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Investigating African Union's Adoption of Anti-Human Trafficking Communication Strategies among Vulnerable Female Teenagers in the South West Geopolitical Zone of Nigeria

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Abstract

Trafficking of young women and girls increases globally every year. Human trafficking has been a problem for the government of South-West states. This study investigates the African Union's adoption of anti-human trafficking communication strategies among vulnerable female teenagers in South-West geopolitical zone of Nigeria. This study adopts qualitative and quantitative methods. The study was conducted in the border communities of Ogun and Oyo States. The sample size was obtained from the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons and the residents of the border communities of the two states that were selected for the study. The findings showed that the African Union raises awareness about the evils of human trafficking among teenage girls through public and interpersonal communication systems; increase in sex tourism and the growing female teenage prostitution are barriers to anti-human trafficking campaigns; and that globalisation is responsible for human trafficking in South-West geo-political zone of Nigeria. Therefore, the study

recommends that collaboration between the African Union, NAPITP, Immigration Service, Custom Service and the Border Squads should be emplaced to tame the evils of human trafficking among vulnerable female teenagers in South-West, Nigeria. Stricter immigration policies should be initiated and maintained to minimise human trafficking issues in South-West geo-political zone. A special anti-human trafficking Court should be established for the dispensation of prompt justice for human traffickers.

Keywords: *African Union, Anti-Human Trafficking, Communication Strategies, Vulnerability, Female Teenagers*

Introduction

The seek for a prosperous and united Africa prompted the establishment of the African Union. The African continent is facing a worsening human trafficking crisis. Sub-Saharan Africa is one of the regions from which illegal migration flows to the global north (Agostinho, 2023). The absence of clear mandates and a stark lack of anti-human trafficking policies by the African Union are associated with growing human trafficking challenges among AU member states (Agostinho, 2023). Every year, between 800,000 and 1 million people are trafficked for forced labour and sexual exploitations globally (Deng and Zhao, 2022). Human trafficking encompasses a range of criminal activities such as forced labour, prostitution, sexual exploitation, child marriage, child soldering, child labour, and modern slavery among others (Deng and Zhao, 2022). Human trafficking is a public health issue and a serious violation of human rights that affects vulnerable people, especially young women in middle and low-income countries of the world (Stanescu et al., 2023). Perpetrators of human trafficking amass billions of Naira from the sale of human cargoes to foreign slave masters and exploiters (Bono-Neri and Toney-Butler, 2023). Anti-human trafficking communication strategies enlighten potential victims and survivors of human trafficking to come out to report their traffickers and seek protection against assassination and other negative effects associated with disclosure (Soltani et al., 2023). Trafficking of humans is a contemporary form of slavery that involves the movement of human cargoes from Africa to European societies (Mollema, 2023). Human trafficking has replaced the trans-Atlantic slave trade of the nineteenth century in contemporary times (Mollema, 2023). Human traffickers subject their victims to hard labour, sexual exploitation

and servitude (Wylie, 2023). The issue of human trafficking rests on a tripod of parents or relatives, recruiters, and abusers. The African Union, including member states, has no laws or policies in place to criminalise human trafficking. Most vulnerable female teenagers are promised better opportunities abroad, but eventually end up becoming sex slaves and labourers for clients abroad. Pimps are present in almost all the African countries, and have formed a formidable human trafficking industry. Female victims have occupied the central attention of global movements against human trafficking (Shih, 2023). Studies have noted that a greater number of young women are trafficked for sexual exploitation and slavery than young men in most African countries.

Cimino and Degani (2023) found that human trafficking issues worsen during conflicts and humanitarian crises due to impunity and a breakdown of law and order. Early identification and detection of potential victims of trafficking go a long way in arresting the situation. However, gaps in the identification process and early detection can increase the level of trafficking, especially in countries where anti-human trafficking laws are very weak (Cimino and Degani, 2023). Yengkangyi et al., (2023) found that inadequate logistics, relevant equipment and inadequate border security personnel could be attributed to worsening cases of human trafficking in porous borders of West African Countries. Price and Bentele (2023) found that socio-economic inequality is a primary risk factor for the trafficking of vulnerable female teenagers for sexual exploitation or hard labour. Lelliott and Miller (2023) found an association between corruption, smuggling activities and human trafficking in most African States. Markets for human trafficking continue to expand, and a high level of irregular migration has been sustained among recruiters of victims of trafficking in developing nations (Lelliott and Miller, 2023). Bono-Neri and Toney-Butler (2023) found that human trafficking occurs at exponential rates, but is hardly detected because of its stealthy nature. Dimas et al., (2023) found that monitoring remains the most important preventive strategy deployed by security operatives to combat human trafficking. Kubota et al., (2023) found that the size of a country's population could be a causal factor for human trafficking activities.

