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January – December 2014

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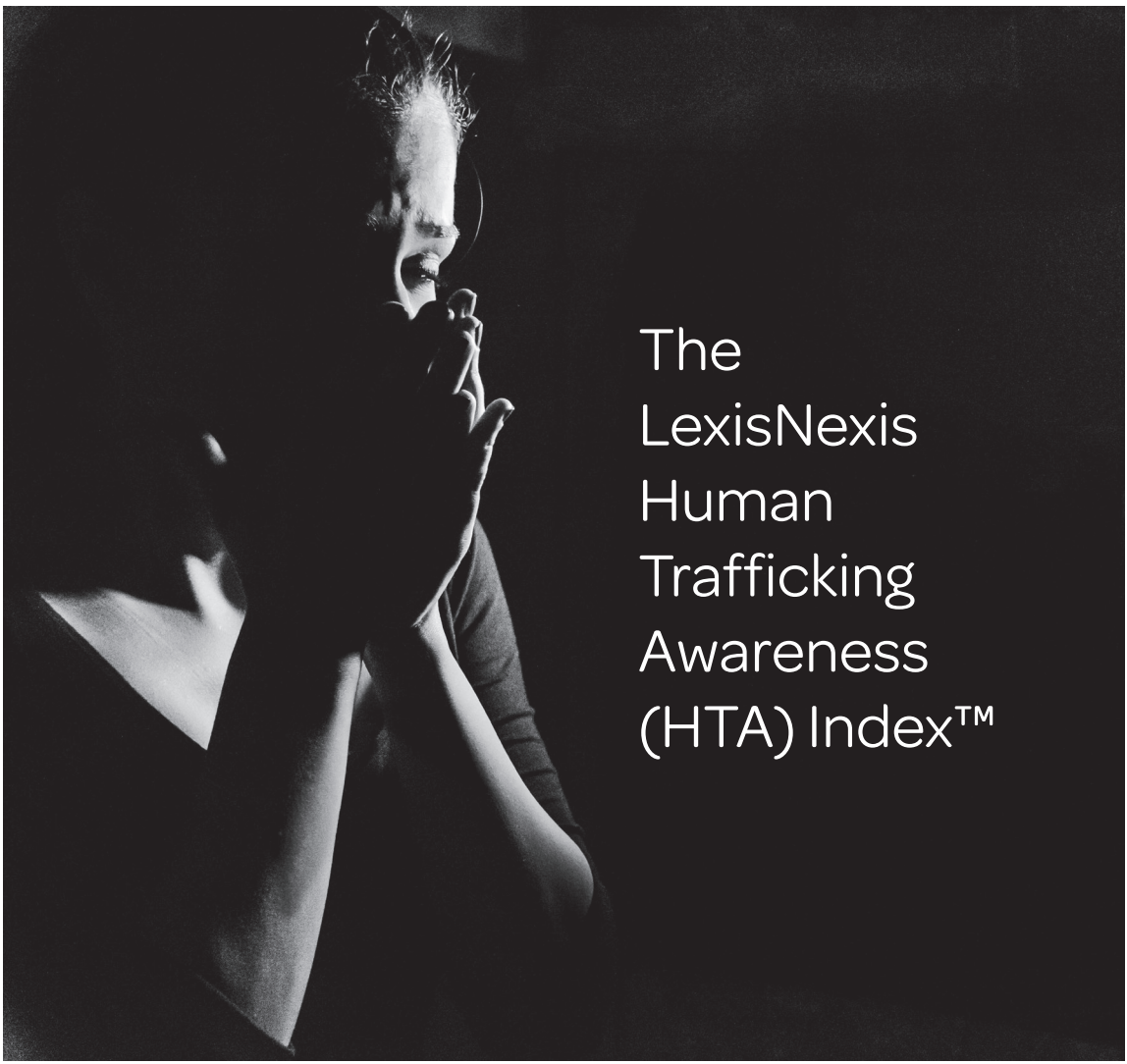

The LexisNexis Human Trafficking Awareness (HTA) Index™

LexisNexis®

LexisNexis
Against inhumanity

A Message from LexisNexis CEO

Billy Last

Human trafficking is an egregious violation of human rights. It is the ultimate manifestation of many of the systemic socio-economic, cultural, political and structural problems which continue to entrench exclusion, inequality, discrimination and exploitation across the globe.

LexisNexis believes that sustainable social, political and economic progress can only exist in societies where the Rule of Law exists. This is why, as a company, we are globally committed to the Rule of Law principle and will continue to work throughout the world to help consolidate and update the laws of all countries.

We are once again proud to make available another of our Human Trafficking Awareness Index reports, looking at the 12 month period over 2014 which was a particularly noteworthy year in this field. The report tracks the prominence of trafficking incidents in the public consciousness over this time by analysing the volume of news related to human trafficking across South Africa and the African continent.

Special thanks to human trafficking expert Dr Monique Emser, who again dedicated her time to compile this report, using data drawn from our respected and extensive Nexis™ database of searchable news articles.

We hope that this knowledge management tool will continue to provide a valuable regional and global overview of trafficking for those involved in monitoring and addressing the changing realities of this crime; and be of ongoing value to activists, law enforcement partners and the media in South Africa and across Africa.

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Dr Monique Emser

Dr Monique Emser is a research associate in the Criminal and Medical Law Department at the University of the Free State. She has been affiliated with the KZN Human Trafficking, Prostitution, Pornography and Brothel Task Team since 2009.

Her PhD (Political Science) was on "The Politics of Human Trafficking in South Africa: A Case Study of the KwaZulu-Natal Intersectoral Task Team and South African Counter-Trafficking Governance." She has written a number of papers on the topic of human trafficking, counter-trafficking governance and the media's reporting around the issue. Her research interests include human trafficking, unconventional security threats, human rights, international relations and conflict.

"While the HTA Index can only speak to reported cases of human trafficking in the media, it does fill a very important gap in knowledge management surrounding the prevalence of human trafficking in South Africa and the African region, and provides a global analysis of trends and developments relating to the modus operandi of traffickers, victimology, prosecution of cases, and interlinking phenomena."
– Dr Monique Emser

Report on Human Trafficking Awareness

This report on human trafficking awareness in South Africa and the African region was compiled by Dr Monique Emser, a passionate counter-trafficking researcher and activist. Dr Emser has committed a great deal of her time to summarise and analyse data included in all such reports to date.

