking are sexual exploitation, forced labour and forced begging. Internal sex trafficking primarily affects single, unemployed women between 16 and 30 without higher education. There are also cases of re-trafficking in the region. For the most part, people in the region migrate internally from rural areas to cities as well as abroad in search of employment opportunities.

Profile of IOM Beneficiaries

Migrant Children

Figure 3: IOM Assistance to Trafficked Children, 2011



As demonstrated in Figure 3 above, 11% of IOM assistance to trafficked persons in this region was provided to children in 2011. The majority of the assistance was provided to young adults both men and women (89%).

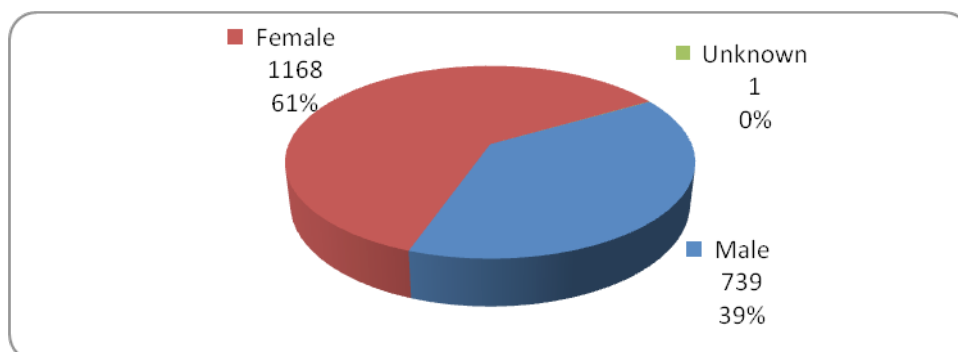
In 2011, the IOM Mission in Tajikistan, with the support of the U.S. Government, conducted “An Assessment of the exploitation of children and students in the cotton fields of Tajikistan during the 2011 cotton harvest”. Of the 12 NGOs conducting independent monitoring visits during the months from September to November 2011, most reported no observed cases of child labour exploitation, forced labour, or students whom were absent from school in the cotton fields. Nonetheless, one NGO came across students that “requested to leave school to pick cotton” and a mother that confessed to forcing her daughter to miss school in order to pick cotton. All NGOs did, however, observe the presence of children and students (between the ages of 10-18) working in the cotton fields; however, this number was reported to be far less than observed during the 2010 harvest.⁸⁸

Sex

As demonstrated by Figure 4 below, 61% of assistance provided to trafficked persons in this region supported women and girls in 2011. Women and girls remain vulnerable to trafficking and exploitation as well as other related crimes such as domestic violence.

In this regard, IOM has been very active in cooperation with its network of NGO partners, in empowering women and girls among those vulnerable to trafficking.

