Assessment of Social, Economic and Cultural Antecedents to Child Trafficking in Busia, Gulu and Rakai Districts of Uganda

DRAFT REPORT

May 2008

Acknowledgments

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ANPPCAN	African Network for Prevention and Protection against Child Abuse and Neglect
BUCOF	Busia Compassionate Friends
CDO	Community Development Officer
CFPU	Children and Family Protection Unit
CoU	Church of Uganda
CPC	Children Protection Committees
CSO	Civil Society Organisations
CT	Child Trafficking
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
EPIINFO	Epidemiological Information
FGD	Focus Group Discussions
GUSCO	Gulu Support the Children Organisation
HH	Household
HIV	Human Immune Virus
IGA	Income Generating Activities
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IOM	International Organisation for Migration
LC	Local Councils
LRA	Lord's Resistance Army
MoES	Ministry of Education and Sports
NGO	Non-Government Organisation
NRC	Norwegian Refugee Council
OVC	Orphaned and Vulnerable Children
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
SPSS	Scientific Package for Social Scientists
STD	Sexually Transmitted Diseases
TC	Town Council
TOR	Terms of Reference
TV	Television
UN	United Nations
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Educational Fund
UOF	Uganda Orphan Fund
UPE	Universal Primary Education
USE	Universal Secondary Education
WFP	World Food Programme

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report outlines key findings and recommendations from the rapid assessment of the social, economic and cultural antecedents to child trafficking in Busia, Gulu and Rakai districts of Uganda. Its main purpose is to enhance understanding so as to support proactive interventions to prevent child trafficking by looking at the effectiveness of different approaches and mechanisms and their impacts. Existing emergence responses to child trafficking are based on relatively little experience due to limited information on child trafficking that exists. The report is based on data collected from three categories of respondents including, adults, children both out and in school and key informants from organizations and actor implementing child trafficking preventive initiatives and promotion and protection of children's rights.

The emerging findings of the study include the following:

The nature and the magnitude of child trafficking are greatly influenced by the vulnerability among different categories of children. From the study findings, it is clear that sex, age, category of children and seasonal patterns significantly determine a child's vulnerability to trafficking. For instance, orphaned children mainly due to HIV/AIDS and the armed conflict are more vulnerable to trafficking. Street children were regarded as the second most vulnerable category of children to trafficking. Majority of the street children are male and live in urban centres i.e. big cities and towns. Street children are involved in organized begging, scavenge on garbage pits, involved in commercial sex activities and sell small merchandise on the streets rendering them to victims to traffickers. Children heading households are as well vulnerable and subjected to child labour as a survival mechanism which is associated with sexual abuse and exploitation and worst forms of child labour. Further more, the link between child trafficking and gender is significant with majority of trafficked children identified as female. Girl children who are vulnerable to child trafficking are subsequently at risk of repeat abuses. Girls' vulnerability to child trafficking has a strong relationship to sexual exploitation. Children aged 10-14 years (both girls and boys) were cited to be more vulnerable to trafficking. Reasons advanced for their vulnerability included total submissiveness and inability to make informed decisions, early initiations to perform domestic work and other forms of child labour while girls aged 10-14 years are believed to be sexually active.

Children are trafficked through deceptive means whereby parents are persuaded to hand over and entrust children to traffickers after being guaranteed empty promises. Abductions are also prominent during armed conflicts. In addition, children were noted to be involved in recruiting fellow children particularly in commercial sex activities and risky behaviours including drug abuse.

Child trafficking within the borders is more prevalent than cross-border trafficking. It was revealed that most of the internally trafficked children are destined to urban centres and big towns where there are numerous employment, education opportunities and better social amenities. Majority of children involved cross-border trafficked were destined to Kenya, DRC, Rwanda, Southern Sudan and Tanzania.

Findings indicate a general awareness about the evil practice of child trafficking in the sampled districts. However, many aspects of child trafficking including its causes and complexities remain poorly understood among adults and information on magnitude and scope of trafficking is as well limited. In addition, there is little perception that child trafficking is, first and foremost, a violation of children's rights. In addition, movement of children within and across borders is not properly registered and restricted by mandated government organs. The radio was observed as the most predominant source of information on child trafficking, followed by community campaigns and newspapers. Community campaigns are primarily supported by key players including Non-Government Organisations such as ANPPCAN, World Vision and Save the Children Uganda. TV and police were as well seen as comparatively key information sources on child trafficking. Child trafficking can also be personally experienced especially in conflict situations i.e. armed conflicts where children were abducted from homes and communities where everybody eye witnessed. Schools as well play a big part in promoting information on child trafficking among children and communities.

The study established a number of factors (pull and push) facilitating child trafficking in Uganda among which included:
- **Child trafficking is a continuous problem with deep socio-economic roots** such as disruption of livelihood strategies by armed conflict, HIV/AIDS and high unemployment rates among breadwinners which subject families to chronic poverty that compels children to devise alternative means through exploiting available income generating opportunities to meet personal needs.
- **Inaccessible and limited social services attract children to urban centres and big towns.** For instance, in post-war northern Uganda, children have to move long distances and make long lines to access safe and clean water from bore holes hence squandering their valuable time to attend school, low agricultural production due to poor coverage of extension services by services providers. Rehabilitation centres of formerly abducted children are inadequate in numbers and poorly facilitated to meet existing demand leading to insufficient services to formerly abducted children. Most schools do not offer child friendly environments stimulating desire among children for urban schools.

- **There is a significant relationship between war and child trafficking** whereby armed conflict displaced huge populations and disrupted livelihoods subjecting people to live under extreme deprivation conditions. In such circumstances, children are given away by own parents as a mechanism of enhancing children's welfare and safety.
- **The scourge of HIV/AIDS led to escalating numbers of orphaned and dependent children** with basically no source of income rendering them susceptible to trafficking.
- **Socio-cultural structures shape the child's custody at home as well facilitating child trafficking** i.e. child trafficking is partly due to deep-rooted cultural practices such as beliefs that do not prioritize girl children's education, norms that support big and polygamous families. Child sacrifices were attributed to tradditional rituals.
- **Family type and setup is key determinant to child trafficking**, broken, child headed, polygamous and big, poor single parenthood, violent families render children vulnerable to trafficking.
- The nature, intensity and magnitude of child trafficking **greatly depend on seasonality patterns.**
- **Schooling status of a child is key contributory factor to child trafficking**. Non-attainment of education significantly renders children to fall prey to traffickers through seeking for employment opportunities.

General conclusions

Findings have indicated that child trafficking is, first and foremost perceived to be not a violation of children's rights and many aspects of child trafficking including its deep-root causes, mechanisms and complexities remain poorly understood. Information on its magnitude and scope is as well limited. Furthermore, there is strong linkage between poverty and child trafficking and that trafficking locks up trafficked children in poverty and exploitation. Findings also indicate that government's and other players' efforts to combat trafficking are frustrated by the isolation and marginalization status of child victims of trafficking in addition to the limited resources and expertise on complexities of child trafficking.

General Recommendations

a) Poverty and child trafficking will only cease when they are adequately addressed as two intermingled issues as poverty nurtures child trafficking and plunges vulnerable and trafficked children into deep deprivation, abuse and exploitation.

b) Children identified as trafficked, returned and recovered should be appointed guardians and counselors in rehabilitation homes, centres and communities to support child victims of trafficking in their psychosocial, emotional and practical needs.

c) The Government of Uganda should ratify the Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Pornography and Trafficking to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

d) That massive awareness programmes should additionally provide alternatives for communities otherwise they are unlikely to help bring about change.

e) Effective and practical interventions should be at different levels: national, regional, institutional and grassroots level by cooperating through networks among key players.

f) Enrolment of children in school is fundamental to fighting child trafficking. Apart from protecting and educating children about their rights, education equips children with practical skills for work in the future which is fundamental to safeguard children vulnerable to trafficking. Government and actor should support the Go Back to School Keep in School Campaign by UNICEF.

g) Facilitate local leaders and community elders to formulate and rigorously implement strict bylaws entailing parents to uphold their responsibilities towards their children and take their role as primary caregivers very seriously plus helping dispel the myth about awful traditional beliefs.

h) There is a need to build stronger qualitative and quantitative knowledge base on child trafficking.

i) Community-based approach is effective and essential in combating child trafficking. Community-based approach should take the form of community capacity building through community participation in community development projects, community surveillance and awareness creation.

j) NGOs and other key players should assist government by implementing its policies and frameworks at grassroots level.

k) Government together with the district local governments and key players should to set up and facilitate remand homes to prevent homeless and street children from falling victims to traffickers. Remind homes will also facilitate transitory detention of obstinate children.

1.0   CHAPTER ONE – INTRODUCTION

1.1   Background to Child trafficking in Uganda

There is growing recognition that Child trafficking is a current and growing problem in Uganda and that in its complexity pose a major challenge to the promotion and protection of children's rights in Uganda. This nauseating vice which is transacted within and across the county's boarders manifests itself in varying magnitude in different districts of Uganda although some districts have exhibited to be more predisposed to child trafficking. There are limited studies and consequently limited information on the problem of child trafficking in Uganda. The studies undertaken so far provide some useful insights into the nature and magnitude of the problem, the mechanisms through which children are trafficked, the consequences of trafficking on children, as well as the policy and legislative gaps that need to be addressed in responding to the problem.

From the available information it is evident that once children are trafficked, restoring their lives to normalcy becomes a complex and intricate process. Therefore, this points to the need to prioritize preventive interventions. However, the available knowledge base on child trafficking in Uganda is not sufficient enough to inform effective preventive interventions at community level as it does not explore in satisfactory depth the community level factors and practices that make children , caregivers and families vulnerable to child trafficking.

The assessment aimed at gaining an in-depth understanding of the social economic antecedents to child trafficking in Uganda with regard to Busia, Gulu and Rakai Districts. The study is also undertaken to reflect the contextual knowledge, attitudes and practices of child trafficking. The assessment was undertaken with the ultimate goal of generating information to support proactive interventions against child trafficking at community level.

1.2   Justification for the assessment

There is limited information on the practice of child trafficking in Uganda, its nature, magnitude and mechanisms of trafficking for effective practical intervention measures. Thus this assessment was undertaken to provide useful insights to inform effective preventive and practical interventions at community level as it explored community level factors and practices that make children, caregivers and communities vulnerable to child trafficking.

1.3   Overall Objective

To assess the social, economic and cultural antecedents to child trafficking in Uganda so as to effectively address child abuse, exploitation and neglect.

1.4   Specific objectives

- To examine people's knowledge, attitudes, practices and incidence of child trafficking in Busia, Gulu, and Rakai districts of Uganda.
- To find out community beliefs and practices that predispose children to child trafficking.
- To explore how child trafficking is linked to child sacrifice, child labour, sexual abuse and smuggling in the respective communities.
- To identify social support structures and institutions and individuals that exists within the communities to regulate child in samples districts.
- To raise implications and provide recommendations as well as conclusions that would provide indicative strategies to combat child trafficking.

2.0   CHAPTER TWO – METHODOLOGY

2.1   Overall Design

The study employed both qualitative and quantitative techniques for data collection and analysis. The blend of the two techniques minimized on the possibilities of risks of extractive data collection and analysis. Combined techniques were used to compliment each other. Easily quantifiable data was sought by way of administering simple questionnaires for both adult and children respondents.

2.2   Qualitative and quantitative data collection

The qualitative approach for data collection and analysis made use of Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) tools such as cases stories, livelihood analysis, institutional analysis, wellbeing analysis and seasonal calendars among others. Respondents included children both out and in school aged 10-18 years and adults both men and women. Key informant interviews were held with officials from the district, sub-county local government officials under the probation and welfare office, community development officers, focal persons from NGOs working on children protection related issues and government law enforcing organs such as the police under CFPU. The quantitative approach made use of an assessment questionnaire for data collection for children aged 10-18 and adults heading households.

2.3   Area of study

Assessment data was collected from Gulu, Rakai and the Border town of Busia due to their contextual peculiarities.   Gulu was primarily chosen because it is faced with post-war situations that predispose children to the practice of trafficking. Rakai was largely chosen due to the grave effects of HIV/AIDS on household welfare and wellbeing in addition to sharing a border with Tanzania while Busia shares border with Kenya rendering children more at risk of being involved in cross-border trafficking. In addition, interviews were conducted with key respondents from CSOs/NGOs working on Children Protection issues, relevant authorities and law enforcement Government organs namely the police and immigration office.

2.4   Data management and analysis

In order to maintain quality data throughout the entire study period, the team researchers guided the research assistants and also made verifications of the filled questionnaires.   Besides, the researchers manually edited the filled

questionnaires and later cross-checked them for completeness and accuracy on a daily basis.

All the filled questionnaires were further verified, edited, coded and data was entered into computer using (EPI-INFO) software package. The captured data was analyzed using (SPSS) program to establish frequencies and the cross-tabulations with various key variables such as gender, age, education, occupation, level of awareness, district etc.

The qualitative data was processed, transcribed and analyzed using the thematic and content approaches to enhance the capturing of perceptions, experiences and challenges as cited by the different key informants and community members including both adults and children.

2.5   Population sample for the study

Selecting samples simultaneously drew on both purposive and random sampling. One hundred and eight (108) children and 162 adults were sampled from the three districts i.e. 36 children and 54 adult respondents per sampled district.

2.6   Process limitations

Among the problems encountered by research assistants and researchers during data collection included the following:

- The assessment was conducted during a rainy season thus it was very hard to trace peasant respondents as they were very busy cultivating and sowing in their gardens.

- Local leaders were not informed of the exercise in time and some of them were very hard to trace and unwilling to respond to questions as they had other business to attend to. Those who cooperated expected money from the research assistants that was not forthcoming.

- Some respondents were hesitant and some completely refused to share information with the research assistants, arguing that they were fed up of people who sought for information especially on matters regarding protection and promotion of children's rights yet no tangible benefits have been realized i.e. children's rights continue to be violated without immediate action from government and others actors.

Despite all the above problems faced during data collection, the exercise was carried out successfully through use of persuasive language and explaining the major aims of the assessment to the different respondents.

3.0   CHAPTER THREE – SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION OF RESPONDENTS

3.1   Background information on adult respondents

The study targeted adults who headed households including children aged 12-18 who headed households. Background information presents, sex, age, marital status, education level and main occupation for adult respondents. Background information for adult respondents is integrated with key informants and children's views to stimulate analysis and make conclusions.

3.1.1   Age among adult respondents

A total of 166 adults were interviewed (54.3% and 45.7% male and female respectively). Over 32.3% of interviewed adults were aged 30-39 years, followed by those in age bracket of 20-29 (27.4%). Only 1.8% of the adult respondents were aged 70 years and above.