This third report examines media awareness and reporting of human trafficking over a twelve month period from January to December 2014 to the end of December 2013.

As with previous reports, it offers a national and regional analysis of the trajectory of developments in high impact ongoing cases.

To view the full report, visit www.lexisnexis.co.za/ruleoflaw

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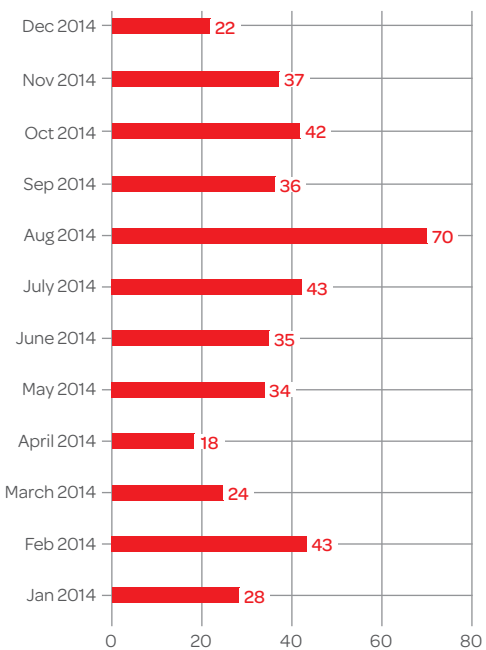
Human Trafficking Awareness in South Africa

Reliable data on the scale and character of human trafficking in South Africa, and the African region, remain scarce. In the absence of standardised measurement tools, procedures for systematic data collection, centralised databases, and dissemination of information by government agencies, the LexisNexis Human Trafficking Awareness Index ™ serves as an approximation, using the Nexis database service, to track and analyse the volume of news articles related to human trafficking.

The LexisNexis Human Trafficking Awareness Index ™ identified 432 unique articles published by the South African media between January and December 2014.

Awareness during the 12 month period was on average higher than the baseline of 31 articles per month, indicating increased awareness due to high profile cases reported by the media.

Number of Articles 2014



432 Unique media articles captured by the Nexis database service between January and December 2014

93 Potential victims trafficked into and within South Africa during the reporting period, based on these South African media reports

76 Potential victims who were adults. 17 were children

54 Potential victims of migrant smuggling with the end purpose of exploitation. This represents more than half (58%) of all potential victims identified

24 Potential victims of sexual exploitation. 16 were women and 8 were girls

6 Potential victims of forced labour. All were female (5 adults and 1 minor)

2 Potential victims of forced marriage

2 Potential potential victims of body part trafficking (ritual killing for muti purposes)

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The LexisNexis Human Trafficking Index™ showed the following reports of trafficking in South Africa during the period January to December 2014:

Gauteng & Mpumalanga

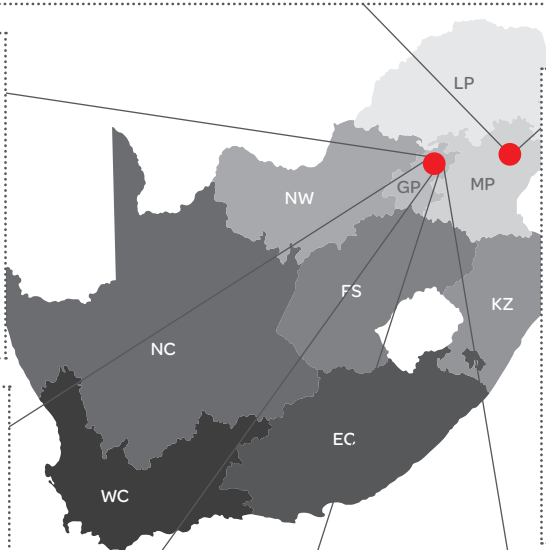
Mpumalanga:
Sexual Exploitation of a Child: Conviction
62 year old businessman, Lloyd Mabuza, and 22 year old co-accused, Violet Chauke, on trial for human trafficking and rape of 5 Mozambican girls (10 - 16 years old) found half-naked and starving at his compound, Rhenosterhoek, near Sabie, in December 2012. They had been brought illegally into SA in 2009 under the pretence they would attend school in the area and be provided with a better life.

Mabuza and Chauke convicted of 5 counts of human trafficking and 4 counts of rape.

Mabuza sentenced to 8 life sentences. Chauke sentenced to 20 years imprisonment, suspended for 5 years and would be deported to Mozambique. This represents the heaviest sentence to date imposed in SA for human trafficking.

Chauke was brought to SA under false pretences by her sister Juliet and raped by Mabuza when she was 12. As a result of being previously a trafficking victim, she received a more lenient sentence.

Gauteng:
Commercial Sexual Exploitation of a Child
2 girls from Port Elizabeth and Durban forced into prostitution in Sunnyside, Pretoria. Under the control of 2 traffickers: a Nigerian and a coloured woman. Rescued by tip-off to the National Freedom Network.



Mpumalanga:
Human Trafficking / Migrant Smuggling
30 foreign nationals (15 Bangladeshis; 15 Pakistanis) without proper documentation found in a house in Tonga near Malelane. Along with 2 'caretakers': 1 Pakistani; 1 Swazi. Thought to be victims of human trafficking. The visas of victims end in Mozambique. They will be taken to Lindela Repatriation Centre near Krugersdorp. Suspects charged with contravening section 4(1) of the Trafficking in Persons Act.

Gauteng:
Human Smuggling / Human Trafficking
24 Ethiopian men, including 3 minors, with no documentation stopped in a minibus taxi in Braamfontein. Thought to be victims of human trafficking transported through Zimbabwe.

Gauteng:
Ritual Killing / Body Part Trafficking
Man found missing genitals and brain in Lakeside, Vereeniging.

Gauteng:
Forced Labour
3 Thai massage therapists recruited via a recruitment company certified by Thai Labour Ministry. 1 woman died after eating toxic mushrooms; 2 women (46 and 56 year old sisters) enslaved in prison-like conditions after being lured to SA under false pretences. They were led to believe that they could earn R27 000 per month as massage therapists in Cape Town. Upon arrival in Cape Town in November 2013, their passports were confiscated before they were taken to Johannesburg and forced to work 12 hours a day until imposed 'debt' of R34 000 could be repaid.