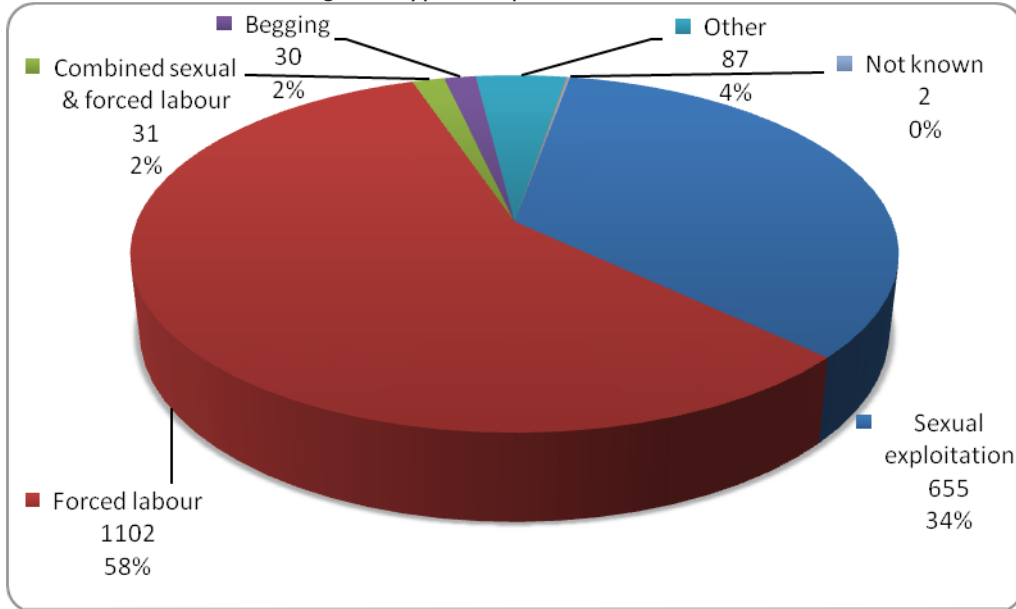
Figure 4: Sex, 2011



Type of Exploitation

As shown in Figure 5 below, most IOM assistance (58%) in this region benefited migrants, who had been trafficked for forced labour, 34% for sexual exploitation and 2% for combined sexual exploitation and forced labour, 2% for begging, and 4% for other purposes.

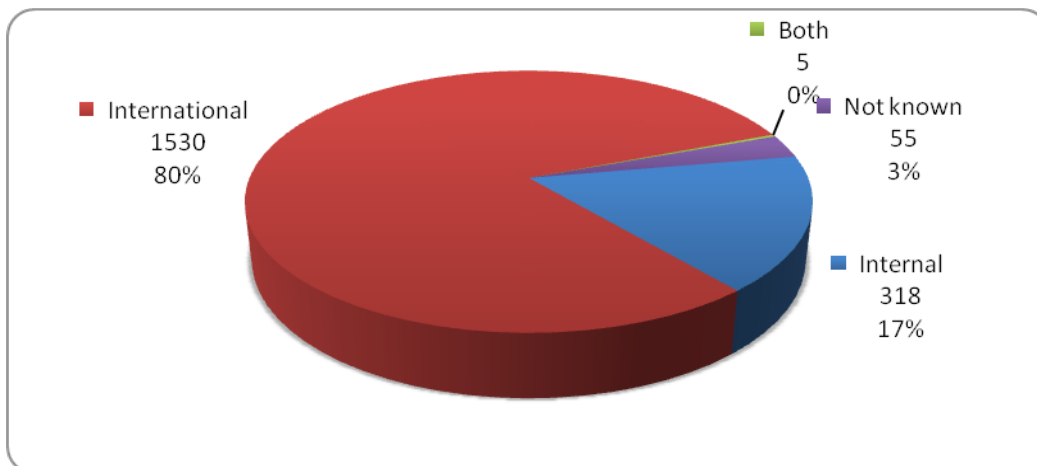
Figure 5: Type of Exploitation, 2011



Type of Trafficking

In 2011, 80% of IOM assistance to trafficked persons in this region was received by people, who had been trafficked across international borders, while 17% of assistance benefited those, who were trafficked internally (see Figure 6 below). Internal trafficking, in particular for sexual exploitation, does, however, affect many single young women without higher education.

Figure 6: Type of Trafficking, 2011



2- IOM Activities 2011: Special Focus on Vulnerable Groups

In 2011, there were 60 projects active in Eastern Europe, South Eastern Europe and Central Asia that focused on vulnerable migrants, including victims of trafficking. The primary donors were the United States, Norway, Switzerland, and Denmark.

The 60 projects applied a holistic approach to address human trafficking by following the 4 “Ps” approach: prevention, protection, prosecution and partnerships. Projects were implemented at the local, national and regional level. Main activities aimed at strengthening the capacity of national authorities and civil society through technical assistance and training initiatives, providing direct assistance and protection to trafficked migrants, raising awareness, and improving coordination among relevant key anti-trafficking stakeholders.