3.1.2   Marital status for adults and household heads

The study established that majority of the respondents led a monogamous marriage 51.2 percent while 13.4 percent lived a polygamous marriage. 14.0 percent of adult respondents were not married whereas 5.5% of the adult respondents confessed to have separated or divorced with their spouses yet 15.9 percent were widowed. Separation/divorced and widowhood leads to single parenthood which was alluded to be significant contributory factor to child trafficking. According to focus group discussions and key informants, parents who lead a polygamous life are deficient financially to meet children's basic necessities thus creating a favourable environment for child trafficking.

3.1.3   Education attainment among adults

Education plays a major part in influencing one's life socially, economically and culturally. Education influences primary caregiver particularly parents to send and keep their children in school. Educated parents tend to attach high value to their children's education especially girl children. The probability of a child being trafficked is significantly influenced by the level of parents' education. Additionally, education attainment by parents exposes them to employment opportunities, better farming methods and plays a big role to narrow the information gap on promotion and protection of children's basic rights. Educated parents are more likely to effectively utilize information through mass media thus more aware of the dangers and effects of trafficking on children. There are high poverty levels, high morbidity incidences, and adoption of poor

farming methods among illiterate household heads. All these combined together greatly emasculate parents' ability to fight and resist trafficking.

Overall, majority of adult respondents had attained a certain level of education. However, the study never examined the literacy and numeracy capabilities to establish whether adults could actually read and write. Table 3.1 illustrates that 29.3 percent of the respondents had attained upper primary while 26.8 percent had accomplished secondary. However, a significant proportion of adult respondents reported to have no formal education. High illiteracy level among parents was cited by key informants as a major contributory factor to child trafficking. Illiterate parents were reportedly not to value children's education and often look at girls as source of family wealth.

Table 3.1: Percentage distribution of adults by age, sex, marital status & education

Background information	Sex		
Age	Male	Female	Percentage Total
20-29	23.6	32.0	**27.4**
30-39	36.0	28.0	**32.3**
40-49	20.2	24.0	**22.0**
50-59	13.5	6.7	**10.4**
60-69	5.6	6.7	**6.1**
70+	1.1	2.7	**1.8**
Marital status			
Not married	12.4	16.0	**14.0**
Married monogamous	64.0	36.0	**51.2**
Married polygamous	14.6	12.0	**13.4**
Divorced/separate	3.4	8.0	**5.5**
Widowed	5.6	28.0	**15.9**
Education level			
None	4.5	13.3	**8.5**
Lower primary	18.0	14.7	**16.5**
Upper primary	20.2	40.0	**29.3**
Secondary	33.7	18.7	**26.8**
Tertiary	15.7	9.3	**12.8**
University	7.9	4.0	**6.1**
Total	**54.3**	**45.7**	**100.0**

3.1.4 Main occupation among adults

Financial inability by parents was noted to contribute to increased deprivation and vulnerability among children and a major factor leading to children to fall victims to traffickers. From the figure 3.1 below, farming is the major source of livelihoods for rural populations with 28.3 percent. However, it was noted that households which exclusively depending on farming are vulnerable to trafficking due to seasonality patterns that upset agricultural livelihoods. Farming as a major source of livelihoods, was followed by trade and petty businesses (20.5 percent) mostly practiced among urban population. Unskilled, skilled and professional labour scored (16.4 and 8.4 percent respectively).

There were noticeable gender disparities in type of occupation among adult respondents, it should be noted that more women were involved in occupations that do not required a great deal of skills and startup capital. From the figure below, more women were engaged in peasantry farming (29.3%) and unskilled labour (24%). Comparatively, more men were involved in skilled labour (10.1%), professional labour (11.2%) and trade (24.7%).

Figure 3.1: Percentage distribution of adults by sex and major occupation
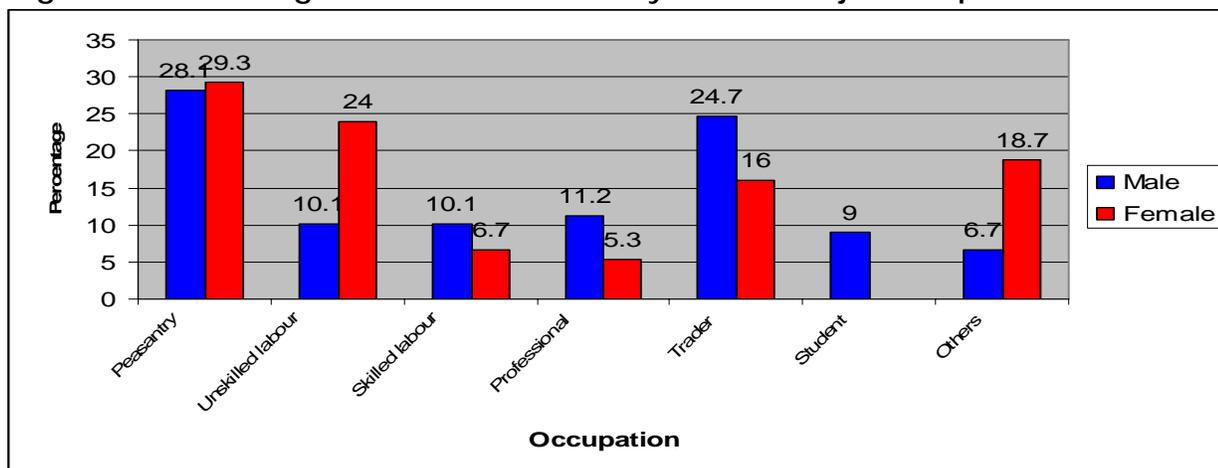
Note: the figure 1 represents multiple responses

3.2   Background information for children respondents

3.2.1 Age among children respondents

The study targeted and interviewed children aged 10-18 years both in and out of school. Overall, a total of 104 children (41.7% male and 58.3% female) were interviewed using a simple assessment questionnaire. 56.3 percent of the

children interviewed fell in the age bracket of 10-14 years while 43.7 percent were aged 15-18 years.

Education attainment among children

Overall, majority of interviewed children had attained at least upper primary (48.5 percent) while 18.4 percent were in lower primary. A significant proportion of interviewed children had transited to post primary i.e. 23.3 percent reported to be in secondary while only 4.9 percent had attained tertiary education. Only 4.9 percent of interviewed children had no form of formal education. Table 3.2 reveals that there are more boys in upper primary than girls which is an indication that girl children drop out of school earlier than boys.

Table 3.2: Percentage distribution of children respondents by age, sex, education

Background information	Sex		
Age	Male	Female	Percentage Total
10-14	53.5	58.3	56.3
15-19	46.3	41.7	43.7
Education level			
None	4.7	5.0	4.9
Lower primary	11.6	23.3	18.4
Upper primary	58.1	41.7	48.5
Secondary	23.3	23.3	23.3
Tertiary	2.3	6.7	4.9
Total	41.7	58.3	100.0

However, from the table 3.2 above, no discrepancies were revealed in education attainment in disfavour of female children although more girl children reported to have no formal education compared to boy children (4.7 and 5.0 percent respectively). Non-attainment of education significantly renders children to fall prey to traffickers by seeking for employment opportunities.

4.0   CHAPTER FOUR – NATURE AND MAGNITUDE OF CHILD TRAFFICKING

The nature and the magnitude of child trafficking was established by examining vulnerability among different categories of children, profile of child traffickers, destination of trafficked children, intensity of trafficking due to seasonality patterns, conditions under which trafficked children live and work and the effects of trafficking on child victims.

4.1.1   Victims of child trafficking

4.1.1.1   Sex most vulnerability to trafficking

The link between child trafficking and gender is strong and significant with majority of trafficked children identified as female. Girl children who are vulnerable to child trafficking are subsequently at risk of repeat abuses. Girls' vulnerability to child trafficking has a strong relationship to sexual exploitation. Table 4.1 below clearly indicates that both adult and children respondents (50.3% and 62.7%) were in agreement that girls were more in danger of being transported, harboured and recruited. It is apparent that 39.8 percent and 24.5 percent of adults and children respondents considered both boy and girl children to be evenly at risk of falling victims to child trafficking.

Table 4.1: Most vulnerable children to trafficking by sex

Sex more vulnerable to trafficking	Respondent category			
	Adults respondents		Children respondents	
	Freq	Percent	Freq	Percent
Boy children	16	9.9	13	12.7
Girl children	81	50.3	64	62.7
Both	64	39.8	25	24.5
Total	**161**	**100.0**	**102**	**100.0**

Note, however, there is a growing awareness for boy children to be potential victims of child trafficking and repeat child abuses. Table 4.1 above denotes that boys were relatively vulnerable to child trafficking which is an indication that child trafficking is beyond sexual abuse and exploitation. 9.9 percent of the adult respondents were of the view that boys were vulnerable to trafficking while only 12.7 percent of children respondents were of the same observation.

4.1.1.2   Age most vulnerability to trafficking

The age dimension of a child is a significant contributory factor to children's vulnerability to trafficking. Children aged 10-14 years (both girls and boys) were cited to be more vulnerable to trafficking by both adult and children respondents. Reasons advanced for their vulnerability included total

submissiveness and inability to make informed decisions, early initiations to perform domestic chores and other forms of child labour while girls aged 10-14 years are believed to be sexually active.

Table 4.2: Most vulnerable children to trafficking

Age more vulnerable to trafficking	Respondent category			
	Adults respondents		Children respondents	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
0-4	12.2	4.7	9.6	5.6
5-9	8.6	8.1	13.3	10.0
10-14	51.1	61.7	49.4	61.1
15-18	28.1	25.5	27.7	23.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

The table 4.2 above reveals that over 50% of total respondents perceived children aged 10-14 years as more vulnerable to trafficking. However, girls under the same age bracket appeared to be more vulnerable to trafficking than boys with 61.7% and 61.1% among adults and children respondents. Nevertheless, boy children aged 0-4 and 15-18 years were assumed to be more vulnerable to trafficking than girls under same age bracket. Child trafficking among boys aged 0-4 is mainly attributed to human sacrifices for traditional rituals i.e. boys do not have cuts on their bodies. Child sacrifices was predominant in Rakai and Busia districts where there is high demand for human body parts such as genitals, blood and heart by witch doctors.

4.1.2   Category of children most vulnerability

The most vulnerable category of children to child trafficking are the orphaned children mainly due to HIV/AIDS and the northern insurgency. Orphaned children were reported to live under extreme deprivation conditions which subjects them to vulnerability of falling prey to traffickers. Rakai registered the highest number of children orphaned due to HIV/AIDS while Gulu recorded highest numbers of orphans as a result of the long life insurgency. Orphaned children ought to engage income generation to supplement household income thus falling victims to other forms of exploitation and abuses. Table 4.3 below denotes that orphaned children were more vulnerable to child trafficking with 56.8% and 52.6% among adults and children respondents.

Street children were regarded as the second most vulnerable category of children to trafficking. Majority of the street children are male and live in urban centres and big towns such as Kampala, Jinja, Mbare, Gulu, Mbarara, Masaka Lira, Arua, Busia, Mbare Tororo etc. Street children are involved in organized begging, scavenge on garbage pits, involved in commercial sex activities and sell small merchandise on the streets rendering them victims to traffickers. Agents

were reported to pick street children through persuasion and traffic them to big towns including Kampala, Nakuru and Nairobi.

Table 4.3:   Most vulnerable children to trafficking by category of children

Kind of children most affected by child trafficking	Respondent category			
	Adults respondents		Children respondents	
	Freq	Percent	Freq	Percent
Orphans	71	56.8	112	52.6
Children heading households	7	5.6	15	7.0
Street children	18	14.4	34	16.0
All children	27	21.6	49	23.0
Don't know	2	1.6	3	1.4
Total	**125**	**100.0**	**213**	**100.0**

Children heading households are subjected to child labour as a survival mechanism which is associated with worst and exploitative forms of child labour and sexual abuse. The survival mechanism among children heading households is a barrier to efforts to combat child trafficking. Table 4.3, indicates that 5.6% and 7.0% of adult and children respondents perceived children heading households to be susceptible to child trafficking. Children heading households are more willing to offer cheap labour for survival and as supportive mechanism to siblings.

4.1.3 Child Traffickers

Most of the traffickers are entrepreneurship and business people who employ deceptive means to traffic children by promising parents to offer children employment and education opportunities i.e. that monthly wages earned by trafficked children could be used meet school dues.

Figure 4.1: Percentage distribution of Traffickers among adult and children respondents
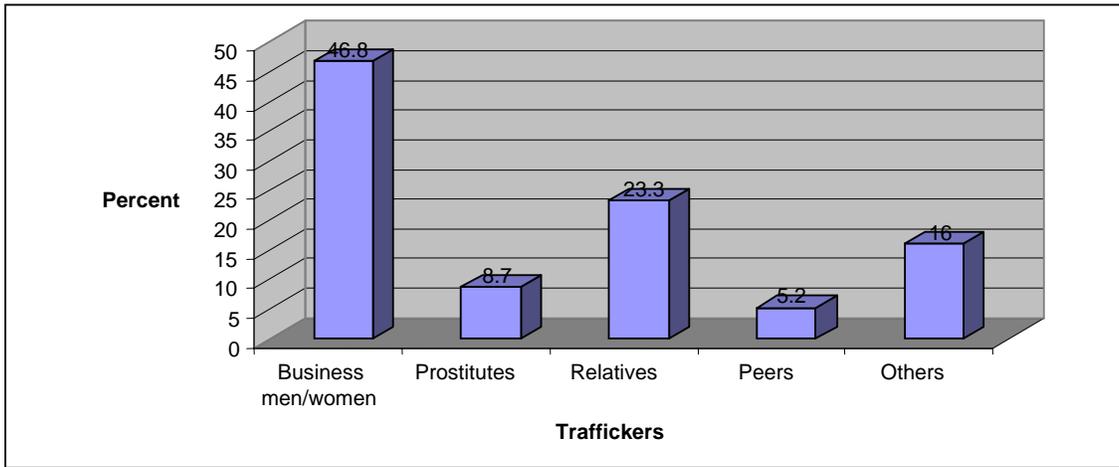
Figure 4.1 above indicates that there was wide acceptance among adult and children respondents that at least 46.8% of child traffickers were business men/women from urban centres followed by close relatives with 23.3%. Some traffickers such as close relatives, friends, and neighbours employ informal networks to persuade parents to give away their children by promising improved standards of living, education and employment opportunities, medical care and good accommodation. Close relatives involved in trafficking are mostly female aged 30 years and above and mostly interested in girl children for purposes of provision of domestic labour and to sexually exploit them by using them as source of attraction and sex slaves to male customers in bars, lodges and hotels. Close friends and relatives are entrusted with children because parents look at them as protective and supportive.