South-Western Nigeria is a geo-political zone where human trafficking crimes are more prevalent. The prevalence of human trafficking in the south-west of Nigeria is attributed to the proximity

of some states to neighbouring countries such as the Benin Republic, Lome, Ghana, and others. Human trafficking is triggered by both internal and external factors. Internal factors represent the victims' desire to seek a higher income to improve their families' economic standards. External factors include the desire of victims of human trafficking to escape humanitarian crises, wars or violent conflicts in a geographical location (Kubota et al., 2023). Factors for human trafficking are nepotism, corrupt practices in government, poverty, lack of equal opportunities in the obtainment of job opportunities, economic inequalities, wide gaps between the rich and the poor, and social chaos among others (Kubota et al., 2023). Human trafficking occurs within Nigerian national and international borders. A Hausa female teenager may be trafficked to Lagos or Ogun State for sex work and get a pay that is far below her labour. Concerning cross-border trafficking, Nigeria is not a transit country, but a sending country for victims of human trafficking. Receiving countries tend to have quality healthcare systems, better employment opportunities, values for human life, while sending countries have low life expectancy, poor educational systems, pervasive corruption, poor justice systems and a lack of other indices of social justice.

Victims of human trafficking, who are generally of poor economic backgrounds and low educational status, are persuaded to follow the orders of human traffickers or recruiters. Human trafficking takes away the rights of the victims from a life of dignity and freedom from exploitative behaviours such as slavery and forced sexual acts. Human trafficking permeates the strata of African and European societies and penetrates national and international boundaries (Kubota et al., 2023). An independent effort by only one country cannot solve the problems associated with human trafficking crimes in Nigeria. Combating human trafficking requires the concerted efforts of multiple nations to nail the menace in the bud (Kubota et al., 2023). Human trafficking has attracted the attention of the international community and has given birth to international organizations such as the International Organization for Migration (IOM), National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP), and International Labour Organisation among others (Kubota et al., 2023). Foreign Organisations such as UNESCO, and UNICEF vehemently oppose human trafficking, especially when it involves vulnerable young women and children (Kubota et al., 2023). Smuggling of migrants and human trafficking

activities are key concerns for many countries in America and Europe (Lelliott and Miller, 2023). Human traffickers, together with immigration personnel, subvert immigration policies and prevent investigation and comeuppance for illegal activities in most African nations. Buttressing this assertion, Hail-Jares (2023) found that human trafficking is associated with weak migration policies and corruption on the part of the enforcers of anti-human trafficking policies.

Generally, a lack of knowledge or deficient awareness about human trafficking issues makes the victims, who are usually young women purposed to be used as sex slaves or labourers in foreign lands, to be easily tricked and trapped. Anti-human trafficking communication strategies to curb the festering cases of trafficking among teenagers have been under-researched and poorly understood. Poverty, illiteracy, poor economic status, weak family background, and a stark lack of awareness of anti-human trafficking laws drag young and vulnerable women into the traps of recruiters. Human trafficking has a long-standing history and dates back to many centuries in the West African sub-region. One of the challenges of anti-human trafficking efforts by governments at all levels has been the absence of the well-coordinated anti-human trafficking communication strategies aimed at enlightening the uneducated grassroots in Nigeria's South-Western region. Anti-human trafficking communication strategies remain understudied and under-researched in Nigeria. Due to pervasive unemployment issues, business folding up, and socio-economic inequalities, female teenagers in the geo-political zone are driven to look for better opportunities abroad through illegal migration. Consequently, this study investigates the roles of the African Union in combating human trafficking in the South-West geo-political zone of Nigeria. The study investigates the festering crimes of human trafficking in select states in South-Western Nigeria. The objectives of the study are to: know the roles of the African Union's communication strategies in creating awareness about cases of anti-human trafficking among vulnerable female teenagers in South-Western Nigeria; ascertain the barriers to the anti-human trafficking campaigns in South-West; determine the factors responsible for human trafficking in South-Western Nigeria; and ascertain the approaches employed by the government to stem the tide of human trafficking in South-Western Nigeria.