The beneficiaries included trafficked persons, migrant children, migrant women, victims of domestic violence, street and homeless children, children without parental care, institutionalized children, labour migrants, stranded migrants, and single mothers. In addition, a wide range of government and civil society actors, benefited from IOM counter-trafficking capacity building and assistance activities including ministries of labour, women, education, internal affairs, and social affairs, local municipalities, law enforcement, lawyers, investigators, judiciary, prosecutors, teachers, national task forces, shelter and healthcare providers, labour inspectors, border guards, victims’ protection agencies, trade unions, employment services, students, school children, social workers, embassy and consular staff, private sector, academia, media, NGOs,

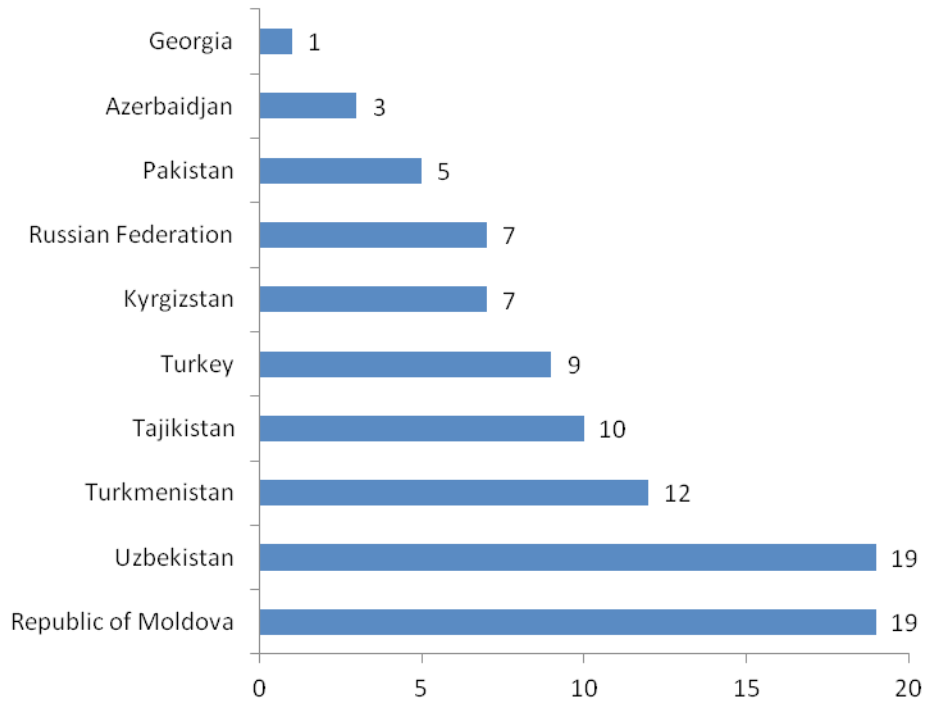
2- Focus on Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Assistance

Of the 60 projects in the region in 2011, 17 include assisted voluntary return and/or reintegration activities in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, the Russian Federation, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan (see Figure 7 below). These projects include a great variety of comprehensive rehabilitation and reintegration activities including shelter, counselling, medical, psychological, legal assistance, vocational training, (re) qualification, sustainable support mechanisms, economic empowerment, and capacity-building and networking of NGO and government actors.

Voluntary return and reintegration programs in the region support not only trafficked persons, but also potential victims of trafficking, unaccompanied migrant children, victims of domestic violence, street and homeless children, children without parental care, institutionalized children, labour migrants, stranded migrants, and single mothers.