Gauteng:
Sexual Exploitation / Slavery
Pretoria woman claimed she had been held as a sex slave for 3 years after going to buy crack cocaine from her Nigerian dealer. Claimed she had a blanket thrown over her head, and was taken to a house where she was sold to a trafficker, kept on drugs and had photos of her in lingerie posted online to lure prospective clients (including couples).

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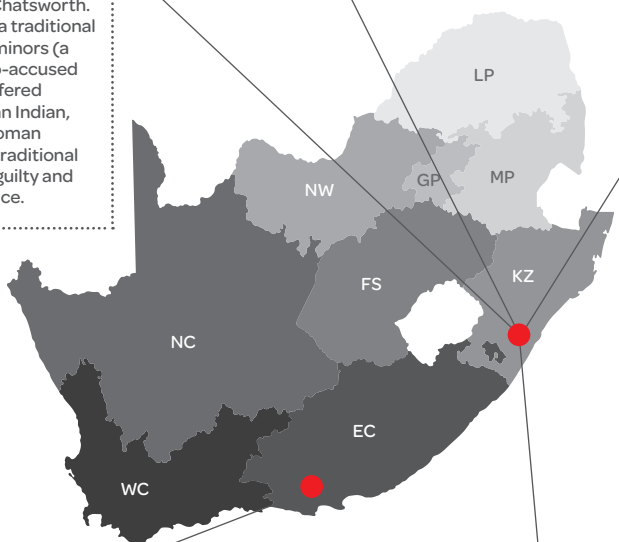
Human Trafficking Awareness in South Africa

KwaZulu-Natal and Eastern Cape

KwaZulu-Natal
Body Part Trafficking / Ritual Killing
Indian sex worker killed and beheaded for muti. Stabbed 195 times; brain, ear, nose, flesh and skin from face removed. Body found in Shallcross, Chatsworth. 6 arrested, including a traditional healer, 2 men, and 3 minors (a girl and two boys). Co-accused claimed they were offered R2m for the head of an Indian, Coloured or White woman with long hair by the traditional healer, who pleaded guilty and received a life sentence.

KwaZulu-Natal
Child Trafficking
Father attempted to sell 18 day old son for R2000 to feed his whoonga addiction.

KwaZulu-Natal
Forced Marriage
A 16 year old girl was forced to marry a 67 year old inkosi, Mgwavumeleni Mhlongo, "in order to bear his heir". The inkosi offered her family 8 cows and R30 000 in cash.



Eastern Cape:
Child Trafficking: Sexual Exploitation of a Child
Stutterheim: 59 year old businessman from Toise village arrested together with a 35 year old woman. Charged with 5 counts of rape involving 3 minors (aged 12 – 13 years old) between November 2013 and January 2014. Co-accused is the mother of one of the victims from Xholorha village.

KwaZulu-Natal
Sexual Exploitation (Forced Prostitution)
Durban North home raided: Thai prostitution ring

62 year old Leon Barnard and common-law wife, Nittaya Norisan arrested along with 14 Thai prostitutes (20 - 26 years) and 2 clients.

Alleged to have been running under the guise of a bed and breakfast, 'The Captain's Inn' for 2 years before the raid. The wife recruited the women and brought them on a 30 day visitor's visa - but many stayed much longer. It is thought that they brought more than 100 women in since they began operating. It is alleged that some women were aware that were coming to SA to work as sex workers, however, they did not know that their passports would be confiscated and they would have to pay off R70 000.

Follow- up: police to investigate human trafficking allegations.

Husband and wife granted bail. Prostitutes not granted bail as they did not have valid passports and 12 were in the country illegally.

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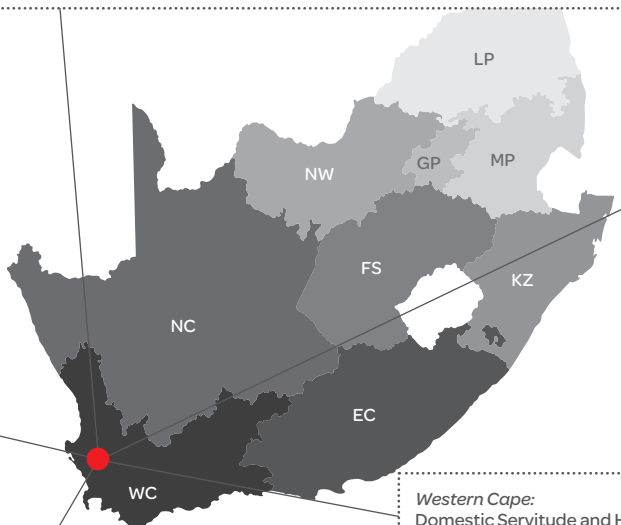
Western Cape

Western Cape:
'Ukuthwala Case': Follow-up story from previous reporting period.
Mvuleni Jezile convicted of sexually assaulting then 14 year old Eastern Cape girl, and of human trafficking and assault. Victim was married without her or her mother's consent. Marriage had been arranged between girl's uncle, grandmother and Jezile's family in 2011.

Judge Greyvensteyn imposed a lesser sentence than life after considering Jezile's upbringing, Grade 8 education, traditional beliefs, and the cumulative effect of the minimum sentences for each charge. Lack of remorse and the fact that he continued to rape the girl, despite a large wound on her leg, were aggravating factors.

Jezile was sentenced to 22 years imprisonment. The case represents the second successful human trafficking prosecution in Western Cape, and first ukuthwala case. Jezile appealed his sentence. Led to a full Bench of the Western Cape Court being asked to properly interpret the practice of ukuthwala. Judgement was reserved.

Western Cape:
Maverick's Case: Follow-up story from a previous reporting period.
HRC Report: no evidence of human trafficking at Maverick's Gentlemen's Club. It found that the women's working conditions were inconsistent with their purported status as 'independent contractors' (patrons paying them directly), leaving them open to exploitation.



Western Cape:
Child Trafficking
A baby girl trafficked from Canada was rescued from a man at Cape Town International Airport.