This study is anchored on conflict theory. Conflict is a necessity for changing the socio-economic, political and cultural narratives or condition of community members. The theory explains conflict as being associated with social changes. Conflict theory assumes that society is perpetually in a state of conflict due to competition among social classes for limited resources (Chappelow, 2019). With regard to human trafficking, conflict theory explains how social and economic inequalities, power imbalances, nepotism, ethnicism and injustice in the allocation of state resources and other oppressive tendencies fuel human-trafficking among vulnerable female teenagers. Two basic factors are important for understanding conflict theory. The first is competition over the scarcity of resources, and the second is inequality in terms of power and the gains that exist in the social structure (Prayogi, 2023). In African and Asian societies where human-trafficking is prevalent, there are socio-economic injustices and inequalities among people. The governments of African nations are not socially responsible to the grassroots, the vulnerable and the poor. Ethnic rivalries, ethnic favouritism, and nepotism take over in lieu of the dividends of democratic rules. Job opportunities and provision of social amenities are dependent on the ethnic nationality of the person who is at the helms of affairs. To a large extent, this precipitates an inter-ethnic conflict in the allocation of state resources to all ethnic nationalities that make up a state.

The postulation of this theory aligns with this study because most female teenagers are lured to flee to other countries as a result of socio-economic inequalities and limited resources. Employment opportunities are dependent upon whom you know in government, and it does not matter whether you are qualified or not, forcing vulnerable female teenagers to embrace the offers of human traffickers.

Materials and Methods

South-Western Nigeria has six distinct states: Osun, Ogun, Oyo, Ondo, Lagos, and Ekiti. Of all these states, two are the most notorious for human trafficking due to their proximity to the borders of neighbouring countries.

Study Design: this study adopted both qualitative and quantitative methods to investigate the African Union's adoption of anti-trafficking communication strategies among vulnerable female

teenagers in South-Western Nigeria. Paired-depth interviews and surveys were used for the study. The study also investigated the roles of the African Union's communication strategies in creating awareness about anti-human trafficking crimes, the nature of communication techniques adopted by the African Union in the fight against human trafficking, and the factors responsible for human trafficking.

Study sites: The study was conducted in the border communities of Ogun and Oyo States. The two states were specifically selected because they have border communities that are geographically close to neighbouring countries. The border communities in Ogun and Oyo States are the victim transportation routes of human traffickers. The border communities in Oyo State are: Shaki, Ijio, Ayegun and Komu, while those in Ogun State are Idiroko, Ilara, Tobolo and Ilaro. While the researchers sampled the opinions of the people at the border communities in Ogun and Oyo States, the views of the officials of the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons were sampled about the African Union's communication strategies adopted in the fight against human trafficking in the South-Western Nigeria.

Sample: the study population involved members of the border communities who have significant knowledge of human trafficking activities and the NAPITIP officials who are aware of the activities and strategies of the African Union to stem the tide of human trafficking in Nigeria. Therefore, the sample size was obtained from the NAPITIP and the residents of the border communities. Researchers ensured that residents of the border communities who had knowledge of the activities of human traffickers were purposively selected to participate in the study. Four research assistants were recruited to administer 400 copies of the questionnaire to residents of border communities in Ogun and Oyo States. Residents of the border communities filled the copies of questionnaire about their knowledge of the factors responsible for human trafficking and the approaches employed by the government to stem the tide of human trafficking. Only residents who had exposure to and possess the knowledge about activities of human traffickers were given copies of the questionnaire to fill. The respondents were not under duress or subjected to any pressure to fill the copies of the questionnaire administered to them. The

objectives of the study were thoroughly explained to them before they filled the questionnaire. Four NAPTIP officials were slated for the paired depth interview. Researchers ensured that two senior officials from the Department of Investigation and Monitoring and two senior officials in the Department of Public Enlightenment were selected for the interview session on the following topics: the roles of the African Union's communication strategies in creating awareness about human trafficking crimes, the nature of communication techniques adopted by the African Union in the fight against human trafficking, and the barriers to anti-human trafficking campaigns.