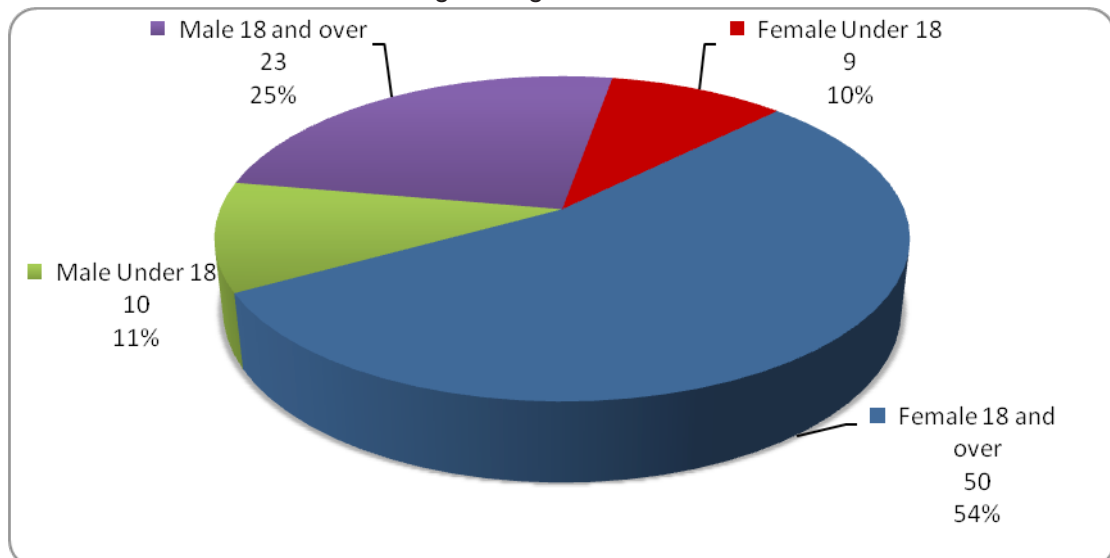
As shown in Figure 7, IOM assisted 92 trafficked persons/vulnerable migrants to voluntarily return to their community or country of origin in 2011. Most returned within the region, except 5 migrants, who were returned to Pakistan.

Figure 7: Nationality, 2011



As shown in Figure 8 below, of the 92 trafficked persons assisted to voluntarily return and reintegrate from this region, 21% were children, 79% adults, 64% female and 36% male.

Figure 8: Age and Sex, 2011



3- Good Practices in Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration of Vulnerable Groups

There are several promising practices in the area of sustainable assisted voluntary return and reintegration of trafficked persons and other vulnerable groups such as the:

1. Development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) on the identification and referral of trafficked migrants following a multi-agency and multi-disciplinary approach;
2. Exchange of information with countries of destination during the Transnational Referral/Assisted Voluntary Return of Trafficked Persons including the implementation of Risk Assessments;
3. Promotion of economic empowerment components within the reintegration assistance through the implementation of: micro-enterprise programs and professional/job skills trainings for trafficked migrants as well as for at-risk groups adding peer-to-peer exchange of experiences;
4. Implementation of regular Monitoring & Evaluation activities of the programs and assistance provided;
5. Involvement of other stakeholders such as the private sector, the media and education actors.

In particular, we would like to highlight the following good practices in several IOM offices in the region.

In 2011, IOM Mission in **Albania** contributed to the development of Standard Operating Procedures for the Identification and Referral of Victims of Trafficking and Potential Victims of Trafficking approved by the Ministry of Interior, Office of the National Coordinator on Combating Trafficking in Persons. This is a strategic document for the adequate and coordinated functioning of Albanian Government structures in response to human trafficking.

The SOPs embeds experience of experts from competent structures of State Police (Border and Migration, Anti-trafficking and Protection of Minors and Domestic Violence Structures), Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities (State Social Service, State Labour Inspectorate), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Consular Directorate), structures of the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education and Science, receptive and reintegrating shelters for trafficked migrants in Albania, representatives of Prosecution Office, IOM and specialized NGOs.

In 2012 trainings in all regions of the country are provided for the recognition and implementation of SOPs. The implementation of the SOPs provides an increase of cooperation and partnership among relevant agencies, and enhances identifications and referrals, thus increasing the protection and (re)integration of trafficked persons.

The programme in IOM Mission in **Ukraine** includes an Economic Empowerment Component targeted at increasing the economic potential of trafficked persons, selected groups of at-risk population and depressed regions with the high level of human trafficking. This objective is reached through activities improving chances of employment and creating income-generating opportunities for trafficked migrants and selected vulnerable populations, as well as through a Micro-Enterprise Program.

Economic and professional empowerment is viewed as determinant for the success of victims' reintegration into society; therefore, this component strengthens IOM's reintegration program. This component increases the sustainability of the AVRR by offering vocational training and job placement through the employment centres, possibility of opening micro-enterprises that make trafficked migrants financially sustainable, uncover their potential and prevent them from being re-trafficked, while generating new job places in rural areas.