Box 1: Case story

After Bint (16 years from Iganga). Her Aunt had made several requests, she was allowed by Bint's parents to her take for household assistance at her aunt's home. Although she was in S.3, she also helped the aunt sell in a bar. Consequently, she got some men who promised to help her with education. Later one, the Aunt could allow her time out with the men on the premise that she will get fees. Given that her parents were stuck in poverty, the Aunt urged her to get money from boyfriends. As a result, she got married to one of the men (from Busia, Kenya) at age 16 years. She later ran away from him as a result of constant battering and denial of food and other basic needs. Her father is reported to have died and this could have contributed to her repeated abuses by her Aunt. Also, the influence of her peers could have caused this. In addition, her Aunt could not accord her the parental protection and guidance and this could partly account for her current situation.

Compassionate disposition among women enhances their ability to persuade parents to hand over their children. Compassionate disposition among women renders parents to develop trust and confidence in female relatives. Parents believe that female relatives can nurture children properly. In Gulu, community members attributed women's involvement in trafficking to their sweet and charisma talk. Women's involvement in child trafficking has a strong correlation to commercial sexual exploitation.

During insurgence, traffickers were mostly LRA rebels through abductions, force and coercion. Abducted children were trained to become young and courageous fighters while girls became wives for rebel commanders and fighters.

Religious leaders were cited to be engaged in child trafficking. Religious leaders from Pentecostal churches traffic children after persuading parents with empty promises of offering children free education and improved lives. Children trafficked by religious leaders are institutionalised in churches, denied access to education and forced to work without pay.

Employment bureaus were cited among major child traffickers. Community members testified that employment bureaus guarantee gainful employment opportunities for children particularly from poor, child headed and orphaned families. Sporadically, employment bureaus solicit for little money from poor parents as recompense for finding employment opportunities for children. However, children are strained into worst and exploitative forms of child labour including commercial sex. For instance, employment bureaus in Rakai recruit children at landing sites to load and off load fish after soliciting an agent fee of shs 20000 from respective parents.

Table 4.4: Child traffickers by district

Child Traffickers	Districts			
	BUSIA	GULU	RAKAI	TOTAL
Business men/women	32.1	22.9	45.0	**44.7**
Prostitutes	48.0	40.0	12.0	**10.3**
Relatives/family members	34.5	23.6	41.8	**22.5**
Peers	50.0	8.3	41.7	**4.9**
Others	14.0	60.5	25.6	**17.6**
TOTAL	**32.0**	**30.7**	**37.3**	100.0

Although business men/women as child traffickers play a big role in trafficking children in Rakai district with over 45.0%, it is surprising that major traffickers in

Gulu and Busia were prostitutes and peers. Others mentioned traffickers included, traditional healers, devil worshipers and local leaders.

4.1.4 Perpetuators of child trafficking

It is amazing that perpetuators of child trafficking include prospective activists and promoters of children's rights. Parents, close relatives, local leaders and the police were cited in visited districts to be involved in perpetuating child trafficking. Participants in FGDs also cited local leaders and the police as fueling the practice of child trafficking by either concealing cases of child trafficking or conniving with prime caregivers and traffickers to transport, harbour and recruit children. In Busia, residents were renowned to be more involved in cross boarder child trafficking. Perpetuators are locally termed as "Kayungirizi" or brokers.

Non-Government Organisations were noted to be among the perpetuators of child trafficking working under disguise of offering free educational opportunities to children in IDP camps and poor communities. The probation officer, Parcho sub-county, revealed of an NGO known as (UOF) based in Kamuli which took away 24 children from Unyama camp pledging them with free education. However, according to LC3 chairperson, the NGO adopted the children and were never released for holidays. The CDO, Bobi sub-county reported that a vocational institute known as Matembe Institute recruited children to work on pineapple plantations after offering them unfilled promises of free education, they were later rescued by the Northern Uganda Parliamentary Caucus.

4.1.5 Seasonality patterns for child trafficking

The nature, intensity and magnitude of child trafficking greatly depend on seasonal patterns. Figure 4.2, denotes that the planting and harvesting seasons 11% and 9.6% significantly contributes to child trafficking. During planting season, there is no enough agricultural produce for both domestic consumption and selling to market. Lack of enough food at home and inadequate income from sale of agricultural produce render children vulnerable to trafficking as parents lack financial capacity to meet basic necessities for children during planting period.

Figure 4.2: Seasonality patterns
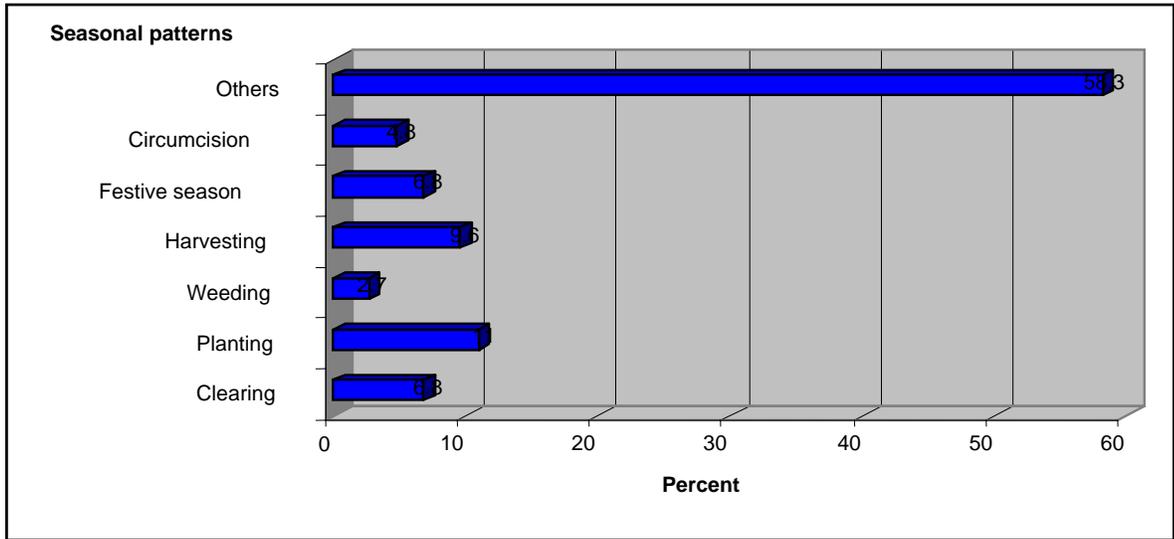
4.1.6 Conditions under which trafficked child live and work

Trafficked children are engaged in baby sitting, cooking, fetching water, housekeeping, pottering, bodaboda, hawkering, cattle rearing and sexual exploitation by employers. Children engaged in domestic chores are denied their right to education thus ruining their future. Girls who work as bar maids are forced into commercial exploitative sex with male clients as a means of attracting more customers. Girls also sell in shops and operate saloons.

Figure 4.3: Type of work trafficked children are involved
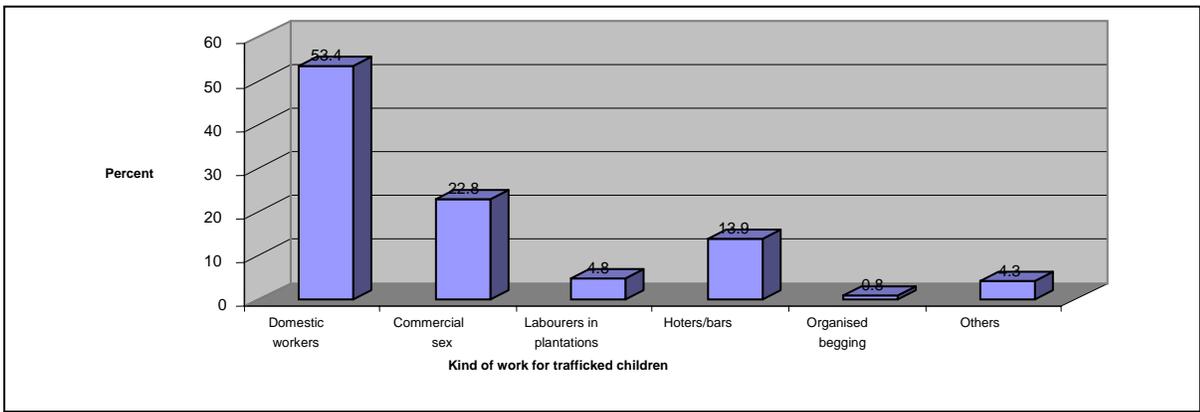
Figure 4.3 above indicates that most of trafficked children are engaged in domestic work (53.4 percent) followed by sexual abuse and exploitation (22.0 percent). However, there is likelihood that girl children working in hotels and bars (13.9 percent) are sexually abused. Among trafficked children, there were a few

reported cases of child labourers in plantations (4.8 percent). Insignificantly, only (0.8 percent) of trafficked children were recounted to be trafficked purposely for organised begging more prominent in Busai where Karamajong children are destined for prearranged begging.

In Gulu, FGD participants reported that abducted children particularly boy children are forced to fight, loot, kill and engage in all violation against civilians' rights while girls are turned into sex slaves and objects.

Trafficked girl children are forced into prostitution and other form of sexual abuse. Sexual exploitation renders girl children vulnerable to contracting sexually transmitted diseases including HIV/AIDS. Female traffickers were as well mentioned by FGD participants in Busia, to involve young girl children in commercial sex and in turn get commission from clients.

Trafficked children are forced to perform heavy and exploitative labour including moulding bricks, working as shamba boys on tea and sugarcane cane plantations. Heavy and exploitative labour physically and emotionally affects children. The probation and welfare officer – Gulu district focal person on child protection testified that "a primary teacher took away two children, a boy and girl after promising them education opportunities but instead handed over them to a well off family to look after pigs on the farm. However one of the pigs escaped and disappeared and the two children were subjected to harsh treatment forcing the boy to escape to Gulu town and leaving the sister behind".

Trafficked children are exploited by employers by paying them very little wages i.e. cheap labour or monthly wages remitted to parents, guardians and caregivers who conspired with traffickers.

4.1.7 Emotional, physiological, social/cultural, emotional and economic effects of trafficking on children

- Trafficked children especially girls are at risk of getting early and unwanted pregnancies and consequently dropping out of school. This is more prevalent among girl children aged 12-18 years.
- Education opportunities for trafficked children are jeopardised. Trafficked children are mainly occupied by exploitative domestic chores denying them opportunity to access school.
- Abducted children develop mental and psychological effects and loss of self-esteem and dignity. For instance girls are raped by rebels, infected with HIV/AIDS and left to mother young children without indistinct biological fathers. Formerly abducted children despite undergoing rehabilitation, are attacked by nightmares of horrible incidents and scenes such as forced

killings. Some of the formerly abducted children are former child soldiers who were forced to fight and kill. There are instances where child soldiers killed their own close relatives. Formerly abducted children are reluctant to reenrol in school due to over age. In addition, formerly abducted children are discriminated against while at school due to over age and evils associated with former child soldiers. A 13 year old boy (P4) was abducted and was recovered when he was 19 years thereby refusing to enrol in primary.

- Trafficked children lose the bondage and attachment to their families, parents and peers which greatly affects their proper growth and development. According to the OC police post Bungatira sub-county – Rakai district, abducted children eternally lose family bondage.
- Child trafficking economically impacts on a household's welfare whereby for some households to survive, children have to engage in some sort of economic activity to supplement household income. In a case they are trafficked, a family looses a productive asset.
- Abducted girls were turned into rebels wives and consequently suffered delivery complications and maternal death.
- Abducted children are forced to walk long distances while carrying the loot and heavy weapons. However, whoever fails to walk the required distance is shot at scene.
- At household level, formerly abducted children are isolated and discriminated against because caregivers consider them as mentally and psychologically affected.
- Trafficked children are at risk of death due to exploitation in form sexual abuse, rape, defilement, engaged in worst form of child labour subjecting them to death.
- Frustrations due to non-realisation of expected benefits results into disappointments and emotional torture among trafficked children.
- Trafficked children at a later age develop hatred and distrust towards caregivers particularly parents and close relatives who handed over them to traffickers at a tender age.
- Communities are deprived of productive resources whereby rural communities are left with unproductive elderly populations.
- A big proportion of children involved in cross-border trafficking are recruited in tea and sugarcane plantations in Kenya to pluck tea leaves. Children working on large plantations are exposed to hazardous working conditions spraying pesticides without protective gear leading to respiratory infections. Children working on tea plantations are as well exposed snake bites, work for long hours hence are denied access to school.

4.1.8 Mechanisms for trafficking

The means of transporting trafficked children greatly depend on the prevailing circumstances and distance to final destination communities. During war, although final destinations are distant and remote, children are forced to move on foot. Children trafficked to nearby urban centres are transported using foot, bicycle and motorcycle/bodaboda. While children transported to faraway urban centres are transported by bus and small taxis.

Figure 4.4: Means of transport for trafficking children
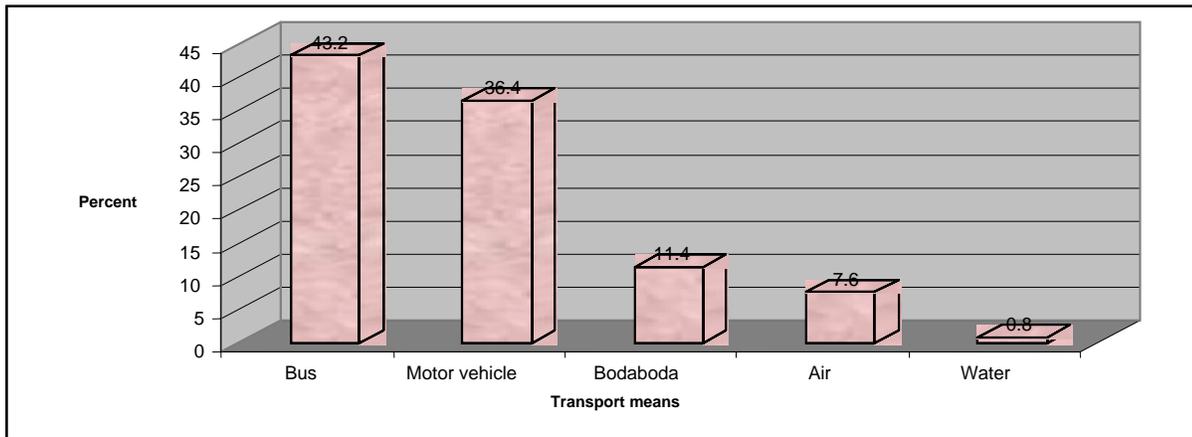
Figure 4.4 above, indicates that majority of trafficked were transported by means of bus (43.2 percent) and motor vehicles/taxis implying that majority of trafficked children are destined to urban centres and big towns. Children transported by Bodaboda were presumably predestined to nearby small towns. However, there is a significant relationship between air and water transport to cross-border trafficking. By implication, over 8.0 percent children were involved in cross-border child trafficking.