Western Cape:
Commercial Sexual Exploitation of a Child
'Atlantis' Case': Follow-up story from previous reporting period. Mother, stepfather, and 3 co-accused pimped then 11 year old girl out for as little as R20 in a nearby park or bushes. Alcohol was bought with the money. Accused of rape, sexual exploitation and human trafficking. Face 7 counts: trafficking for sexual exploitation, sexual exploitation of a child, furthering the sexual exploitation of a child, benefitting from the sexual exploitation of a child, and living from the earnings of the sexual exploitation of a child. Defence claims that charges against the mother, who allegedly sexually groomed her daughter, should be dropped as the alleged exploitation 'happened too long ago.' Case postponed until February 2015.

Western Cape:
Domestic Servitude and Hawking
16 year old girl and three young women (18 - 21 years) held captive and forced to work as domestic servants and sell peaches (street hawking). Her poverty-stricken mother from Eastern Cape was promised R3000 at the end of 2013 by a woman in exchange for allowing the 16 year old daughter take a job in Cape Town. Girl was locked in a shack in Nkanini informal settlement in Khayelitsha. Four other parents scammed in the same fashion by the woman. The group arrived in Cape Town on 10 January 2014. The 3 young women were held in a house in Kuyasa. It is suspected that the women and girl might have been sexually exploited at a later stage, had they not been rescued. The case, however, is not on the court role due to 'insufficient evidence' linking the suspect (recruiter) to the alleged offence.

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Notable Trends

i. Trafficking for the sexual exploitation of a child / children;

ii. Forced marriage, ukuthwala and the question of harmful traditional and cultural practices; and

iii. The migration-trafficking nexus.

Child Sexual Exploitation

As noted in the previous reporting periods, child trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation remains a serious problem, despite the relatively low number of victims detected and assisted.

Child trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation tends to be domestic and intraregional. In the two cases profiled, the victims were between 10 and 16 years old, and had been trafficked from impoverished rural areas (Eastern Cape, and the other from Mozambique to Mpumulanga). Both cases shared a number of similarities: the girls were recruited and/or trafficked by women who not only procured the girls to be abused but had a role to play in controlling them; the perpetrators of sexual abuse and rape were middle-aged businessmen living in relatively remote areas of the provinces concerned. Both are indicative of small local (opportunistic) trafficking operations involving a small number of victims, little organisation and recruitment or facilitation by an intimate partner or someone from their own community who they thought could be trusted.

Children trafficked for sexual exploitation suffer extreme violations of their human rights, including the right to liberty, the right to dignity and security of person, the right not to be held in slavery or involuntary servitude, the right to be free from cruel and inhumane treatment, the right to be free from violence, and the right to health[1].

Many of the menacing tactics used to control victims of trafficking are readily comparable with the characteristic of abuse described in the literature on torture. 'Unpredictability' and 'uncontrollability' are theorised to be predictive of more intense and prolonged reactions to abuse, including post-traumatic stress disorder and other mental health disorders. Repeated rapes, physical and psychological abuse inflicted over a period of months, and even years, mean that these children require intensive psychological support services before and after being reunited with their families or caregivers.

[1] http://www.ungift.org/knowledgehub/about/trafficking-for-sexual-exploitation.html

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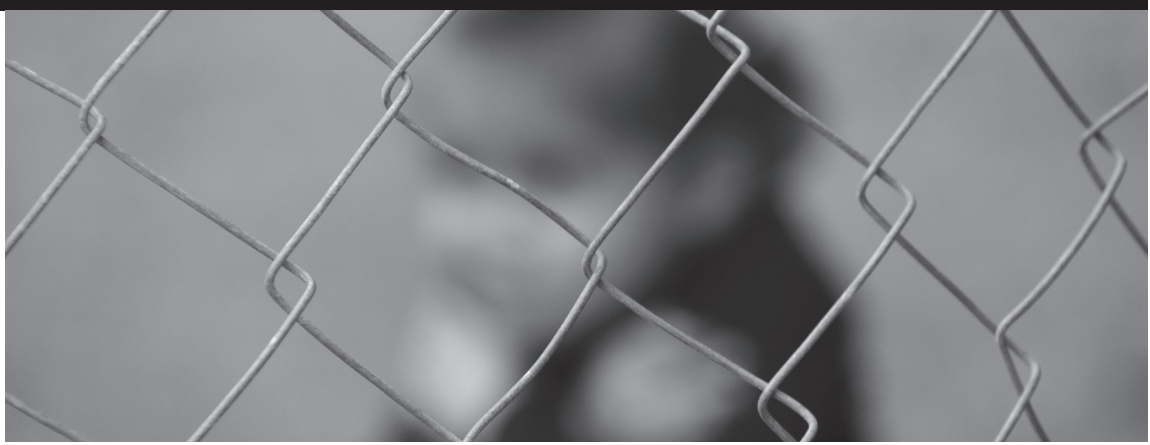

Forced Marriage, Ukuthwala and Harmful Traditional and Cultural Practices

Early and forced marriage is a violation of human rights that destroys girls' childhoods and women's lives. The causes of early and forced marriage are complex, interrelated and dependent on individual circumstances and context. The practice is driven by: (i) gender inequality; (ii) poverty; (iii) harmful traditional or religious practices; (iv) failure to enforce the law (or knowledge of particular laws and rights).

Although cases linking the practice of 'ukuthwala' with forced marriage are relatively rare, this culturally sensitive issue has sparked great debate across South Africa as to whether it should be regarded as a form of trafficking. It has been highlighted in previous LexisNexis Human Trafficking Awareness Index reports.

According to the Sunday Times, 7 February 2014, 'A research paper published in the Journal of Family Law and Practice in 2011 noted that, every month in the first half of 2009, more than 20 girls in the Eastern Cape were forced to leave school to "follow the traditional custom of ukuthwala".'

An investigation carried out by the Commission on Gender Equality has found that most of the ukuthwala marriages have occurred in the Eastern Cape and in KwaZulu-Natal. The commission's Taryn Powys said: "We are concerned that the abduction of girls by men, as well as the associated instances of sexual assault, underage lobola and pregnancy, constitute a direct violation of girls' constitutional rights.

Although the custom might be traditionally acceptable, it violated the Recognition of Customary Marriages Act of 1998, which said the two people to be wed must be more than 18 years old, and the agreement had to be consensual.