Procedure: Respondents slated for the interview guide and those meant to fill out the questionnaire were purposively selected. The researchers sought and obtained the consent of the respondents slated for both interviews and the administration of the questionnaire. The respondents are selected officials of the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons and the residents of the select border communities in Ogun and Oyo States. The border communities are Shaki, Ijio, Ayegun and Komu, while border communities in Ogun State represent Idiroko, Ilara, Tobolo and Ilaro. Four NAPTIP officials were interviewed on the roles of the African Union's communication strategies in the creation of awareness of and response to anti-human trafficking messages, the nature of communication techniques adopted by the African Union in the fight against human trafficking and the barriers to anti-human trafficking campaigns. The opinions and views of 400 respondents were sampled on the factors responsible for human trafficking and the approaches employed by the government to stem the tide of human trafficking in border communities in Ogun and Oyo States. However, of the 400 copies of the questionnaire administered to the respondents in the border communities, 384 were retrieved and found usable by the researchers.

Instruments: The interview guide and questionnaire for data collection were designed by the researchers. Both instruments were shared with the officials of the NAPTIP and Immigration Personnel to seek inputs, suggestions, thoughts and expertise. Before the final administration of the questionnaire to respondents, experienced and educated residents of the border communities were also asked to examine the instrument.

Data Analysis: Data collected from the paired depth interview were subjected to a series of readings by the researchers. The data collected were thoroughly sifted, and the researchers ensured that they were in accordance with the objectives of the research. We vetted and examined all the data gathered through the paired depth interview sessions. Data gathered through paired depth interviews were analysed and interpreted thematically and through the use of explanation building. Data gathered through the questionnaire were analysed, interpreted, and presented using frequencies and percentages.

Ethical Considerations: To maintain a high sense of ethical consideration in research, the identities of the NAPTIP officials interviewed were never disclosed or revealed either by their names or addresses. Researchers maintained a high level of confidentiality during data collection using both instruments. In the same vein, copies of the questionnaire administered to the respondents did not include the names, identities, and addresses of the respondents slated for the questionnaire.

Results

Qualitative Data Analysis, Interpretations and Presentation

3.1 Theme 1: African Union's Communication Strategies about Awareness of Human Trafficking

Data collected from the paired-depth interview revealed the roles of AU's communication strategies in the creation of awareness and response to anti-human messages. The discussions showed that the African Union raises awareness about the evils of human trafficking among teenage girls through public and interpersonal communication systems. Explaining further on the AU's communication strategies in the creation of awareness about human trafficking, an official of the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons in South-West Geo-Political Zone, said:

The Department of Public Enlightenment of the NAPTIP handles several awareness creation and sensitisation campaigns, seminars and workshops purposely aimed at enlightening the vulnerable about the evils of human trafficking and the strategies of human traffickers. To create massive enlightenment campaigns, especially at the grassroots level from where vulnerable teenage girls are

recruited, anti-human trafficking programmes are mounted in Yoruba, the most widely spoken indigenous language in the South-Western Nigeria, to educate all classes of people about human trafficking. However, the African Union has raised the level of awareness through various means of enlightenment. The African Union embarks on advocacy for the empowerment of women and young girls to reduce the demand for human smuggling among vulnerable female teenagers in the south-west. The African Union has also been at the forefront of eliminating harmful customs and traditional practices against women and female teenage girls. The creation of employment opportunities for women and teenage girls, as the African Union advocates among members states, reduces the quest for false perceptions of opportunities abroad among vulnerable teenagers.

Another Official of the NAPTIP who participated in the paired-depth interview session, said:

The African Union has been conducting various workshops and mobilizing support among member states to combat human trafficking. One of the communication strategies used by the AU to create awareness about the evils of human trafficking among vulnerable female teenagers is the use of public awareness campaigns such as AU.COMMIT campaigns. The AU.COMMIT campaigns outlines communicational and operational strategies aimed at combating the festering issues of human trafficking among vulnerable women and teenagers in the member states. AU-COMMIT was established to prevent and raise awareness about the evils of human trafficking, enhance capacity building for institution, and train officials in the justice sector. The AU-COMMIT embarks on the task of reforming legal procedures and disrupting the networks of crime among member states. The AU also advocates for socio-economic development and poverty eradication among member states. It also supports the protection and rehabilitation of victims of human trafficking.