Children are trafficked through deceptive means whereby parents are persuaded to hand over and entrust children to traffickers after being guaranteed empty promises. Participants in FGD Rakai reckoned that "a parent was reported to giveaway her 14 year old daughter after being swayed by a lady that the child was to obtain employment opportunities and a monthly wage which could facilitate the girl's education. However, the trafficker never lived to her words, after wards the girl was forced to work without pay and denied access to school. The trafficked girl escaped and retuned home and she has resumed school". The police as well reported cases whereby employment bureaus which camouflage as NGOs and traffic children by promising basic and good education for children.

Children abduction during insurgency was reported as another form of mechanism for trafficking children. Abductions were as well associated with child sacrifices for traditional ritual and selling of body parts.

Children were noted to be involved in recruiting fellow children particularly in commercial sex activities. Children working in bars, hotels and lodges are used by traffickers to persuade fellow children into the industry while children engaged in organised begging convince others to join street for lucrative organised begging.

4.1.9 Destinations of trafficked children

Child trafficking within the country is more prevalent than across border trafficking. It was revealed that most of the trafficked children are destined to urban centres and big towns where there are numerous employment, education opportunities and better social amenities such schools, health centres, accessible safe water points, ready market for agricultural produce and recreational and entertainment facilities. Major destination urban centres include Gulu, Kampala, Arua, Lira, Fortportal, Masindi, Jinja, Masaka, Kyotera, Mutukula, Busia, Tororo, Mbale, Naluwerere-Bugiri and fishing communities such as kasensero, and Dimo, Golofa in Bugiri. In the context of conflict, children are given away to urban dwellers as a safety measure i.e. urban areas and big towns are perceived to be safer for children during armed conflict. Figure 4.5 below clearly indicates that 58.5% of trafficked children were destined to big towns while only 5.5% were intended for small towns and fishing communities.

Figure 4.5: Destinations for internally trafficked children

27
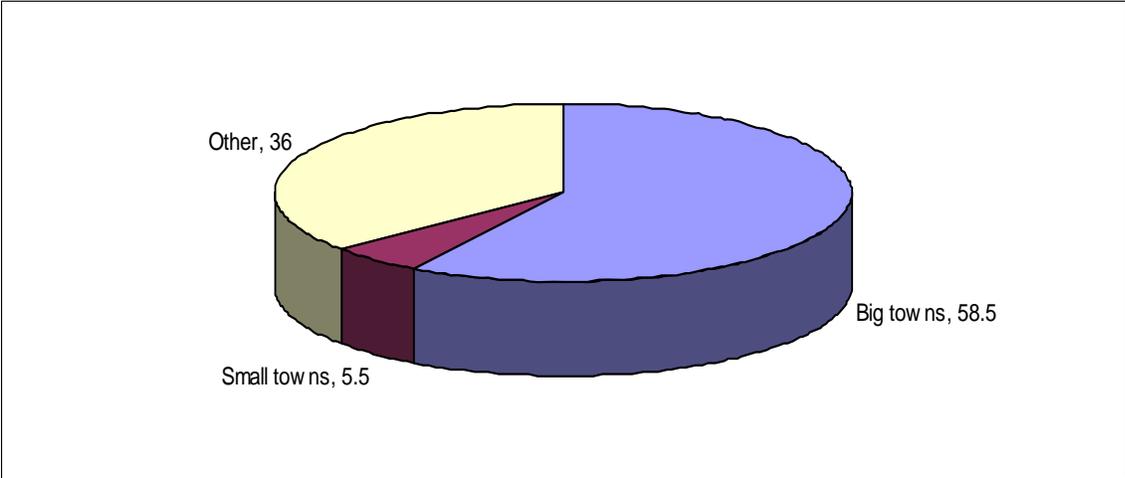
Majority of urban dwellers derive their livelihoods from petty businesses and trade thus need cheap labour to either stay at home to look after young ones or engage trafficked children in running of small businesses.

Figure 4.6: Destinations for children involved in cross-border trafficking
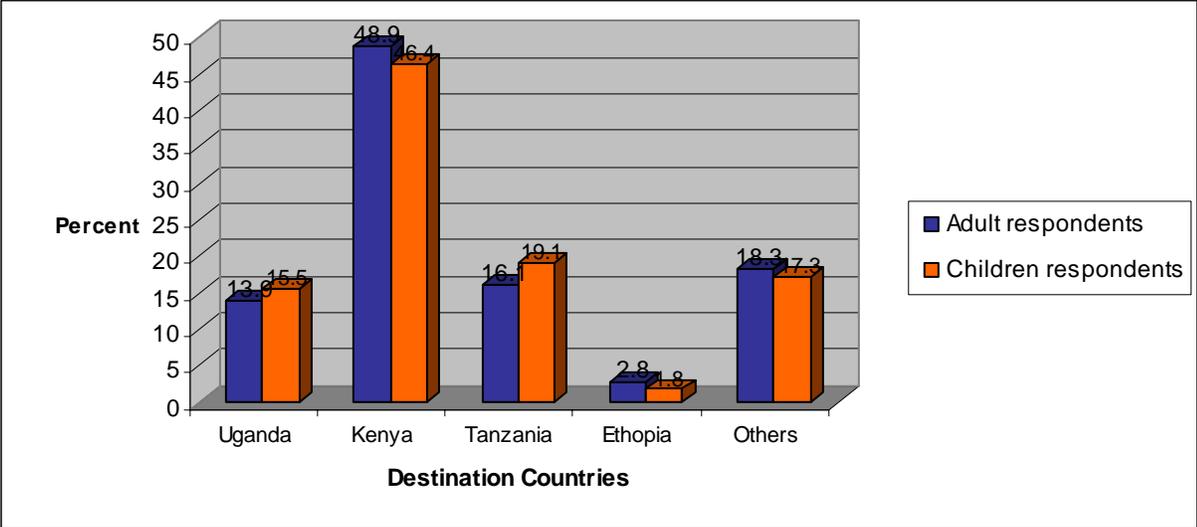
Majority of children involved cross-border trafficked were destined to Kenya towns of Mombassa, Nairobi and Nakuru. Adult and children respondents (48.3% and 46.4% correspondingly) recounted that children trafficked externally were destined to Kenya followed by children ferried to other Sub-African countries such as DR Congo, Rwanda and Southern Sudan mainly to Juba. 16 and 19.1 percent of adult and children respondents noted that trafficked children were ferried to Tanzania while merely 2.8 and 1.8 percent of adult and children respondents mentioned Ethiopia as final destination for trafficked children.

5.0   CHAPTER FIVE – LEVEL OF AWARENESS ON CHILD TRAFFICKING

5.1   Level of awareness among adults

Findings indicate a general awareness about the evil practice of child trafficking in the sampled districts. However, many aspects of child trafficking including its causes and complexities remain poorly understood among adults and information on magnitude and scope of trafficking is as well limited. In addition, there is little perception that child trafficking is, first and foremost, a violation of children's rights. This is partly attributed to less informative messages on child trafficking through the media, community level campaigns by key players and limited studies that have conducted on child and human trafficking. In addition, movement of children within and across borders is not properly registered and restricted by mandated government organs.

Table 5.1 below indicates general awareness about child trafficking and cases of trafficked children that were returned and recovered. Over 89.6% of interviewed adult respondents were conversant about the practice of child trafficking while 69.5% had eye witnessed cases of children transported, recruited and harboured. A significant number of adult respondents (53.1%) knew of trafficked children that had been recovered and reinstated back home whereas over 80.7% were aware of individuals involved in child trafficking.

Table 5.1: Level of awareness among adults respondents

Heard of Child Trafficking	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	147	89.6
No	17	10.4
Total	164	100.0
Heard of a child trafficked in your community		
Yes	114	69.5
No	50	30.5
Total	161	100.0
Heard of a child trafficked and returned		
Yes	75	53.1
No	85	46.9
Total	160	100.0
Know of any one involved in Child trafficking		
Yes	130	80.7
No	31	19.3
Total	161	100.0
Know of any organization involved in child trafficking		
Yes	112	69.6
No	49	30.4
Total	161	100.0

In some cultures, child trafficking is regarded as lending one's child to someone affluent. In Acholi it is lending your child to an affluent family locally known as "miyo latino in Luo". Parents deliberately hand over own children to traffickers to be relieved of the financial burden of meeting children's basic necessities including food, shelter, clothing and scholastic materials.

Communities perceive girls aged 10-18 years as more vulnerable category to child trafficking owing to the reason that girls can perform numerous roles at household level.

Key informants perceived child trafficking as the transportation of children from own homes to other destinations both internally and across borders purposely for child labour, financial expectations by parents, sexual exploitation and human sacrifice.

Ignorance among parents promotes child trafficking whereby some parents are ignorant that child trafficking is violation of children's rights thus are merely persuaded by traffickers including NGOs, employment bureaus and religious leaders to entrust them with children for better education, health care, employment opportunities. Women participants from Rakai recounted that due to high ignorance among parents, violations of children's rights including child trafficking go unnoticed i.e. parents consider early marriage as a customary practice.

5.2   Level of awareness among children

There is relatively a high awareness level among children about child trafficking. During children's focus group discussions, children gave own accounts and case stories about child trafficking. One girl recounted that "I witness a girl who was picked by her Aunt and taken to Kasese after being promised free education but later she was removed from school to baby sit". By implication, her access to education was jeopardised.

Table 5.2 below reveals universal knowledge about the practice of child trafficking among children, trafficked children that were recovered and returned among children respondents. Over 86.4 percent of interviewed children had knowledge about the practice of child trafficking, 69.6 percent had eye witnessed cases of trafficked children. 51.4 percent of children respondents knew of trafficked children that had been recovered and returned home whereas over 64.1 percent were aware of individual child traffickers.

Table 5.2: Level of awareness among children

Heard of Child Trafficking	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	89	86.4
No	14	13.6
Total	**103**	**100.0**
Heard of a child trafficked in your community		
Yes	71	69.6
No	31	30.4
Total	**102**	**100.0**
Heard of a child trafficked and returned		
Yes	34	51.4
No	36	48.6
Total	**70**	**100.0**
Know of any one involved in Child trafficking		
Yes	66	64.1
No	37	35.9
Total	**103**	**100.0**

Children attributed high level of awareness about child trafficking on rebel activity whereby they eye witnessed abductions of fellow children by LRA rebels. Majority of the children were abducted on their way to school while others were forcefully picked from communities. One boy participant recounted that "My own sister was handed over by my parents to an Aunt after promising her that she was to protect her from rebel activity but she later compellingly involved her into commercial sex in the suburbs of Gulu town".

Children perceived child trafficking as violation of their fundamental rights distinctively denying them the right to education, medical care, parental guidance and care, engaging children in heavy domestic and worst forms of child labour.

5.3   Source of information about child trafficking

Radio is the predominant source of information on child trafficking among adults and children. Government, non-government organisations and key players advocating for promotion and protection of children's rights run sensitisation campaigns including the fight against child trafficking through radio programmes.

Figure 5.3: Source of information on child trafficking among adults and children
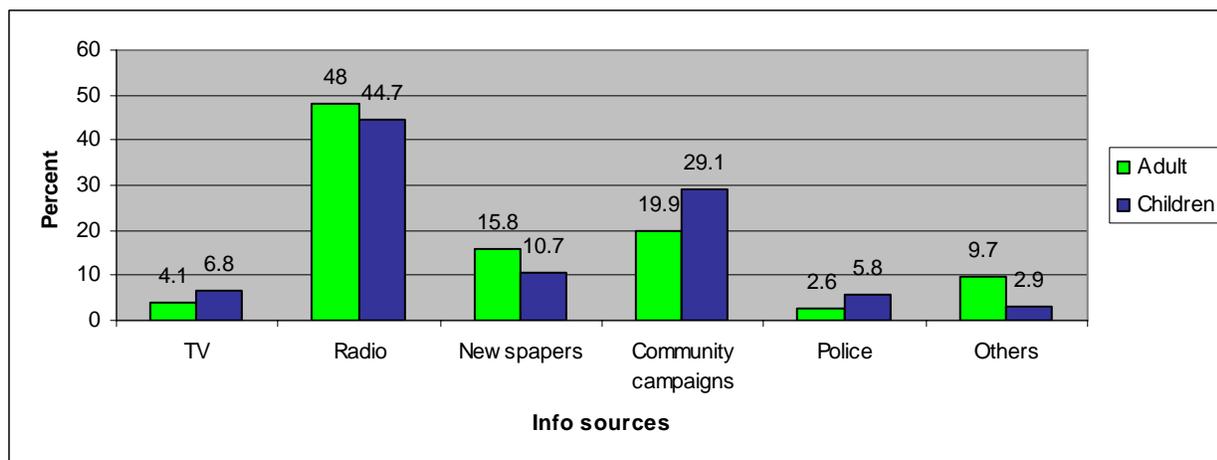
Figure 5.3 as well signifies community campaigns and newspapers as relatively significant source of information on child trafficking. Community campaigns are primarily supported by key players including Non-Government Organisations such as ANPPCAN, World Vision and Save the Children in Uganda. However, mandated government organs on promotion and protection of children's fundamental rights are not big players in promoting community campaigns partly due to inadequate facilitation from government. According to respondents, TV and police are comparatively key information sources on child trafficking with 6.8% and 5.8% respectively.

Child trafficking can personally be experienced especially during conflict situations i.e. armed conflicts where children were abducted from homes and communities where everybody eye witnessed. Other forms of child abuses eye witnessed that fuel child trafficking include mistreatment, heavy workloads, starving of children by caregivers, close relatives and stepparents.

Schools as well play a big part in promoting information on child trafficking among children and communities. Children recounted that schools under the department of counselling and guidance provide useful and valuable information on protection of children' rights although definite information on child trafficking is often insubstantial. There is need for schools to incorporate child protection issues in the school curricular.

Table 5.3: Source of information on CT by district

Source of Information on Child Trafficking	Districts			
	BUSIA	GULU	RAKAI	TOTAL
TV	1.8	5.3	4.8	**4.1**
Radio	28.6	71.9	44.6	**48.0**
Newspapers	10.7	15.8	19.3	**15.0**
Community campaigns	21.4	7.0	27.7	**19.9**
Police	3.6	0.0	3.6	**2.6**
TOTAL	**28.6**	**29.1**	**42.3**	100.0

Radio is prominent source of information on child trafficking among the sampled districts. Table 5.3 clearly shows that all districts reported the radio as major source of information (48.0 percent) followed by community campaigns (19.9 percent), newspapers (15.0 percent) and police (2.6 percent).

5.4   Perceived benefits of child trafficking

Some of the trafficked children are guaranteed with safety nets particularly in situations of armed conflict. Formally, the armed conflict in northern Uganda subjected children to being abducted purposely to be recruited as young fighters, carry loot while girls were turned into wives of rebel commanders and fighters. Giving away a child during armed conflict to safer destinations is utilised as safety measure by caregivers i.e. parents and guardians.