As reported in the Cape Argus, 14 February 2014, Professor Jan Bekker of the University of Pretoria said the custom had changed from what it used

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Notable Trends

to be. He went so far as to suggest what was once linked to romantic love had taken a turn in the wrong direction.

The Jezile case, and discussions around whether violence is an accepted part of ukuthwala, symbolise the tension between cultural ideals and cultural practices.

Early and forced marriage contributes to driving girls into a cycle of poverty and powerlessness. They are likely to experience:

- Illiteracy and poor education. Girls who are forced to marry are systematically denied their right to education, they tend to drop out of or are removed from school, as their new role is to carry out domestic work and bear children. Girls with no education are 3 times more likely to be married before the age of 18 than those with secondary education. And the impact continues through the generations. Daughters of young, uneducated mothers are more likely to drop out of school and be married early, repeating the cycle. In addition, early and forced marriage is comparable to trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation and domestic servitude.
- Increased mortality rate. Girls who are victims of early and forced marriage have higher mortality rates than their unmarried counterparts. In developing countries the leading cause of death among girls aged 15-19 is childbirth, where they are twice as likely to die in labour as a woman over 20.
- Poor sexual health. Most girls who are subjected to early or forced marriage usually have poor sexual health. They will have engaged in sex before being physically and emotionally ready, and due to marrying an older man will be at increased risk of sexual infections such as HIV (which may be as much as double that of the national average).
- Higher risk of abuse. According to research carried out by the World Health Organisation, married girls aged 15 to 19 are more likely to experience violence than older married women. Due to lack of education, lower status, lack of control and powerlessness, girls subjected to early or forced marriage suffer higher levels of violence, abuse and rape.[2]

[2] http://www.plan-uk.org/because-i-am-a-girl/early-and-forced-marriage/

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Migration-Traffiking Nexus

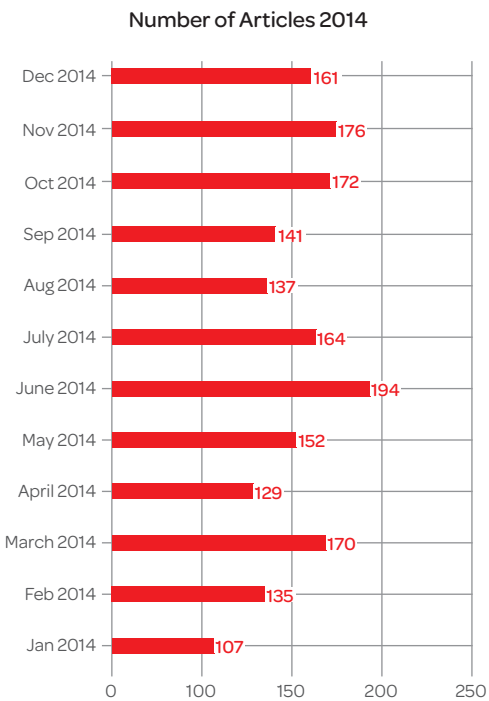
Migrants and refugees continue to fall prey to unscrupulous traffickers. A growing trend in the South African and African context is the increasingly blurred lines between migrant smuggling and human trafficking, as conflict, insurgency, political instability, discrimination and poverty force hundreds of thousands to flee their home countries every year.

Forced migration within the African region increases the vulnerability of men, women and children to becoming victims of human trafficking and other forms exploitation and abuse. South Africa, as one of the more stable and prosperous countries within the sub-region, is an attractive destinations for refugees and migrants. Many take great risks and transit through third countries illegally in hopes of reaching South African shores, and during this stage of their journey are actively complicit in their illicit transit (migrant smuggling). However, what is becoming increasingly apparent is that upon reaching destination countries, like South Africa, they are often held against their will, or in debt bondage, and subsequently exploited.

Human Trafficking Awareness in Africa

The LexisNexis Human Trafficking Awareness Index™ highlighted there were 1838 unique articles published by African media between January and December 2014.

Awareness during 2014 was significantly higher than the baseline of 70 articles per month, confirming heightened awareness.



The media do not always accurately classify victims in terms of gender and age (minor or adult). All too often, female victims are grouped together under the category 'girl' – creating difficulties for accurate analysis of numbers and trends. A number of articles group adults and children together – creating difficulties for accurate analysis of numbers and trends.

1838 The number of unique African media articles on human trafficking, captured by the Nexis database during the period

2958 The number of potential trafficking victims reported on by African media during the period

1196 Victims identified as adults (40% of total victims)

1343 Victims identified as children (45% of reported victims)

760 Potential victims of sexual exploitation

353 Potential child victims of sexual exploitation

275 Potential victims of domestic servitude

400 Potential victims trafficked as child soldiers

134 Potential victims of forced recruitment (predominantly men and boys by militia and terrorist groups such as Boko Haram)

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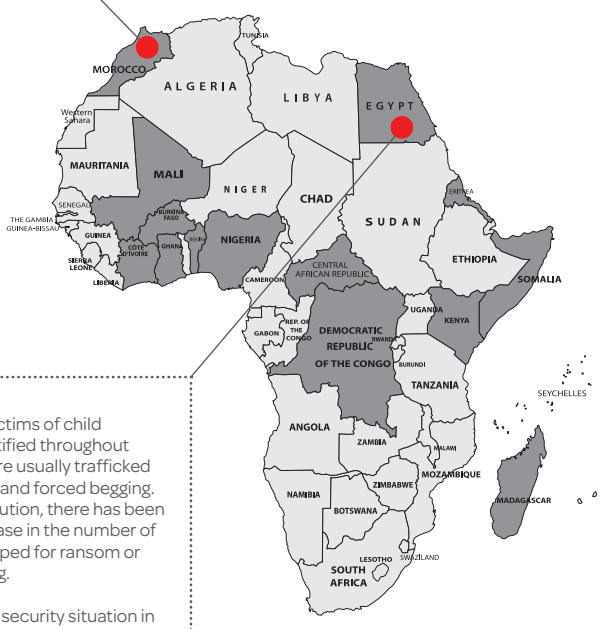
The LexisNexis Human Trafficking Index™ showed the following media reports of trafficking in Africa during this period:

North Africa

Morocco:
Sexual Exploitation (Forced Prostitution)
Moroccan woman trafficked for forced prostitution. Gang raped by Indian police after she was arrested for solicitation and was impregnated as a result. She had been recruited by an employment agency – offering placements for domestic workers and educators – in India. Upon her arrival with other Moroccan women she was forced into prostitution at major hotels, and subsequently became a drug addict. She was later arrested by police and gang raped for 3 days before returning to Morocco and discovering she was pregnant from her ordeal.