3.2 Theme 2: Barriers to Anti-Human Trafficking Campaigns in South West Geo-Political Zone

Data collected from the paired-depth interviews revealed the barriers to anti-human trafficking campaigns in the South-West Geo-political Zone. The discussions showed that the increase in sex tourism and the festering female teenage prostitution are the barriers to anti-human trafficking campaigns in the South West Geo-political Zone

of Nigeria. Explaining further about the barriers to anti-human trafficking campaigns in South Western Nigeria, a NAPTIP official in the South West Geo-Political Zone, said:

One of the major barriers to anti-human trafficking campaigns is the increasing sex tourism industry and cross-border prostitution among female teenagers. Sex tourism is not only done in the Global South or third-world countries, citizens of the advanced economies of the world also embark on sex tourism to other parts of the developing nations. Many men leave their countries to have sexual intercourse with commercial sex workers. Sex tourism does not involve sexual relationships with the female locals of the destination country. The sex workers in the destination countries are usually foreign female teenagers from other countries, who were smuggled into a country to engage in commercial sex work to earn a living. Besides, another barrier to anti-human trafficking campaign is the corrupt immigration officials who patrol the borders of many African nations. Most Immigration Officers are bribed by organized criminal gangs. They work together with corrupt immigration personnel to smuggle teenage girls into African countries to serve as commercial sex workers. While Nigeria is a destination country for many victims of sexual exploitation from Francophone countries, Libya is a transit country for many victims from Anglophone countries such as Nigeria and Ghana.

Another Official of the NAPTIP who participated in the paired-depth interview session, said:

Barriers to anti-human trafficking campaigns reflect the worsening female teenage prostitution as a result of festering parental failures in the South West geo-political zone. The organized trafficking criminal gangs recruit many female teenagers from broken homes and transport them to Libya and other European nation to serve as commercial sex workers. Most commercial sex workers are female teenagers from vulnerable and weak family backgrounds. Many African countries are becoming destinations for international sex tourists. Governments of developing nations do not provide employment opportunities for the teeming youths, social facilities are largely lacking, the absence of good hospitals and a poor education system are all factors that impede the fight against human trafficking in Africa. Besides, the lack of adequate funding provision to agencies like NAPTIP and immigration services has rendered all the mercenaries emplaced to combat human trafficking ineffective.

Quantitative Data Analysis, Interpretation and Presentation
Table One: Factors Responsible for Human Trafficking in South West Geo-Political Zone

Options	Frequency	Percentage
Economic Limitations/Poverty	84	21.8%
Globalisation	228	59.4%
Unemployment Issues	49	12.7%
Parental Failures	23	5.9%
Total	384	
100		

Source: Researchers’ Field Work, 2025

Table one shows that 84 respondents representing 21.8% stated that economic limitations and poverty are responsible for human trafficking in the southwest geo-political zone, 228 respondents representing 59.4% maintained that globalisation is responsible for human trafficking in the southwest geo-political zone, 49 respondents representing 12.7% averred that unemployment issues are responsible for human trafficking in southwest geo-political zone; while 23 respondents representing 5.9% affirmed that parental failures are responsible for human trafficking in southwest geo-political zone.

Table Two: Approaches Initiated by the Government to Curb Human Trafficking

Options	Frequency	Percentage
Establishment of the NAPTIP	127	33.1%
Anti-Smuggling Squad in Border Communities	162	42.1%
Stiffening Immigration Policies at Border Communities	86	22.4%
Community Enlightenment Campaigns at Grassroots in South West	9	2.4%
Total	384	
100		

Source: Researchers’ Field Work, 2025

Table two shows that 127 respondents representing 33.1% maintained that establishment of the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons is the approach initiated by the government to curb the human trafficking in the southwest, 162 respondents representing 42.1% averred that anti-smuggling squads in border communities is the approach initiated by the government to curb human trafficking, 86 respondents representing 22.4% affirmed that stiffening of immigration policies at border communities is the approach initiated by the government to curb human trafficking, while 9 respondents representing 2.4% posited that community enlightenment campaigns at grassroots in southwest is the approach initiated by the government to curb human trafficking in southwest.