Trafficked children get access to education opportunities offered by traffickers particularly close relatives. There are instances where parents lack financial capacity to offer scholastic materials for their children while orphaned children cannot afford basic education thus close relatives offer to meet educational needs of vulnerable children rendering them at risk of being trafficked and repeated abuse.

Child trafficking is strategy for poor families to diversify household income and wealth and enhance wellbeing. Trafficked children involved in child labour remit proportions of their monthly wages back home to meet basic necessities and consequently enhancing general welfare and wellbeing for poor families. For instance, a girl is involved domestic work thereby remitting a small proportion of monthly wages back at home purposely to improve standards of living for her family.

Increased income and employment opportunities among trafficked children were cited as the most expected benefits from child trafficking. Table 5.4 below reveals that increased income as an expected benefit from trafficking tallied 38.0 and 31.1 percent among adult and children respondents respectively while

open employment opportunities registered 28.9 and 31.6 percent among adults and children respondents.

Table 5.4: Expected benefits from child trafficking

Expected benefits from child trafficking	Respondent category			
	Adults respondents		Children respondents	
	Freq	Percent	Freq	Percent
Increased income	54	38.0	64	31.1
Employment opportunities	41	28.9	65	31.6
Exposure/adventure	16	11.3	26	12.6
Independence/autonomy	3	2.1	5	2.4
Others	28	19.7	46	22.3
Total	**142**	**100.0**	**206**	**100.0**

Love for adventure mainly in urban centres is relatively a significant factor contributing to children escaping from home and school. The table 5.4 illustrates that love for exposure considerably led to child trafficking (11.3 and 12.6 percent) among adult and children respondents.

Other cited benefits of child trafficking during FGD sessions included relieve for communities of socially misfit children. Socially misfit and uncontrollable children such as those involved in risky behaviours including drug abuse, commercial sex and notorious school dropouts are deliberately given away for fear of indulging fellow children in risky behaviours and situations. At household level, caregivers are relieved of children's nutritional needs, medical care and scholastic materials.

Children involved cross-border trafficking particularly those trafficked to Europe, Asia and America remit huge sums of money back home. In such circumstances, parents perceive child trafficking as more worth than a child staying at home. A male FGD participant said "I rather hand over my child to go for Kyeyo in London than seeing him live a miserable life at home". Furthermore, it is prestige for poor families to send children to urban centres, big town and across-borders such as neighbouring countries and abroad including Europe and America. Parents develop a feeling of pride when own children left community for work in urban centres and abroad. Additionally, prospects of good wages in a wealthier country or community can entice desperate parents into trusting that earnings will contribute to improved family welfare.

There is high material gain expectations among parents involved in perpetuating child trafficking. In northern Uganda, the prevalent food shortage compels parents to giveaway own children in exchange for food, livestock and small land for cultivation. High poverty levels among households in post war situations heighten parents' expectations by offering own children to traffickers.

5.5 Perceived problems of child trafficking

Child exploitation was cited as the major abuse associated with child trafficking. Table 5.5 below, clearly denotes that child exploitation as the major violation of trafficked children's rights with 28.8 and 36.3 percent among adult and children respondents. In fact, child trafficking violates rights of children long before actual labour begins. Child exploitation was referred to as being partly responsible for physical injuries and deaths among victims of child trafficking.

Table 5.5: Perceived problems associated with child trafficking

Problems associated with child trafficking	Respondent category			
	Adults respondents		Children respondents	
	Freq	Percent	Freq	Percent
Death of children	74	28.8	58	36.9
Moral decay	67	26.1	20	12.7
Child exploitation	74	28.8	57	36.3
Family breakdown	17	6.6	4	2.5
Others	25	9.7	18	11.5
Total	**257**	**100.0**	**157**	**100.0**

Child exploitation takes the form of exploitative child labour and heavy domestic work by employers and caregivers. Young children aged 6-12 are engaged in heavy child labour including income generating activities such as selling merchandise along roadside and in local markets. In addition, trafficked children are sexually abused and exploited. Trafficked children particularly girls are forced into prostitution exposing them to pessimistic effects of sexual abuse including unwanted pregnancies, widespread maternal deaths due delivery complications and abortions.

Trafficked children develop moral decadence through involvement in risky behaviours and situations such as prostitution, drug abuse and delinquency. Other children were reportedly involved in child pornography especially in night clubs. Table 5.5 above indicates that over 26.1% and 12.7% of interviewed adults and children considered moral decay as a negative consequence of child trafficking.

Trafficked children who return to their communities may perhaps become social misfit in society. Formally abducted children, former prostitutes, bars maids, and street beggars when recovered and restored back to their communities become hard core criminals and social misfit. In most cases returned children influence others to escape from home to engage in income generating activities, risky behaviours and rebel activity.

Trafficked children engaged both in domestic work and income generating activities hardly ever receive guaranteed monthly wages. It was reported that children involved in gainful employments are not paid directly but rather money is commissioned to parents. Non-payment emotionally effects children leading to sudden escape from traffickers which rendering them vulnerable to repeated abuse.

Mistreatment of trafficked children leads to high numbers of homeless and street children. Trafficked children who are subjected to harsh treatment often escape from their employers and resort to street life rendering them more susceptible to worst forms of child abuses and exploitation.

6.0   CHAPTER SIX - FACTORS STIMULATING AND SUSTAINING CHILD TRAFFICKING

6.1   Socio-economic factors and poverty levels

Child trafficking is a continuous problem with deep socio-economic roots. For instance, disruption of livelihood strategies by the long lived insurgence has led to high poverty levels thus placing the vulnerable more at risk. Persons in IDP camps entirely depend on handouts supplied by relief agencies. However, it should be noted that relief agencies do not provide all basic necessities including scholastic materials. Lack of basic scholastic materials due to financial inability by parents as result of being confined in IDP camps render children to opt for alternative livelihood strategies so as to acquire basic needs thereby falling prey to traffickers.

Financial inability among household heads to meet children personal need compels children to devise alternative means by exploiting income generating opportunities available to meet personal needs. Thus children are disposed to migrate to others urban areas which have readily available opportunities.

Table 6.1: Socio-economic factors leading to child trafficking by district

Socio-economic factors leading to child trafficking	District			
	BUSIA	GULU	RAKAI	TOTAL
Poverty	34.9	21.7	27.2	**27.9**
Unemployment	32.5	39.8	31.1	**34.2**
Poor conditions of living	21.7	7.2	28.2	**19.7**
Mistreatment at home	6.0	12.0	9.2	**9.3**
Others	4.8	19.3	3.9	**8.9**
TOTAL	**30.9**	**30.9**	**38.3**	**100.0**

High unemployment and poverty levels among parents were reflected as prominent socio-economic factors invigorating child trafficking. Table 6.1 reflects high unemployment and poverty as major socio-economic root causes of child trafficking with 27.9% and 34.2% respectively. Poor living conditions (19.7%) as well attract children away from home to urban centres and big towns.

6.2   Inaccessible Social Services and Institutions

Northern Uganda basically has limited and inaccessible social services which attracts children away to urban centres and big towns. In post-war areas, children have to move long distances and make long lines to access safe and clean water from bore holes squandering children's valuable time to attend school, low agricultural production due to poor coverage of extension services

by services providers i.e. communities in post-war situations entirely depend on relief food from WFP.

In some communities, the services of police are exclusively inaccessible leading to skew responses to child trafficking i.e. child trafficking cases take extended periods to be reported and culprits at times are not apprehended . In addition, inaccessible police services fuels trafficking by promoting other stimulant child abuses to trafficking.

Rehabilitation centres of formerly abducted children are inadequate in numbers and poorly facilitated to meet existing demand. The inadequacy of rehabilitation services targeting formerly abducted children promotes stigma and isolation which emotionally and psychosocially affect abducted and trafficked children. Formerly abducted children prefer moving to safe communities to avoid stigmatisation.

Most schools offer child unfriendly environments such as improper toilet and sanitation facilities, congested classrooms, lack changing rooms for girls and recreational facilities such as playing grounds hence leading to high dropout rates especially among girl children. Unsafe school environments stimulate desire among children for urban schools and as a result fall victims to traffickers who guarantee educational opportunities in urban areas.

6.3   Impact of conflict

There is a significant relationship between war and child trafficking in northern Uganda. The armed conflict has displaced huge populations hence disrupting their livelihoods strategies and as a result households are confined in IDP camps under extreme conditions of deprivation. In such circumstances, children are given away by own parents as a mechanism of enhancing children's welfare and as relieve of financial and nutrition burden.

The northern Uganda conflict has intensified the predicament of orphanhood and its negative consequences. Children from child headed families are susceptible to falling prey to traffickers. In addition, for orphaned children to sustain themselves and their siblings, have to exploit whichever opportunity is available.

Children in conflict situations escape from home and school for fear of being abducted by rebels. During armed conflict, urban centres act safer environments for children to take refuge.

Formerly abducted and returned children are stigmatised against by community forcing them to break away from home and communities. Formerly abducted

children are discriminated against and regarded as murders, HIV/AIDS infected and social misfit in society. Returnees consider own community not idyllic and safer thus regard destination communities as more secure.

The long life insurgence led to break down of traditional norms and cultural setup. Local leaders and cultural elders habitually convened community dialogue meetings that were utilised as platforms to promote sustainable agricultural production both for domestic consumption and for market purposely to support stable food rations and incomes at household level. Community dialogue meetings often discouraged awful cultural practices such as early marriages, low value for girl children education among parents and community and fought gender disparities in community. Presently, community dialogue meetings cannot be held in IDP camps to promote sustainable agriculture and fight traditional norms that fuel trafficking.

6.4   Impact of HIV/AIDS

The scourge of HIV/AIDS has led to escalating numbers of orphaned and dependent children. Orphaned and dependant children bring about large and extended families with basically no source of livelihoods. Loss of breadwinners due to HIV/AIDS renders children susceptible to trafficking. HIV/AIDS orphaned children are forced into child labour to look after siblings while girls are forced into early and dowry used as source of household income. The aftermath of HIV/AIDS is significantly responsible for child trafficking in Rakai district.

HIV/AIDS led child headed families which subject children to deprivation and extreme poverty conditions thus more at risk of trafficking and persistent child abuses. Children from child headed families are strained into child labour and early marriage by child heads rendering them victims to traffickers. Children from child headed families are disposed to work for little pay as a survival mechanism.

HIV/AIDS has led to creation of orphanage homes where children are institutionalised for fostering. However, most of the orphanage homes are poorly facilitated rendering children vulnerable to deceptive organisations which take advantage of the vulnerability status of institutionalised children to recruit and transport children. Children instituted in orphanage homes lack parental support and guidance making them submissive to traffickers.

Box 2: Case story

Florence Mugenyi, 12 from Kyotera TC lost all her parents due to HIV/AIDS. After this traumatic incident, Florence was left helpless and lived with her poor grandmother. The chronic poverty and hunger left no option other than the grandmother requesting her to leave. She then went to live with a relative. She was then handed over by her late mother's relative and she had consented. She took a number of years doing domestic work and was later enrolled into a UPE school. Florence later dropped out of school due to failure to meet scholastic requirement is still engaged in heavy domestic work and living with the trafficker.

6.5   Socio-cultural factors

Socio-cultural structures shape the child's custody at home and facilitates child trafficking i.e. child trafficking is partly due to deep-rooted cultural practices. Some cultural and traditional structures facilitate trafficking and migrating of children from homes to destination communities. For instance, the Acholi culture supports lending children to close relatives for assistance. It is alleged that lending children to relatives has an ancestral bondage. In Acholi, close relatives traffic children under deceit of enhancing children's welfare but instead subject them to abuse and exploitation. However, Acholi traditional norms do not support giving away boy children since boys are the rightful heir to family property including land and livestock rendering girls are more susceptible to trafficking due to socio-cultural structures. Furthermore, girls are allocated different culturally defined positions that affect their entitlements and right of resources including landing.

Cultural and traditional beliefs do not prioritize girl children's education rendering girl children out of school more vulnerable to trafficking. Traditionally, it is believed that girls are married off at tender age of 10-16 years hence it could be wastage of family's resources to educate a girl child without equivalent accruing benefits. In such instances, cultural beliefs render girls more vulnerable to dropping out of school for initiations into early marriage. Furthermore, girls are allocated different culturally defined positions that affect their entitlements and right of resources including land and livestock subjecting them to intrinsic poverty.

The cultural setup supports big and polygamous families which act as entry points for child trafficking. The Acholi traditional norms do not condone spacing

children or application of family planning methods leading to big families where children live under deprivation and vulnerability. Deprivation conditions force children to look for alternative exit points hence falling prey to traffickers.

There was wide recognition that culturally, it is prestigious to marry off a girl child at tender for the reason that young girls are highly valued in terms of bride price. Marrying off a girl early in Acholi and Bagisu cultures grants a family wealth i.e. a wealthier family is prestigious. Besides, girl children are married off to acquire family wealth to supplement boy children's bride price.

The existing bylaws do not protect children out of school against trafficking. Children at home are easily handed over by parents to traffickers since the existing bylaws do not hinder parents and guardians from giving away children out of schools.

There were many reported cases of children being abducted for sacrifice and traditional rituals such as material gains, erecting telephone and television masts, construction and opening of new residential homes and commercial buildings while others are sacrificed for quick wealth. This year alone, the Government newspapers (Bukedde) reported a rise in number of cases of children's abductions for ritual practices especially in Central Uganda. Children are abducted by groups of gangs hired by traditional healers and syndicates. For instance, in Rakia, majority of cases of child abductions were related to traditional rituals. FGD participants as well noted that witch doctors and traditional healers involved in child sacrifice mainly come from Tanzania. By implication, children near Uganda-Tanzania border are more vulnerable to abductions for rituals.

Some cultural attitudes and beliefs have led the high demand for sex with young girl children for ritual purposes such as having sex with a virgin young girl blesses one to accumulate quick wealth. For instance, FDG participants from Rakai recounted that high demand for sex with young girls for ritual purposes is among the key factors behind rampant child trafficking.

Having children in marriage is a key determinant to uphold the values of the marriage institution while barrenness and impotence may lead to family breakdown. Barrenness and impotence among spouses was noted to lead to trafficking of children purposely to stabilize marriages in a traditional context thus children are abducted and sold to infertile couples.

Inhuman cultural practices such as forced genital mutilation and circumcision force children to migrate to urban centres for fear of being subjected to inhuman traditional practices. Forced genital mutilation among women and male circumcision are common in Eastern districts of Uganda.

41

6.6   Family type and setup

Children from child headed families are extremely vulnerable to child trafficking owing to the fact that financial burdens are extended to child heads who cannot alleviate family needs and problems. Everyone in a child headed family has to economically supplement household income for survival. The child heads are predominantly aged 14 years and is obliged to either engage in income generating to support the siblings or give away young ones for purposes of remitting money to supplement household income. Child headed families in Northern Uganda is a result of the lifelong armed conflict while in central and eastern Uganda, widespread child headed families are a result of HIV/AIDS. Furthermore, the allocation of financial responsibilities in child headed families appears to intensify trafficking.