In June, it was reported that 4 Moroccan women who had been recruited over the internet to work in salons in Bahrain were trafficked for forced prostitution. They were rescued with two other women following a sting operation.

In another case, dating from October, a Moroccan woman was lured by a compatriot, with the promise of a job in a hair salon, to Dubai where she was forced into prostitution.



Egypt:
129 potential victims of child trafficking identified throughout 2014. Victims are usually trafficked for child labour and forced begging. Since the Revolution, there has been a notable increase in the number of children kidnapped for ransom or organ trafficking.

The precarious security situation in the Sinai has resulted in increased levels of smuggling and human trafficking by armed groups.

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Human Trafficking Awareness in Africa

Central Africa

DRC:
Restriction of movement of young women and children
In an attempt to prevent the migration and trafficking of women and children via Ngobila Beach, a new policy requires young women under 40 to acquire marital authorisation to travel, and parental permission for children. It has been criticised as an infringement of human rights – limiting their freedom of movement.

Central African Republic:
Demobilisation of 23 former child soldiers (14 – 17 years)

Niger:
Baby Trafficking and Illegal Adoptions
17 arrested, including the wives of two high ranking politicians: (President of the National Assembly and Minister of Agriculture) for the buying of 30 babies from 'baby factories' in south-eastern Nigeria, forging and altering birth certificates. An arrest warrant was also issued for the President of the National Assembly, Hama Amadou's, alleged involvement. However, he fled to France.

DRC:
Sexual Exploitation of a Child
Child trafficking to Lebanon or Asian countries highlighted. 3 girls who had been trafficked to Lebanon for sexual exploitation were repatriated.

DRC:
Demobilisation and reintegration of child soldiers
Sexual Slavery in Conflict Zones
8 women escaped Mai Mai Bakata Katanga in August, with one woman dying en route. The women had been kidnapped in June 2013. The oldest was 75; youngest 29. All had been subjected to gang rape and physical abuse. Over the past year 180 women had fallen victim to gang rape by this militia group.

Ivory Coast
Forced Labour: Domestic Servitude
2 nurses from Burkina Faso were employed by the partner of the Prime Minister of the Ivory Coast to take care of their son in France. They were forced to work 23 hours a day, were only paid 45 euros per month and had their identity documents confiscated. The partner faces human trafficking charges.

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West Africa

Nigeria:
Boko Haram: Terrorism and its links to human trafficking
In 2014, Boko Haram kidnapped at least 591 people:
April - 276 Chibok school girls kidnapped in Northern Nigeria. The majority are thought to have been trafficked and sold as sex slaves or forced into marriage.
May - 11 girls from Borno State kidnapped; 300 killed in Gamboru Ngala (a border town with Cameroon).
June - 20 women and 3 men kidnapped near Chibok; plus 60 other women and girls and 31 boys.
August - 100 men and boys forcibly recruited; 40 girls kidnapped; 30 other boys and girls kidnapped.
December - 20 girls kidnapped and trafficked from Lassa.

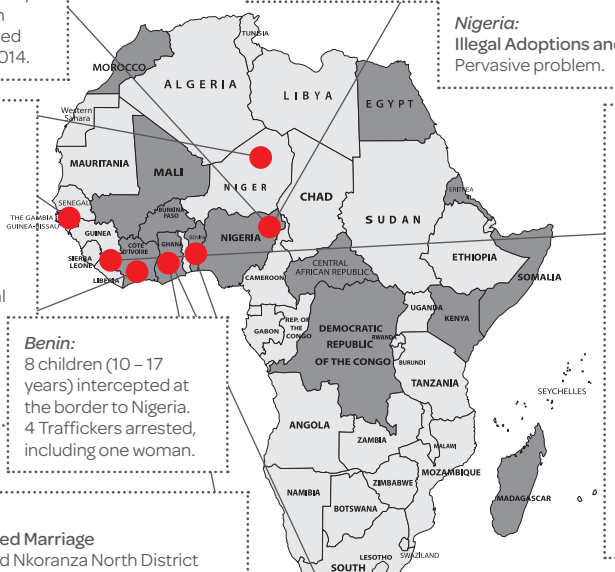
The instability caused by the insurgency in north-eastern Nigeria has resulted in 1.5 million internally displaced persons. The Polisario Front (a Saharwi militia group working to end Moroccan presence in Western Sahara) is said to actively support Boko Haram by keeping 153 slave girls belonging to Boko Haram leaders in camps in Tindouf. It is believed that the total of kidnapped women and girls lies at 830.

Nigeria:
Plight of Migrant Women
Nigerian women take great risks crossing the Mediterranean to Italy only to become sex slaves. Victims mainly from Edo State (promised work as nurses and hairdressers). Many transferred to brothels in Libya - forced to work off transit fees.

1300 Nigerian migrants assisted by IOM in 2014 in Italy: many complain of being raped or trafficked for forced prostitution during journey. 23700 Nigerian women reported to have crossed from Africa to Italy in 2014.

Nigeria:
Sexual Exploitation (Forced Prostitution)
Follow-up story: Nigerian trafficker, Nneka Ebelechukwu sentenced to 30 years imprisonment for trafficking for sexual exploitation overseas.

Nigeria:
Illegal Adoptions and Baby Factories
Pervasive problem.



The Gambia:
Cultural norms mean that gender based violence (GBV) is not considered a crime, rather a 'private' family matter or part of normal life (early and forced marriage; sexual violence).

6 cases of early and forced marriage recorded in 2014.

Benin:
8 children (10 – 17 years) intercepted at the border to Nigeria. 4 Traffickers arrested, including one woman.

Liberia:
Follow-up story: Lebanese sex traffickers (father and son) sentenced.

Moulin Rouje Bar and Restaurant: 5 Moroccan women trafficked as sex slaves between 2011 and 2013.