At the same time, the Economic Empowerment Component has a strong prevention effect by targeting the main root causes of trafficking, which are poverty and a lack of economic opportunities for vulnerable populations. Facing the increasing levels of unemployment and rapid changes in labour market due to the economic crisis in Ukraine, this component stands as especially timely and crucial.

Key success indicators:

- 190 micro-businesses were started by 265 VoTs since program launch in 2006;
- Sphere of business include: agriculture (grain and vegetable farms; livestock farms; beekeeping, green tourism, orchards, etc.), production of goods, construction and decorating services, auto-services, individual and household services (hairstyling studios and beauty salons, individual sewing and knitting services, etc.), industrial services, education and consulting, trade;
- 93 % of business are successfully operating in the market;
- Over 300 new job places were created by the enterprises;
- Over 60% of VoTs employed or included in the list of partners their family members;
- 85% of VoTs declared that business is the main source of income in their families;
- The average income of VoTs – owners of the micro-enterprises is 2.5 times higher than the average salary in Ukraine;
- The largest number of new job places created per enterprise is 11 (wedding dresses production);
- The highest level of net profit per month is equivalent of 3700 USD (pig farm);
- 28 local communities gained access to new services or goods and see positive results of self-employment; more than half of these communities are in depressed rural regions.

Training programmes offered under this component include:

- 6-day business trainings for VoTs with further business plan development support 3-day professional / job-skills training for VoTs;
- 3-day professional / job-skills training for at-risk groups.

Granting schemes include:

- Micro-enterprise grants for VoTs (on average 2,200 USD per person)
- Income-generating grants for VoTs (on average 500 USD per person)



Micro-enterprise grants for trafficked persons (IOM Ukraine)

Active interventions and awareness raising activities of IOM Mission in **Kyrgyzstan** has inspired the initiatives of large private businesses in the country. Thus, one of the largest travel agencies called “bilet.kg” which sells air tickets and railroad tickets and has more than 30 offices in the South of Kyrgyzstan and a network of branches in Russia and Kazakhstan, is posting at its own expenses information on the risks of human trafficking and the numbers of the IOM CT hotline on the ticket sleeves. In addition it also post information on the location of the IOM Information Centre for Labour Migrants on the map of Moscow, which is being provided free of charge to all those purchasing tickets to Moscow. Furthermore, the company has requested that IOM stands with information materials were placed in the air-ticket offices and CT briefings were conducted for air-ticket operators.

As another example of broadening the CT partners’ spectrum, during 2011 IOM Mission in Kyrgyzstan conducted a media event called “press-café”. Trafficking survivors were invited to informal conversations with journalists of leading editions. Through these informal discussions around a cup of coffee being followed in a friendly and easygoing manner, survivors shared their experiences. This format allowed the VOTs to tell about their stories. Important to highlight is the fact that survivors participating in the event were the ones initiating the interviews with journalists as they wanted to protect other citizens of Kyrgyzstan from what they had experienced.



Work therapy in the shelter (IOM Kyrgyzstan)

ANNEX I: DATA SOURCES, CONTEXT AND CAVEATS⁹⁰

Data collected directly from trafficked persons, as in the IOM approach, is an important source of information and has proven central in efforts to understand and combat human trafficking. Research and data collection conducted within the assistance framework, such as the IOM approach, can shed light on a range of issues including risks and vulnerability factors, the needs of different groups of trafficking victims (e.g. men, women, children, victim of labour and sex trafficking); the gender dimensions of trafficking; details of the trafficking process and, albeit it to a lesser extent, the perpetrators involved, their modus operandi, the routes used and so on⁹¹.