Polygamous families expose children to denial of basic personal needs thereby intensifying the practice of trafficking i.e. parents neglect own children due to big numbers of children. Children from polygamous families are subjected to harsh treatment by stepparents and close parents which triggers children escaping from home and school for safer destination environments.

Poverty contributes to situations where parents are more willing to hand over own children to traffickers. Poor parents sell off their children for money having received promises that they will be treated well, offered free education. Poor parents' livelihoods are exposed to price fluctuations of agricultural produce due to seasonal patterns. Trafficked children from poor families, however, reportedly receive only rudimentary needs such as food, shelter, a daily meal and primary health care. Children from poor households are as well denied educational opportunities, and seldom receive promised monthly wages, work long hours and are subjected to physical abuse. Additionally, landlessness is a deep root-cause of poverty among some households whereby there is insufficient agricultural production for both domestic consumption and for sale to market.

Broken families render children to parental neglect, and denial of parental care, love, support and guidance. In IDP camps, male parents spend biggest proportion of income outside household drinking thus abandoning their sole obligation of financially supporting the household. Neglect of financial duty by fathers lead to family breakdown yet mothers cannot assume full financial responsibility of looking after entire family. In such circumstances, mothers willingly hand over own children to be relieved of the burden of financially supporting the family. Misunderstandings in homes are as well a result of gender labour disparities where fathers sell off agricultural produce and spend proceeds

outside household on alcohol consumption. This deprives the household of food and income. Children from broken families are subjected to harsh treatment and denial of basic rights including education mostly by caregivers such as stepparents and close relatives.

Single parent headed families mainly as a result of the armed conflict and the scourge of HIV/AIDS lead to children's vulnerability to trafficking. Children living with single parents are either deserted or denied parental care and support thus certainly fall prey to traffickers. Death of bread winners especially fathers places a financial burden on mothers who alternatively hand over children to traffickers who promise a better life for them.

Domestic violence plays a significant role to exposing children to trafficking. Households marred by misunderstandings between parents, subject children to abuse by stepparents and close relatives. Children participants in FGDs Rakai revealed that orphaned children are more vulnerable to harsh treatment and verbal abuse by stepparents forcing them to escape to safer destinations. According the director, ANPPCAN, Rakai, households where domestic violence prevails, children lose parental bandage and attachment with mothers i.e. children subjected to harsh punishment will be forced to seek refuge in other households.

Box 3: Case story

Kagoya is a renowned trafficker who used to bring many girls from his village promising jobs in Busia. Irene fell victim of this his brutal activity. Irene came to know him when Kagoya took concern and asked the young why she was not going to school. Irene explained that she was mistreated by her step mother after her mother's death. She escaped from her home with the help of Kagoya who transported her to Busia. Kagoya is well known to Irene and are neighbors back in their home village. On her arrival, Kagoya forced the young girl into commercial sex, which she resisted insisting she had come to work as maid not a commercial sex worker. She then went escaped and secured for a job as house keeper. After working for some time, she got transport to travel back home.

Engrossed in fear that her dad would beat her to helplessness, she failed to go back home. She instead started working as a house girl in some other person's home in 2006. The new workplace was neither a safer for Irene and could have marked a new age of suffering. Soon, her services were terminated. With no option, the young girl came back to Kagoya's home, where she started being involved in sexual trade.

Child fostering can take many forms depending on the particular context. Although looking after children by grandparents tends to be a secure and a less costly option since children are raised in a rural setting, they are obliged to supplement household income through seeking for employment opportunities

which increases their chances of falling prey to traffickers. Rakai reported high vulnerability and deprivation among children raised by grandparents. In addition, adopted children particularly girls are at risk of falling victims to traffickers since their rights are not given priority. Adopted children's access to school, medical care and basic necessities is not prioritized.

6.7   Schooling status among school going age

Gender inequalities in school enrolment expose girls to child trafficking. From table 6.7 below, it is clear that 62.4 percent of male children had access to school compared to only 37.6 percent for girl children. Despite free primary education, the extra costs of education (books, school uniform, lunch package) measured against limited rewards due gender inequalities in job market discourage parents to send girl children to school. Additionally, the limited family resources often discourage parents to incur costs on girl children education rendering out of school girls to seek for employment opportunities or forced into early marriage. For instance in Rakai and Busia high dropouts among girl children were attributed to parents' unwillingness to meet scholastic requirements for girl children.

The age dimension of children greatly influences children's retention in school thus adolescents aged 15-18 and out of school are more vulnerable to child trafficking. Table 6.7 shows that a big proportion of children aged 15-18 years were out of school (70.6%). It was further noted that children out of school are either engaged in income generation or forced into early marriage. By implication, children in upper primary (P4-P7) are more likely to drop out of school and fall victim to traffickers.

Table 6.7: schooling status among children aged 10-18

Background information	Schooling status for a child		
Sex	In school	Out of school	Percentage Total
Male	62.4	29.4	**56.9**
Female	37.6	70.6	**43.1**
Age			
10-14	44.7	29.4	**42.2**
15-18	55.3	70.6	**57.8**
Occupation			
Peasantry farming	5.3	12.5	**9.5**
Unskilled labour	10.5	25.0	**19.1**
Trade	56.3	84.2	**71.4**
Total	**83.3**	**16.7**	**100.0**

In addition, table 6.7 denotes that a big fraction of children out of school were engaged in child labour including petty trade (84.2 percent), unskilled labour (25.0 percent) and peasantry farming (12.5 percent). By implication, out of school are forced into seeking employment opportunities on plantations, sell merchandise, wash cars etc. For instance, children out of school spend much of their valuable time gathered in trading centres where traffickers such as businessmen and women take advantage of their idleness to involve them in exploitative forms of child labour.

Out of school children have desire for autonomy and independence from parents and caregivers. Desire for autonomy is a significant factor behind children's vulnerability to trafficking. Love for autonomy forces children to devise livelihood strategies for survival while girls' love for independence compels them into early marriage and survival sex.

6.8   Gender disparities

The puberty cycle among girl children exposes them to numerous abuses including child trafficking. Girl children aged 10-18 were reckoned as more susceptible to child trafficking given that at this age girls are sexually active i.e. girls in puberty cycle are a target by bar owners, sex workers, defilers and organisations abetting child trafficking. At household level, girls under this age bracket are believed to be caring and tendering especially when they are assigned baby sitting and looking after young ones. In addition, girls are believed to be honest and trustworthy than the boy children.

In the context of war, girls aged 10-12 are perceived to be physically weak by to escape from rebel captivity i.e. girls are a weak sex to flee in crisis circumstances that require emergency escape. During armed conflict, girls were rendered more vulnerable since they could not commute daily to distant safer locations including urban centres and nearby town suburbs.

6.9   Seasonality Patterns

Food shortages and low incomes among households are prevalent during the planting season (April - June). Food shortage and lack of surplus for sale, leads children to seek for employment opportunities or dig in people's gardens for food. Furthermore, food shortage is a major contributory factor to the high rates of school dropouts and absenteeism due to lack of packed lunch. Additionally, low incomes due low agricultural production play a leading role towards parents' failure to meet scholastic needs for their children hence parents are more willing to hand over children to traffickers to be relieved of the feeding and financial burdens.

Table 6.9: Seasonal patterns when children are more vulnerable to trafficking

Seasonal pattern	Districts			
	BUSIA	GULU	RAKAI	TOTAL
Clearing season	70.0	10.0	20.0	6.8
Planting season	25.0	50.0	25.0	11.0
Weeding season	10.0	80.0	10.0	2.7
Harvesting season	42.9	55.1	2.0	9.6
Festive season	60.0	20.0	20.0	6.8
Others	23.9	32.6	43.5	63.0
TOTAL	32.2	33.9	33.9	100.0

Table 6.9 evidently demonstrates that the planting season has the greatest influence on the vulnerability of children to trafficking (11.0%) followed by the harvesting season (9.6 percent). However, the harvesting season seemed to have an insignificant influence on children's vulnerability to trafficking in Rakai (2.0%).

The harvesting season is associated with dry season (December to February) where farmers are involved in selling surplus produce to market. During harvesting season, children absent themselves from school to assist parents carry and sell agricultural produce in local markets and along roadside. However, during harvesting season, children out of school are more susceptible to trafficking since existing bylaws do not prohibit them from engaging in any form of child labour.

During festive season children are trafficked by close relatives and peers who return home to celebrate the festive season. Peers who return for holidays entice fellow children to escape from home and engage in gainful employment so as to enhance general welfare. Close relatives during festive season sweet-talk parents to hand over children by promising them a better life.

Child trafficking was noted to be pronounced at beginning of school term. When school resumes, parents and household heads search for domestic helpers and maids to take care of young ones rendering children from poor families more vulnerable to be recruited as domestic workers. During the same period, children fall prey to NGOs that register children under deceit of providing free education.

Child trafficking is more pronounced in fishing communities during rain season when fish catches are high. During this period, children are trafficked to fishing communities to engage in fishing activities. Conversely, during dry season fish migrate to deep waters thus scarcity of fish leads to high mobility among the fish

mongers. High mobility in fishing communities denies children parental guidance, support and care rendering them to fall victims to traffickers.

The grasshopper season that commences in December to January exposes children to child abuses including trafficking. During this season, children escape from home to engage in catching grasshoppers which is perceived as profitable venture. Additionally, individuals involved in the grasshopper industry prefer recruiting children as alternative cheap labour.

6.10   Non-adherence to policies and legal frameworks

NGOs offering free education and other early childhood development programmes do not take right procedures of registering target children with relevant authorities before transporting, recruiting and integrating them into their programmes. Non-adherence to existing government policies and legal frameworks by organisations abetting trafficking exacerbates endeavours by government and key players to combat child trafficking.

The main government arms that enforce law and order such as the police, and probation office at sub-county headquarters are too corrupt "*Kitu Kidogo*" to effectively fight and combat trafficking. The CDO, Rakai, gave evidence that police habitually connive with traffickers and parents to conceal cases of child trafficking, do not monitor activities of employment bureaus as stipulated by the laws governing employment and migration of children. Note however, that when cases of child trafficking are reported to police, bribes requests are made by police officers before any assistance is rendered thus an obstacle to combating child trafficking.

CHAPTER SEVEN – INSTITUTIONS, NETWORKS AND LEGAL FRAMEWORKS ON CHILD TRAFFICKING

7.1   Practical measures to fight trafficking by relevant authorities

Numerous intervention measures have been simultaneously undertaken at national level to combat child trafficking. Table 7.1 illustrates that policy and legal framework formulation as practical measure to fight trafficking was cited as the most effective and practical intervention to fight child trafficking (20.0 percent) at national level, followed by apprehending of traffickers (19.4 percent) and awareness creation (18.8 percent). However, a significant number of respondents (21.0) felt that no efforts had been taken to fight trafficking at national level while an insignificant 2.7 percent were of the view that restricting children's movements could play an important role to combat trafficking.

Table 7.1: Measures taken at national level to combat child trafficking

Actions taken at national level	District			
	BUSIA	**GULU**	**RAKAI**	**TOTAL**
Awareness creation at national level	31.4	17.1	51.4	**18.8**
Policies & laws on child trafficking	26.8	415	31.7	**20.0**
Restriction on movement of children	20.0	0.0	80.0	**2.7**
Identify & arrest child traffickers	13.9	44.4	41.7	**19.4**
Nothing	25.6	35.9	38.5	**21.0**
Others	60.0	20.0	20.0	**16.1**
TOTAL	**30.1**	**31.7**	**382**	**100.0**

Although government has formulated policies and legal frameworks to regulate child trafficking and human migration, its arms such as police, probation officers at sub-county have not vigorously and comprehensively implemented government's policies and legal frameworks. In addition, efforts by government through its organs are frustrated by primary caregivers i.e. parents who are hesitant to disclose traffickers to relevant authorities for fear of being convicted. The LC3 Parcho sub-county, Aswa County reported that parents do not report cases of trafficking for fear of being criminalised by local authorities as perpetuators of trafficking.

However, in some instances, the police has taken efforts to combat child trafficking by creating awareness through media. For instance in Rakai, the police bought 30 minutes airtime on Radio to sensitise masses on child protection issues including trafficking. The OC Butangira sub-county

headquarters revealed that 30 minutes on radio have been effective in conveying messages on protection of children's rights by encouraging the masses to revolutionize norms and traditions that render children vulnerable to trafficking. However, police is often constrained by limited knowledge on complexities of child trafficking and inadequate financial resources.

The police under the child and family protection unit undertakes sensitisation campaigns in schools and conduct community meetings to sensitise parents and caregivers on protection child rights protection related issues and on the dangers of child abuse. The police through its CFPU encourages parents to utilise family planning services for proper spacing of children, enforce bylaws of entailing parents to retain children in school by utilizing UPE and USE programmes.

7.2   Efforts by key players, agencies and local leaders to combat trafficking

School management committees play an important role by reporting cases of missing children to relevant authorities, follow up on causes of frequent absenteeism among children. Trafficking cases are mostly reported to police and probation officers at sub-county headquarters.

Local governments at sub-county level have setup Child Protection Committees to promote and protect children's rights and report cases of child abuse to relevant authorities. Child Protection Committees play a major role in counselling and rehabilitating abused children and sensitise parents on dangers of violating children's rights. Child protection committees as well rescue and recover trafficked and recruited children. For instance, an NGO registered children in Paico sub-county for free education but were stopped by CPC after suspicions of child adoption. The Child Protection Committees network with other actors such as ANPPCAN, World Vision and Mobile Home Care and School Management Committees to protect children's rights and offer other child protection related services such as education, early childhood development, health care etc. CPCs have implemented a pilot project for OVCs in Gulu municipality on child protection which will be replicated to other sub-counties. However, efforts to combat child trafficking by child protection committees and probation and welfare office are aggravated by insufficient financial facilitation to meet transport costs i.e. the child protection desk does not have operational field vehicles to follow up cases of child abuse.

Local and traditional leaders have taken collective effort with the existing governance structures such as Local Councils (LC1-LC3) to report incidences of child trafficking to relevant authorities. In addition, local council leaders follow up cases of children who have dropped out of school by conferring with primary caregivers on factors hindering children from accessing school.