Edmond Kassabli and David Anthony Kassabli found guilty: human trafficking, migrant smuggling and gang rape.

Ghana:
Child Slavery and Forced Marriage
Kintampo Municipal and Nkoranza North District recorded 66 cases of early and forced marriage in 2014.

The continued practice of female genital mutilation, puberty rites, forced marriage, trokosi (ritual servitude where virgin girls serve as 'fetish slaves' in payment for services or religious atonement for alleged misdeeds of a family member) are cited pervasive problems. These fundamental violations of children's rights are deeply rooted in cultural practices. Perpetrators believe their crimes are a 'divine right', making it incredibly difficult to put an end to such harmful practices.

Ghana:
Child Labour
Children as young as 4 are sold into slavery by their parents and forced to work under dangerous conditions on Lake Volta. Most children are not able to attend school, lack adequate nutrition, face detrimental health consequences and sometimes become entangled in nets and drown. Ignorance, poverty and broken homes mean that children are often 'given out' by parents and relatives to fishermen usually with a verbal agreement for as little as 100 to 500 Ghanaian Cedi ($26 to $32). Children are seen as cheap labour and are kept under bondage.

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Human Trafficking Awareness in Africa

East Africa

Ethiopia:
2 Ethiopian maids extracted from 'household slavery'. The kafala (sponsorship) system for foreign domestic workers in the United Arab Emirates has led to numerous abuses and even cases of trafficking, as labour laws meant to protect domestic workers are limited.

Kenya:
Child Labour
16 teenagers (12 – 17 years old) lured by Ugandan pastor with promises of free education to Malaba Town where they were forced to work in homes, farms and stone quarries. Some were even forced to change their identities – raising serious questions about the authenticity of the sponsorship. The so-called 'Good Samaritan' approach is being used by traffickers (linked to religious or non-governmental organisations) to recruit children from impoverished and vulnerable communities.

Kenya:
Commercial Sexual Exploitation of a Child
Girls are trafficked from impoverished rural areas and neighbouring countries (with political instability) to urban centres.

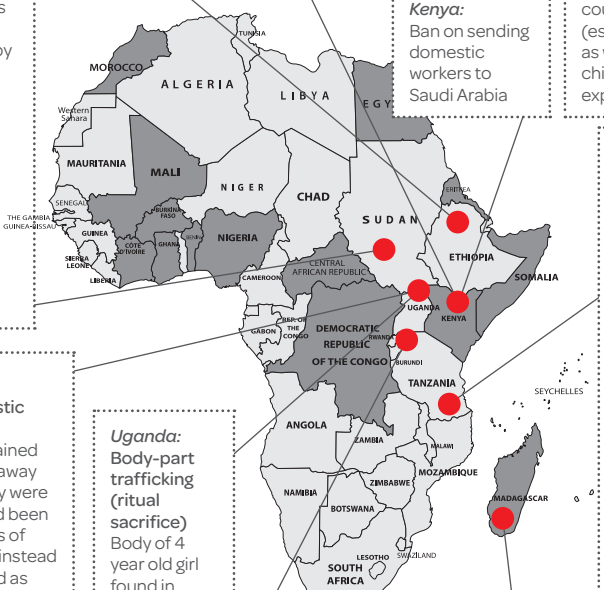
3 main child trafficking strategies: bogus recruitment agencies; kidnapping / abduction of children; dissemination of advertisements in at risk areas regarding educational or vocational opportunities.

Kenya:
Illegal Adoptions
Babies sold for as little as KSh2000 (about $22).

Kenya:
Ban on sending domestic workers to Saudi Arabia
Ban on International Adoptions
Criticised: half of trafficked children in Kenya are sold to dealers in neighbouring countries for ritual purposes (esp. Albinos to Tanzania); as well as Middle East, for child labour and sexual exploitation.

Kenya:
Ban on sending domestic workers to Saudi Arabia

Sudan:
Migration-Trafficking Nexus
309 Sudanese migrants (10 dead on the Libyan border) were rescued by the Aouinat mountains – a common border between Sudan, Libya and Egypt – 'a key path for human traffickers with many east African migrants especially Ethiopians and Eritreans using it as a passage way to European coasts through Libya'.



Tanzania:
Migration-Trafficking Nexus
Immigration authorities issued a prohibited immigrant notice to a Turk suspected of being a member of an international human trafficking ring, Shirwan Naseh Ismail. He was accompanied by 5 Iraqis who were travelling on forged Greek passports. Nationals from human trafficking networks from Syria, Iran and Iraq trade their unsuspecting victims to different European countries. Tanzania is a transit point.

Uganda:
Forced Labour: Domestic Servitude
250 young women detained in Kuwait after running away from homes where they were being abused. They had been recruited with promises of jobs in supermarkets – instead they ended up enslaved as domestic workers.

Uganda:
Body-part trafficking (ritual sacrifice)
Body of 4 year old girl found in Apac District.

Rwanda:
Rwandan girl lured to Zambia via Uganda and Tanzania by man with promises of a job, all expenses paid, only to be told at the border he wanted to marry her instead. She secretly contacted her parents, who alerted local police and Interpol.

Madagascar:
Forced Labour: Domestic Servitude
40 Malagasy women recruited through a recruitment agency scam incarcerated in Kuwaiti prisons. The women recruited as domestic workers were subjected to harsh working conditions and violence – working months without pay. Upon imprisonment they had all their documentation and possessions confiscated. As there is no Malagasy consular representation in Kuwait, some of the women were assisted by the International Red Cross to return home.

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Southern Africa

Zimbabwe:
Fraudulent Recruitment and Domestic Work
A 35 year old woman, Shamila Roopen (35) was arrested for being the alleged ringleader of a human trafficking syndicate. Claiming to be a recruiting agent for a Saudi-based company owned by Ibrahim Abdullah Al Neghaimisn, Roopen recruited 22 women (21 – 45 years) to work as housemaids in Saudi Arabia.