Discussion

The African Union raises awareness about the evils of human trafficking among women and teenagers through public and interpersonal communication strategies. These findings align with the position of Al-Temmami et al., (2023) who found that the African Union and other international organisations have implemented measures to prevent human trafficking through massive awareness campaigns, protection of victims, and prosecution or bringing the perpetrators of human trafficking to justice according to the laws of the respective countries. These measures usually involve interpersonal and public awareness campaigns, different educational programmes and sustained efforts to disrupt the demand for sexual exploitation and the search for sex tourism among young teenagers in South-Western Nigeria. However, issues such as high level of collusion among the government officials and political influence of leaders of human trafficking cartel in developing nations like Nigeria has rendered the efforts of the African Union ineffective.

The increase in sex tourism and the worsening female teenage prostitution are barriers to anti-human trafficking campaigns in South-West geo-political zone of Nigeria. The findings align with the position of Al-Tammami et al., (2023), who found that global anti-human trafficking measures such as laws and initiatives, protection of victims of traffickers, massive awareness campaigns in religious centres and schools, prosecution of traffickers according to the laws of the land, and fierce de-marketing of sex tourism by relevant stakeholders in the tourism and entertainment sectors decrease the

yearn for human trafficking businesses in many places and countries, including South-Western Nigeria.

Globalisation is responsible for human trafficking in the South-West geo-political zone. These findings support the positions of Moran et al., (2023), who found that a lack of conventional online informational gatekeeping practices has strengthened the proliferation of misinformation and the spread of fake news about human trafficking via social media. The reliance on social media for education and enlightenment regarding human trafficking activities and the poverty of interventions to minimise human trafficking-related misinformation on social media are associated with the increase in human trafficking activities in the South-Western geopolitical zone of Nigeria (Moran et al., 2023).

Anti-human smuggling squads in border communities are the approach initiated by the government to curb human trafficking. These findings align with the position of Yagzi Sokat (2024) who found that stopping and tightening border patrols to discourage the immigration of illegal foreigners play an important role in the prevention of human trafficking. He also maintained that the transportation sector plays a critical role in the prevention and disruption of human trafficking in most developing nations. Workers in the transportation sector can partner with anti-human smuggling operatives to defeat the crimes of human trafficking (Yagzi Sokat et al., 2024).

Conclusion

The African Union raises awareness about the evils of human trafficking through public and interpersonal communication systems. The use of social media and interpersonal campaigns is essential to defeating the crimes of human trafficking in Nigeria. The increase in sex tourism and the festering of female teenage prostitution are barriers to anti-human trafficking campaigns. Immigration policies should be tightened to prevent illegal migration and increase in sex tourism among young ladies. Globalization is responsible for human trafficking in the southwest geo-political zone. Social media should be used to campaign against the evils of human trafficking. It should not be used to promote the recruitment of vulnerable women and children for sexual exploitation, slavery and forced labour. Anti-

human smuggling squads in border communities should be properly funded to enhance their performance and operational efficiency.

Recommendations

Interagency collaboration is crucial to address human trafficking in South-Western Nigeria. This collaboration raises the level of knowledge and understanding of human trafficking activities among professionals responsible for taming the crime of human trafficking in South-West, Nigeria. Inter-agency collaboration is required among the African Union, NAP TIP, Custom Service and Border Squads to minimize human trafficking among young female teenage girls in the south-western geopolitical zone of Nigeria.

Stricter immigration policies must be enforced to minimize the worsening crime of human trafficking in most developing African nations. Anti-human trafficking laws must be stiffened to mete out deserving punishments to the culprits of human trafficking. There are a ring and a cartel of human traffickers who are highly connected to the government and economic circles in our society. Raids and rescue operations should be conducted regularly in hotels and urban slums to arrest, and detain recruiters of prospective female teenage girls for sexual slavery and hard labour abroad. A special court to try perpetrators of human trafficking should be established for the quick dispensation of justice to recruiters of vulnerable female teenage girls in South-Western Nigeria

To curb human trafficking, partnerships between the government, Non-Governmental Organisations and other stakeholders should be initiated and sustained to harmonise diverse backgrounds, experiences, knowledge and perspectives in the fight against the crime of human trafficking (Miller et al., 2023). Anti-human trafficking communication strategies foster awareness of the traumatic impact of human trafficking on victims. Human trafficking should be incorporated into the curricula of primary, secondary and tertiary institutions.

Workers in the transportation sector can help kill the crime of human trafficking via four major responsibilities: prevention, prosecution, protection, and partnership with relevant government agencies such as the NAP TIP, the Immigration Office and the Custom Service to identify, fish out, and bring the culprits of human trafficking to justice.

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