Table 7.2: Measures taken at community level to combat child trafficking

Actions taken at community level	District			
	BUSIA	GULU	RAKAI	TOTAL
Awareness creation CT	17.4	34.8	47.8	**25.0**
Put in place bylaws	14.3	39.3	46.4	**15.2**
Restriction on movement for children	8.3	33.3	58.3	**6.2**
Nothing	43.8	28.8	27.5	**43.5**
Others	38.9	27.8	33.3	**9.8**
TOTAL	29.9	**32.1**	**38.0**	100.0

Table 7.2 illustrates practical intervention measures that have been undertaken at community level. Although at national level, formulation of policies and legal frameworks was observed as the most effective measure to combat trafficking, awareness creation on child trafficking was cited as the most effective intervention at community level (25.0%) followed by establishing bylaws (15.2%) and restriction on movements for children (6.2 percent). However, majority of the respondents (43.5 percent) felt that no efforts had been undertaken by both government and key actors to combat the rampant trafficking at community level.

7.3   Policies governing migration and employment of children

The 1995 Constitution of the Republic of Uganda protects children aged below 16 from exploitation and abuse. Article 34(4) states that: Children are entitled to be protected from social or economic exploitation and shall not be employed in or required to perform work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with their education or to be harmful to their health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development.

However, Article 34(5) asserts that for purposes of clause 4 of Article 34, children shall be persons under the age of 16 years. By implication, Article 34 of the Constitution of Uganda protects children from hazardous and worst forms of child labour. But this is more of an abstract than reality, majority of children involved in child labour work under hazardous conditions such as fishing, mining, welding, prostitution, smuggling etc all of which deny children the right to education and are harmful to children's health, physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development[1].

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[1] See ANPPCAN Rapid Assessment of Trafficking of young girls and women in Uganda

Presently, there is no policy governing migration and employment of children abroad. Subsequently, rights of children in employment abroad including protection from exploitation and abuse are likely to lead to rampant trafficking in children since children are not protected by any government policy from migrating and being observed in employment abroad[2].

7.4 Challenges presented by current policies and legal frameworks

Children's Act Cap 59 Section 5 explicitly states that anyone entrusted with the care of a child has a duty to maintain them and provide for their basic rights. Under section 5 (2) the Act emphasizes the duty of the same duty -bearers to protect children from discrimination, violence, abuse or neglect. This means that parents, community members and teachers have a responsibility to ensure that when children are in their care, their safety is protected. At home and school implying that parents and teachers have a responsibility not to tolerate violence against children in form of corporal punishment or bullying[3]. However, this Act has been misconceived by children who resist any form of disciplining both at home and school. For instance, parents in Rakai reported that children threaten to report to police when punishment is administered to them either at school or home. In addition, parents are reluctant to punish children who escape from home or dodge school for fear of being reported to police creating room for traffickers.

Existing laws do not allow detention of children who have committed offence making it hard to arrest children out of school during school hours. For instance, young girls working in bars and boys selling merchandise in local markets and along the main roads cannot be arrested by police due to the laws that prohibits children's custody.

The Penal Code Act is inadequate on human trafficking as various sections do not apply to all types of trafficking; methods of recruitment (force, coercion, deception abuse of power of person's vulnerability); intentions (debt bondage, serfdom, illicit adoption, slavery, child soldiering, sexual exploitation and other forms of control not described in the penal code (Kasirye R 2007).

The authorities in charge of enforcement are not fully acquainted to prevent abduction and conscription and trafficking in children and many times investigation involving trafficking are abandoned, while others are preferred for lesser crimes such as illegal entry, vagrancy, falsification of documents, due to a very high burden of proof to prosecutors (Kasirye R 2007).

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[2] See ANPPCAN Rapid Assessment of Trafficking of young girls and women in Uganda
[3] See MoES, Creating Safer Schools Series: Volume.

Lack of national identity cards frustrates Government's efforts to implement its policies and legal frameworks on child labour and migration. There is no strict control system by the immigration department at the boarder to check travel documents and the legality of individuals crossing the border.

CHAPTER EIGHT – CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1   Best practices to combat child trafficking

At household level, parents have been supported by key actors to develop mutual respect among them to overcome conflicts and domestic violence which contribute to family breakdown. Stable homes are paramount avenues to combat child trafficking. In additional, parents have been encouraged to adopt family planning methods for proper spacing of children.

There are massive campaigns against gender-based biases in labour and production whereby all family members correctively engage in production for both for domestic consumption and sale to market. Producing enough for market implies stable incomes and food rations at household level. However, actual impact of campaigns against gender imbalances has not yielded tangible results.

Some teachers, local leaders and parents are acting as role models for children and entire community by refraining from awful and risky behaviours such as alcohol and drug abuse and commercial sex. In addition, parents and schools guide and counsel children on the dangers of peer influence, risky situations and behaviours. Some schools take an effort to monitor pupils' daily attendance and report to relevant authorities cases of frequent absenteeism and dropouts.

Government and key players have initiated a peace and reconciliation process with the LRA rebels to end the long lived war in Northern Uganda and reinstate displaced populations back home. This as well serves to restore lost livelihoods through engaging in agricultural production. Stability guarantees children's safety, protection of their rights.

Recovered and returned children particularly in northern Uganda have undergone rehabilitation and psychosocial support to restore normalcy among formerly abducted and children formerly subjected to abuse and exploitation. Key players in this undertaking include GUSCO, ANPPCAN, Save the Children in Uganda, UNICEF, IOM, ILO, War Child, CCF, BUCOF and NRC which have set up rehabilitation centres for formerly abducted children and child soldiers while medical care is provided by Red Cross International. Key players and NGOs have as well integrated vulnerable children into their programmes such as special needs education, early childhood development, vocational training.

8.2   General conclusions

Findings have indicated that child trafficking is first, and foremost perceived not to be a violation of children's rights and many aspects of child trafficking including its deep-root causes, mechanisms and complexities remain poorly understood. Information on its magnitude and scope is as well limited. In addition, movement of children within and across-border is not properly registered and restricted. Thus there are is no reliable data to inform effective preventive measures to combat child trafficking.

There is a strong linkage between poverty and child trafficking and that trafficking locks up the child victims of trafficking in poverty and exploitation. The vicious circle of poverty denies children the basic right to education, health, parental care and love. Poverty and child trafficking nurture each other and plunge vulnerable children into deep deprivation and exploitation.

Study findings have indicated that government and other players have undertaken efforts to combat trafficking. However, trafficked children and, in general, vulnerable children cannot be easily targeted by government and other key players due their isolation and marginalization status. Government organs and key players have also been frustrated by limited resources and expertise on the complexities of child trafficking.

The findings have led to the conclusion that specific types of child exploitation, abuse and mechanisms of child trafficking are only occurring in particular areas due to contextual factors. For instance armed conflicts are associated with children abductions while smuggling was more pronounced at the border towns.

8.3   General recommendations

a) Poverty and child trafficking will only cease when they are adequately addressed as two intermingled issues as poverty nurtures child trafficking and plunges vulnerable and trafficked children into deep deprivation, abuse and exploitation. In additional, poverty should be consistently addressed at the grassroots level, where income generation activities (IGA) and micro-credit are to be initiated and access removed.

b) Children identified as trafficked, returned and recovered should be appointed as guardians and counselors in rehabilitation homes and communities to support child victims of trafficking in their psychosocial, emotional and practical needs in addition to advocating and lobby for children's rights.

c) The Government of Uganda should ratify the Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Pornography and Trafficking to the UN Convention

on the Rights of the Child. Ratification should be followed by effective implementation of other relevant international conventions.

d) One crucial element noted in combating child trafficking is through local awareness campaigns to empower communities, families and children themselves to prevent trafficking. Government and other key actors must also sensitise communities on the various policies and legal frameworks against child trafficking as most communities visited were unaware of the existence of policies and frameworks on child trafficking. Communities should as well be encouraged to adopt family planning methods for proper spacing of children.

e) Massive awareness programmes should as well provide alternatives for communities otherwise they are unlikely to help bring about change. Communities may be aware of the restriction on children's movements but may simply continue to engage in the practice of trafficking due to limited awareness on the risks and dangers associated with child trafficking and its general impact on community.

f) Effective and practical interventions should be implemented at different levels: national, regional, institutional and grassroots by cooperating through networks. The diversity of key players involved without effective networking presents its own challenges and has proved ineffective. Being a multi-dimensional problem, child trafficking requires a multi-dimensional answer through networks of key players and actors.

g) Enrolment of children in school is fundamental to fighting child trafficking. Apart from protecting and educating them about their rights, education equips children with practical skills for work in the future which is fundamental to safeguard children from falling into poverty traps and becoming vulnerable to trafficking. Campaigns on increased enrolment can take the form of government in collaboration with key players undertaking to conduct community sensitization programs and hold village meetings to raise awareness of parents, teachers and local authorities about the importance of education and in particular the education of the girl child. In addition, schools and teachers should undertake efforts to sensitise children and community about children's rights and incorporate vocation training in primary school curriculum as a mechanism of mainstreaming life skills training in primary curriculum .

h) Facilitate local leaders and community elder to formulate and rigorously implement strict bylaws entailing parents to uphold their responsibilities towards their children and take their role as primary caregivers very seriously. In addition, elders and local leaders must be educated to help dispel the myth that child sacrifices can cleanse and provide wealth. Additionally, elders and local leaders should assist in dismissing the falsehood that modern education alienates children from their traditional values and norms thus encourage more children to enrol in school. Traditional and local leaders should be facilitated to strengthen and

revitalize socio-cultural structures to promote social cohesion to fight bad practices such as domestic violence, alcoholism, polygamous tendencies and strengthening parents' ties with governance structures.

i) There is a need to build stronger qualitative and quantitative knowledge base on child trafficking thus, create synergies and complementary action among different actors to conduct comprehensive research on child trafficking. This can be achieved through strengthening and harmonizing research methodologies and data collection on child trafficking; enhancing collaboration between relevant research organizations/units within the country that are involved in studying and monitoring child trafficking.

j) Community-based approach to child trafficking is effective and essential in combating child trafficking. Community-based approach should take the form of community capacity building through community participation in community development projects, community surveillance and awareness rising. It should empower communities and households to improve living conditions and ensure access to basic social services, build household capacity by supporting micro-credit and income generating activities which in turn, reducing children's vulnerability to child trafficking.

k) NGOs and other key players should assist government by implementing its policies and frameworks at grassroots level. NGOs and other organisations offering free education to vulnerable children should follow proper procedures by registering with Local Councils, Child Protection Committees and Police.

l) Government together with the district local governments set up remand homes to prevent homeless and street children from falling victims to traffickers. Remind homes will also facilitate transitory detention of obstinate children.

APPENDICES

ASSESSMENT TOOLS

a) Questionnaire for adults

Towards elimination of child trafficking in order to effectively address child abuse, Exploitation and Neglect
Quantitative survey questionnaire for Adults and children in selected households

R E S P O N D E N T   I D E N T I F I C A T I O N

Complete the information below for all households

Country _____

District_____

Location_____

Parish _____

Village (LCI)_____

Name of Household Head (use Initials only)_____

Start Time:_____   End Time:_____

HH Questionnaire No. ☐☐☐☐

Interviewer Visits

		1	1	3
Date	Day_____ Month_____			
Interviewer's name				
Result*				

*RESULT CODES

1= Interview complete
2=Postponed, new time & date set (if postponed enter time and date of postponed vist)
3=Incomplete
4= Refused
77= Other reason
88= Not eligible household

FOR SUPERVISORS AND DATA ENTRY PERSONNEL ONLY

	Name	Date
Field edited by		
Office edited by		
Keyed by		
Keyed by		

AA. HOUSEHOLD ROSTER

Line No.	Usual residents	Age	Sex	Relationship to head of household	Migratory status	Maternal orphan status	Paternal orphan status	Disability	Eligibility for child quest.
	Please give me the names of the persons who usually live in your household starting with the head of the household. (USE INITIALS for Confidentiality)	How old is (Name)?	**Interviewer: Enter 1 if male and 2 if female** Is (Name) male or female?	What is the relationship of (Name) to the head of household?	Has (Name) ever crossed a sub-county with an intention to stay rather than visit the family ? 1 Yes 0 No Is there any member of this hh who has moved away to some other place? Age, where and why?	Is (Name) natural mother alive? 1 Yes 0 No	Is (Name) natural father alive? 1 Yes 0 No	Does (Name) have any permanent physical disabilities? 1 Yes 0 No	**Interviewer: Circle the number in the box below corresponding to each child between the ages of 10-19**
01									01
02									02
03									03
04									04
05									05
6									15

Relationship to head of household: 01= head   06=parent   11=adopted/foster stepchild   12=not related
02= wife or husband   07=parent in law
03=son or daughter   08=brother or sister
04=son in law or daughter in law 09=co-wife
05=grandchild   10=other relative

SECTION A (FOR ADULT MEMBER OF HOUSEHOLD/ HOUSEHOLD   HEAD)

#	Question	Response	Skip
**Section A Socio-demographic characteristics of respondent**		
A1	How old were you at your last birthday?	Age in completed years ☐☐ Don't know………………99	
A2	Sex	Male………………………………1 Female………………………………2	
A3	What is your marital status?	Not married…………………………1 Married Monogamous……………2 Married polygamous………………3 Divorced/separated…………………4 Widowed…………………………5 Others specify……………………77	
A4	What is your highest educational level?	None………………………………1 Lower primary (P1-P4)……………2 Upper primary (P5-P7)……………3 Secondary…………………………4 Tertiary……………………………5 University…………………………6 Other specify………………………77	
A5	What is your primary occupation?	Peasant/subsistence farmer…………1 Unskilled labour……………………2 Skilled labour………………………3 Professional…………………………4 Trader………………………………5 Student………………………………6 Others (specify)……………………77	
A6	What is your religion?	Catholic……………………………1 Anglican/protestant/CoU…………2 Islam………………………………3 Others (specify)……………………77	

Section B	Existing knowledge on child trafficking		
No.	Question	Response	Skip
B1	What have you heard about Child trafficking? ………………………………………… …………………………………… …………………………………… What was the source of information?	TV…………………………………………1 Radio…………………………………………2 News Papers……………………………………3 Community Campaign…………………………4 Police…………………………………………5	
B2	What are the benefits of Child trafficking?	Increased incomes…………………………………1 Employment………………………………………2 Exposure…………………………………………3 Independence……………………………………4 Other (specify). …………………………………77	
B3	What are the problems of Child trafficking?	Death of children…………………………………1 Moral decay………………………………………2 Child exploitation…………………………………3 Family breakdown…………………………………4 Other (specify)……………………………………77	
Section C	Nature and Extent of the problem		
	Question	Response	
C1	Have you ever heard of a child that was trafficked in this community or other places? Describe the age, sex, were from, where to, what did child go to do? (Interviewer - Fill all as appropriate)	Yes…………………………………………1 No……………….....................................0 Age …………….. Sex …………… Month of trafficking …………… Year of trafficking …………….. Place of residence ……………….. Where child was taken …………………….. What child went to do …………………………	
C2	Is there any specific time of year when children are most trafficked What period is it?	Yes…………………1 No…………………..0 Clearing season…………………………………1 Planting season…………………………………2 Weeding season…………………………………3 Harvesting season………………………………4 Festive season……………………………………5 Circumcision……………………………………6	