However, it is important to understand the context and necessary caveats surrounding the IOM cases data herein presented in this report:

- The data are only reflective of IOM assisted cases;
- Read in isolation, it cannot therefore provide an accurate picture of trafficking in a particular country or region;
- In addition, who comes into assistance is an open question a focus on trafficking for sexual exploitation has, in practice, led to a tendency to neglect other types of victims (e.g. males) and other forms of trafficking (e.g. labour) which, in turn, has led to a sometimes distorted presentation of the phenomenon, likely to be reflected in the IOM case data. At the same time, the heavy focus on international trafficking has, at worse, led to some cases of internal trafficking going unassisted and, at best, caused confusion as to the role of cross-border movements in trafficking⁹²;
- A proportion of IOM missions still do not currently share data via the global database or the associate core variable approach. Therefore, data from these countries is missing. IOM is in the process of resolving this;
- Unlike data collected in the context of the global database where the cross-border transfer of data allows for individual case management between destination and source countries, data collected through the core variable approach cannot always be validated against duplicative entries. It is likely that an IOM mission in a destination country will report upon some of the same cases assisted by an IOM mission in a source country, especially where there has been a voluntary return movement provided by IOM. The reason for this is that both IOM offices will be involved in providing assistance. So the counts of assistance are still valid; they might just refer to the same case and thus an individual is counted twice at the regional and global level. For example, a case might show as being assisted by IOM Haiti after being trafficked to Argentina. This case will be included in the mission level statistics for both IOM offices (IOM Port-au-Prince and IOM Buenos Aires). Yet this does not refer to two individuals but instead to two counts of assistance, provided to the same individual. For this reason, the regional and global totals provided relate to individual counts of assistance. The amount of individuals assisted by IOM globally is slightly lower.

IOM is currently working on finalizing the figure for the total number of individuals assisted by IOM globally to complement the number for counts of assistance (recognising that the IOM global database relates to 20,000, non-duplicative, individual entries for trafficking victims). At the same time, it is very important to continue to have a figure on the counts of assistance as this is more reflective of funding that is needed for assistance and protection to victims of trafficking.

90-Excerpt from: IOM. IOM 2011 Case Data on Human Trafficking: Global Figures & Trends. February 2012.

91-Surtees, Rebecca and Sarah Craggs. *Beneath the Surface. Methodological Issues in Research and Data Collection with Assisted Trafficking Victims.* 2010, IOM. Available at: http://publications.iom.int/bookstore/free/beneath_the_surface.pdf.

92-Ibid.

ANNEX 2: LIST OF COUNTRIES COVERED BY IOM REGIONAL OFFICES

RO Dakar Central & West Africa	RO Pretoria East & Southern Africa	RO Cairo Middle East & North Africa	RO San Jose Central & North America and the Caribbean	RO Buenos Aires South America
Benin	Angola	Algeria		Argentina
Burkina Faso	Botswana	Bahreïn	Antigua and Barbuda	Bolivia
Cameroun	Burundi	Egypt	Bahamas	Brazil
Cape Verde	Comoros	Iraq	Belize	Chile
Central African Republic	Democratic Republic of the Congo	Jordan	Barbados	Colombia
Chad	Djibouti	Kuwait	Canada	Ecuador
Congo	Eritrea	Lebanon	Costa Rica	French Guyana
Cote d'Ivoire	Ethiopia	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Cuba	Paraguay
Equatorial Guinea	Kenya	Morocco	Dominica	Peru
Gabon	Lesotho	North Sudan	Dominican Republic	Uruguay
Gambia	Madagascar	Oman	El Salvador	Venezuela
Ghana	Malawi	Qatar	Grenada	
Guinea	Mauritius	Saudi Arabia	Guatemala	
Guinea-Bissau	Mozambique	Syrian Arab Republic	Guyana	
Liberia	Namibia	Tunisia	Haiti	
Mali	Rwanda	United Arab Emirates	Honduras	
Mauritania	Seychelles	Yemen	Jamaica	
Niger	Somalia		Mexico	
Nigeria	South Africa		Montserrat	
Sao Tome and Principe	South Sudan		Nicaragua	
Senegal	Swaziland		Panama	
Sierra Leone	Uganda		St Kitts and Nevis	
Togo	United Republic of Tanzania		St Lucia	
	Zambia		St Vincent and the Grenadines	
	Zimbabwe		Suriname	
			Trinidad and Tobago	
			Turks and Caicos	
			USA	

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 Japan
 Kiribati
 Lao People's Democratic Republic
 Malaysia
 Maldives
 Marshal Islands
 Mongolia
 Myanmar
 Nauru
 Nepal
 New Zealand
 Pakistan
 Palau
 Papua New Guinea
 Philippines
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