		Other (specify)…………………………………77	
C3	Of the boys and girls; who are mostly at risk of being trafficked? And why?	Boys…………………………….1 Girls…………………………….2 Both……………………………3 Why are the above mostly at risk? ………………………………..	
C4	What age bracket is most trafficked	**Boys** **Girls** 0-4………..1 0-4………………1 5-9………..2 5-9………………..2 10-14……..3 10-14……………..3 15-19……..4 15-19……………..4	
C5	What kinds of children are most affected by child trafficking?	Orphans……………………………………..1 Children heading households………………..2 Street children……………………………….3 All……………………………………………4 DK……………………………………………5	
C6	What kind of families do most trafficked children come from?	broken families……………………………….1 child headed………………………………….2 Single parent headed………………………...3 Poor…………………………………………4 All families…………………………………..5 Other (specify)………………………………77	
C7	When children are trafficked from homes, which places are they often taken to? If you know of any specific places, list them.	To big towns like (Nairobi, Kampala, Dar) ……… 1 Just like here in (Busia, Moyale, Loitoktok)……… 2 In small towns like …………………………….. 3 Others (specify) …………………………………77	
C8	When children leave our country, what countries are they taken to? (in the neighbouring?	Uganda………………………………………1 Kenya………………………………………..2 Tanzania…………………………………….3 Ethiopia……………………………………..4 Other (specify)………………………………77	
C9	How about when they are taken beyond east neighbouring countries?	Europe………………………………………1 Arab Countries……………………………...2 South Africa…………………………………3 Other (specify)………………………………77	
C10	How are the trafficked children transported?	…………………………………… ……………………………………. …………………………………….	
C11	Have you ever heard of some one involved in Child trafficking? Tell me the kind of people involved in trafficking?	Yes………………….1 No…………………..0 Business men/women………………………..1 Prostitutes…………………………………..2 Relatives/ family members…………………..3	

| | | Peers...4 |
| | | Others (Specify)....................................77 |

C12	What kinds of work do trafficked children commonly engage in?	Domestic workers...................................1 Commercial sex activities..........................2 labourers in plantations............................3 Hotels and bars......................................4 Organised begging................................5 Others (Specify)....................................77

Section D   Factors contributing to and sustaining Child trafficking

	Questions	Response	
D1	What prompts children to leave/ not to want to stay in their own families/communities?	Poverty...1 Unemployment.....................................2 Poor living conditions.............................3 Mistreatment of children...........................4 other (specify).....................................77	
D2	What attracts children to go to other places other than their original places?	Employment..1 Improved living conditions..........................2 Independence/ autonomy.............................3 Other (specify).....................................77	
D3	What are the expected benefits by children who are trafficked?	Employment opportunities...........................1 Improved living standards...........................2 Independence...3 Other (specify).....................................77	
D4	What are the expected benefits by parents/ relatives/ other people who encourage children to be trafficked	Cash income from traffickers.........................1 Employment of their children.........................2 Income support from their children...................3 Better living conditions for their children............4 Other (specify).....................................77	

	Section E	Organisations and networks working on child trafficking		
	Questions	**Response**		
E1	Do you know of any on child trafficking issues? organisations that are currently working	Yes…………………..1 No……………….....0		
E2	Which ones are those organisations and what do they do?	Name of Organisation ……………… ……………………. ……………………. ……………………. ……………………. ……………………. ……………………. …………………….	What it does ………………………….. ……………………………… ……………………………… ……………………………….. ……………………………… ……………………………….. ………………………………	
E3	Have you known of a child that had been trafficked but returned/recovered? Describe child, where he/she comes from, what s/he is currently doing, who trafficked him/her, how s/he was transported and where child is at the moment.	Yes…………………..1 No……………….....0 How old was the child the time he/she was taken?........ Where does this child come from?................................ Was the child a boy or girl?... Who took him or her away? …………………………… Was the child in school?.. Where was the child taken?... By what means was the child taken?.............................. Where is the child now?... Who is the child living with now?.................................. What does he/she do now?..		
E4	Do you belong to any organisation that prevents children from being trafficked? Which organisation is it?	Yes…………………..1 No……………….....0 ………………………………………………..		
	Section F Policies and Laws			

	Questions	Response	
F1	What has the community done to restrict child trafficking?	Awareness creation on CT.........................1 Put in place bye laws..............................2 Restriction of movement for children............3 Nothing...4 Others (specify)..................................77	
F2	What has been done at national level?	Awareness creation at national level...................1 Policies and laws on child trafficking..................2 Restriction of movement among children............3 Identify and arrest child traffickers....................4 Nothing..5 Other (specify)..77	
F3	Do you know of any laws or policies that restrict child trafficking both in your country and else where? Explain	Yes........................1 No.........................0	

Section G   Best practices and recommendations

	Question	Response	
G1	Do you know of any practice to reduce child trafficking that has worked very well and can be replicated?	....	
G2	What do you think can be done to address the problem of child trafficking by different people?	1. By Parents.................................... .... 2. By teachers .... 3. The community .... 4. By Government .... 5. By Children .... 77. By others (specify)	

b) Questionnaire for children

SECTION A (FOR CHILD IN HOUSEHOLD 10- 18)

Section A	Socio-demographic characteristics of respondent		
#	Question	Response	Skip
A1	How old were you at your last birthday?	Age in completed years ☐☐ Don't know.....................99	
A2	Sex	Male.....................................1 Female.................................2	
A3	What is your highest educational level?	None......................................1 Lower primary (P1-P4)......... .... 2 Upper primary (P5-P7)...............3 Secondary..............................4 Tertiary.................................5 University.............................6 Other (specify).........................77	
A4	Are you currently in school?	Yes.......................................1 No...2	If yes, skip to A6
A5	What is your primary occupation?	Peasant/subsistence farmer...........1 Unskilled labour.......................2 Skilled labour..........................3 Professional............................4 Trader..................................5 Others (specify).......................77	
A6	What is your religion?	Catholic.................................1 Anglican/Protestant/CoU..............2 Islam....................................3 Others (specify).......................77	

Section B	Existing knowledge on child trafficking		
B1	Have you ever heard about child trafficking?	Yes...1 No...2	
B2	What have you heard about Child trafficking? What was the source of information?	.... TV..1 Radio.....................................2 News Papers.............................3 Community Campaign....................4 Police.....................................5	
B3	What are the benefits of Child trafficking?	Increased incomes........................1 Employment..............................2 Exposure.................................3 Independence.............................4	

		Other (specify)...........................77	
B4	What are the problems of Child trafficking?	Death of children.........................1 Moral decay...............................2 Child exploitation.........................3 Family breakdown.......................4 Other (specify)...........................77	

Section C	Nature and Extent of the problem		
	Question	**Response**	
C1	Has any member of your family ever been trafficked? (if yes, give description of age, sex, where from, where to)	Yes.....................1 No......................0 Age .... Sex .... Month of trafficking .... Year of trafficking .... How are you related	
C2	Have you ever heard of a child that was trafficked in this community or other places? Describe the age, sex, were from, where to, what did child go to do? (Interviewer - Fill all as appropriate)	Yes...1 No...0 Age .... Sex .... Month of trafficking .... Year of trafficking .... Place of residence .... Where child was taken .... What child went to do	
C3	Have you known of a child that had been trafficked but returned/recovered? If yes, describe where from and doing what, who, how, where is child now	Yes.....................1 No......................0 Who recovered child?............................. How was child recovered?.......................... Where was child living at time of recovery?... Where is child living now?.........................	
C4	Is there any specific time of year when children are most trafficked	Clearing season............................1 Planting season............................2 Weeding season............................3 Harvesting season.........................4 Festive season..............................5 Circumcision................................6	
C5	Of the boys and girls who are mostly at risk of being trafficked? And why?	Boys...............................1 Girls............................... 2 Both..............................3	

		Why are the above mostly at risk? ……………………………..	
C6	What age bracket is most trafficked	**Boys** **Girls** 0-4……………1 0-4……………1 5-9……………2 5-9……………2 10-14…………3 10-14…………3 15-19…………4 15-19…………4	
C7	What kinds of children are most affected by child trafficking?	Orphans……………………………………1 Children heading households……………...2 Street children……………………………3 All……………………………………………4 DK…………………………………………..5	
C8	In what kind of families do most trafficked children come from?	Broken families……………………………1 Child headed………………………………2 Female headed……………………………3 Male headed………………………………4 Large families……………………………5 Poor…………………………………………6 All families…………………………………7 Other (specify)……………………………77	
C9	When children are trafficked from homes, which places are they often taken to? If you know of any specific places, list them.	To big towns like (Nairobi, Kampala, Dar) ………………………………………… 1 Just like here in (Busia, Moyale, Loitoktok)………………………………. 2 In small towns like ……………………… 3 Others (specify) …………………………77	
C10	When children leave our country, what countries are they taken to? (in the neighbouring?	Uganda………………………………………1 Kenya………………………………………..2 Tanzania……………………………………3 Ethiopia……………………………………4 Other (specify)……………………………77	
C11	How about when they are taken beyond east neighbouring countries?	Europe………………………………………1 Arab Countries……………………………2 South Africa………………………………3 Other (specify)……………………………77	
C12	How are the trafficked children transported?	………………………………………… …………………………………………	
C13	Have you ever heard of some one involved in Child trafficking?	Yes…………………….1 No……………………..0	
	What kinds of people are mainly involved in outside the region. the	Business men/women……………………1 Prostitutes…………………………………2	

	kind of people involved in trafficking?	Relatives/ family members.................3 Peers..4 Others (Specify)...........................77	
C14	What kind of work are most trafficked children engaged in?	Domestic workers............................1 Commercial sex activities..................2 Child labourers in plantations..............3 Hotels and bars..............................4 Organised begging...........................5 Others (Specify)...........................77	

Section D	**Factors contributing to and sustaining Child trafficking**		
	Questions	**Response**	
D1	What prompts children to leave/ not to want to stay in their own families/communities?	Poverty.......................................1 Unemployment..............................2 Poor living conditions......................3 Mistreatment of children...................4 Other (Specify)............................77	
D2	What attracts children to go to other places other than their original places?	Employment...................................1 Improved living conditions..................2 Independence/ autonomy....................3 Other (specify)............................77	
D3	Why do you think children continue to be trafficked in this community?	laxity of laws.................................1 Poverty.......................................2 Peer pressure.................................3 Parental neglect.............................4 Other (specify).............................77	
D4	What are the expected benefits of children who are trafficked?	Employment opportunities..................1 Improved living standards...................2 Independence................................3 Other (specify).............................77	
D5	What are the expected benefits of parents/ relatives/ other people who encourage children to be trafficked	Cash income from traffickers.................1 Employment of their children.................2 Income support from their children...........3 Better living conditions for their children...4 Other (specify)..............................77	

Section E	**Organizations and networks working on child trafficking**		
	Questions	**Response**	
E1	Do you know of any organizations that are currently working on child trafficking issues?	Yes.....................1 No.......................0	
E2	Which ones are those organizations and what do they do?	Name of Organization	What it does ....

		....	....	
		....	....	
		....	....	

Section F Policies and Laws

	Questions	Response	
F1	What has this community done to help restrict child trafficking?	Awareness creation on CT...................1 Put in place bye laws........................2 Restriction of movement for children......3 Nothing.......................................4 Others (specify).............................77	

Section G   Best practices and recommendations

	Question	Response	
G1	Do you know of any practice to reduce child trafficking that has worked very well and can be replicated?	....	
G2	What do you think can be done to address the problem of child trafficking by the different people?	6. By Parents................................. .... 7. By teachers .... 8. The community .... 9. By Government .... 10. By Children .... 78. By others (specify)	

c) Interview guide for key informants and FGDs

Participants understanding of child trafficking

a) Why children are being trafficked and which parts of the country? What do think child trafficking means?
b) Through which medium did you get to know about child trafficking in your community?
c) Do you think child trafficking is a problem in this community

Decoding child trafficking

a) Have you heard of a child who was trafficking in this community, (probe for age sex, schooling status where from and where to, work involved in.)
b) Any specific season of the year when children are mostly trafficked?
c) What sex of children is mostly trafficked and why? Probe for cases of mentioned case.
d) What age is more at risk of being trafficked and why?
e) Of the two, in school and out of school, which category is more vulnerable to trafficking in your community? Why and why not?
f) How are children in your community trafficked? Probe for deceit, abductions etc
g) By what means are most trafficked children trafficked?
h) Are there specific types of families which most trafficked children are likely to come from? Advance reasons for your argument?
i) Where are most trafficked children taken? Is/are there a specific reason(s) why most trafficked children are preferred in such places?
j) Who d you think are the child traffickers? Where do they come from? Are they mostly male or female, what is their age and relationship between traffickers' age, sex and their involvement in trafficking.
k) Kind of work trafficked children engage in. is the work beneficial to the trafficked children in any? Why and why not? Who benefits most? Explain.

Practices related to child trafficking

a) Why are children in this community trafficked? Probe for what strongly influences children to leave their homes, probe for poverty, maltreatment, gender-based violence, poor living condition, unemployment
b) What attracts children to go and live away from home
c) What are the expected benefits by both children and parents.

Social norms/aspects of child trafficking

a) Are there cultural rules and traditional rules that regulate child trafficking in your community? Explain.
b) What does the family do to prevent child trafficking? What does the community do to prevent child trafficking

c) What do people in your community say about a family whose children may be known to have been trafficked? Why do they have that perception?
d) How do girls feel about boys who are trafficked? How do boys feel about girls who are trafficked?
e) Has any government department, organization, or community group ever talked to you or given you information about child trafficking? Who was it, when? What message did they give you? How was it passed on to you?
f) Are you aware of any law concerning child trafficking? What are those laws? Probe for national laws and local community bylaws.
g) What services are available in this community to put an end to child trafficking. How are trafficked children rescued from trafficking treated by family, community and government?

Exploring relationship between child trafficking and gender-based norms

a) What are the differences between boys and girls that are predispose them into being trafficked in your community? What are the reasons for these differences?

Knowledge of dangers of child trafficking on children, family and community

a) Physiological and physical effects, probe for short and long term effects
b) Social/cultural impact, probe for short and long term effects
c) Psychological/emotional, probe for short and long term effects
d) Economic impact, probe for short and long term effects

Recommendations

a) Parents, teachers, community members, NGOs, children and government.

Closing remarks

Solicit final comments from participants

TOR

WORK PLAN

Figure…. A summary of the stages for the work plan

Stage 1- Preparation & Planning

Study area/district selection

Tools development and study design

Stage 2: Data collection & Analysis

Training of research assistant/enumerators

Fieldwork

Data entry and Analysis

Stage 3: Report writing

Writing Assessment Report (Draft and Final)