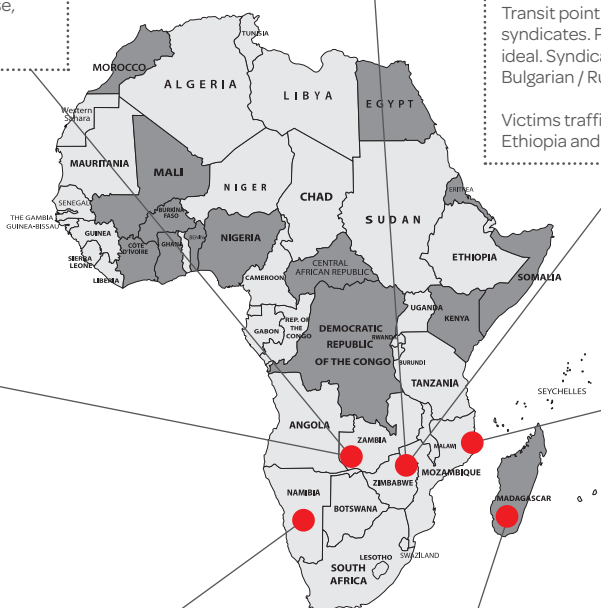
Zambia:
Migration-Trafficking Nexus
Zambia is a nexus for human trafficking (IOM), with 8 neighbouring states and porous borders. 46 potential victims of human trafficking identified, possibly for forced labour: 11 Ethiopians, 11 Somalis, 12 Congolese, 8 Bangladeshis and 4 Pakistanis.

Zimbabwe:
Fraudulent Recruitment and Sexual Exploitation (Forced Prostitution)
A 62 year old woman, Jessica Mahuni, allegedly forced two women to have unprotected sex with men in Angola, with her pocketing the money. She had confiscated their passports and wallets upon arrival after falsely promising them work selling wares in Angola.

Zimbabwe:
Transit point for human trafficking syndicates. Porous borders make it ideal. Syndicates: Nigerian, Chinese, Bulgarian / Russian.

Victims trafficked from Somalia, Ethiopia and DRC.

Zambia:
Child Trafficking
Ministry of Home Affairs ordered the police in Muchinga Province to intensify the search for parents accused of selling 11 children to business executives in neighbouring Tanzania.



Mozambique
Tete province:
One man arrested for trafficking 13 children (7 boys; 6 girls) from Malawi.

40 year old woman arrested for attempting to traffic two women to Angola for sexual exploitation (forced prostitution).

Namibia:
Man arrested for trying to sell son for N$7500.

Madagascar:
Sexual Exploitation
Victims recruited over social media to work in China as waitresses, saleswomen or domestic workers. Upon arrival the women had their passports confiscated and were sold to men for ca. 7000 euros (depending on their skin colour).

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Notable Trends

Child Soldiers and Forced Recruitment

UNICEF estimates that up to 300 000 children are involved in more than 30 conflicts worldwide. The largest number of child soldiers, estimated at 120 000 (or 40% of the global total), are in Africa, despite the 1999 African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child. This is the only regional treaty outlawing child involvement in armed conflict.

Child soldiers are any children under the age of 18 who are recruited by a state or non-state armed group and used as fighters, cooks, suicide bombers, human shields, messengers, spies, or for sexual purposes. Of growing concern is the notable increase in the use of children to carry explosives or plant explosive devices, with some not even aware that they are carrying explosives which are then detonated from a distance. The recruitment of children under the age of 15 is incontrovertibly prohibited under international humanitarian law (Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions).

[1] http://www.warsintheworld.com/?page=static1258254223

[2] http://www.warsintheworld.com/?page=static1258254223; see also, https://acd.iiss.org/

[3] http://www.child-soldiers.org/faq.php

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Armed conflict in Africa, affecting 27 countries and involving 175 armed groups, is a major cause of concern for the stability and development of the region.[1]

Hot spots in 2014 included:

- Central African Republic (civil war)
- Ethiopia (war against rebel groups)
- Libya (war against islamist militants)
- Nigeria (war against islamist militants)
- Sudan (war against rebel groups)
- Democratic Republic of Congo (war against rebel groups)
- Egypt (popular uprising against Government)
- Mali (war against Tuareg and islamist militants)
- Somalia (war against islamist militants)
- South Sudan (civil war)[2]

In addition the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), an armed opposition group which originated in Uganda, and which recruits and uses child soldiers, is present in the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and South Sudan. Eritrea and Rwanda are reported to have provided military support to armed opposition groups in neighbouring states (Somalia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo respectively) during this period.[3] Children, as young as eight, continue to be (forcibly) recruited to rebel and government armed groups across the region.

The HTA Index highlighted that while the issue of child soldiers and forced recruitment within the conflict zones of the Great Lakes Region, Central African Republic, Ivory Coast, Mali, northern Nigeria and South Sudan were a cause for serious concern, media reports were unable to provide reliable figures of the magnitude of the problem due to prolonged political instability and intercine strife. Despite this, the forced recruitment of children and young adults is a serious violation of human rights and constitutes a war crime which needs to be forcefully addressed by the international community and affected states.

While the United Nations has managed to demobilise and reunite thousands of child soldiers with their families and communities, the physical, emotional and psychological scars of war and their trafficking experiences need to be addressed. Also highlighted was the fact that many former child soldiers in the DRC and elsewhere face major hurdles trying to reintegrate into society. These children may find themselves stigmatised, feared or rejected by their communities. Many former child soldiers find themselves trapped in a vicious circle in which they are unable to return to school (due financial constraints, etc.), and so return to armed groups or a life of crime. This represents a double tragedy. Long term rehabilitation and reintegration programmes are key in this regard.

The UNSC went so far as to express concern in December 2014 about the severity of the security situation in parts of Central Africa, as well as the expansion of Boko Haram operations from northern Nigeria to Chad, Niger and Cameroon. In addition, it noted that terrorist and criminal networks were developing closer ties to Mali and northern Nigeria in dealing and transporting in arms, drugs and human beings (forced recruitment and sexual slavery).

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Notable Trends

Child Trafficking: A Pervasive Problem

Previous reports on the LexisNexis Human Trafficking Awareness Index (TM) showed the ongoing prevalence of child trafficking.

Despite child labour remaining an issue of key concern throughout the African region, the number of potential child victims detected and assisted was relatively low. This negative trend is a point of concern, especially in countries known for their poor track record in addressing the worst forms of child labour which were highlighted in the previous reporting period.

Children are trafficked for diverse reasons. The most prevalent types of child trafficking on the continent during the reporting period were for sexual exploitation (including forced marriage), forced recruitment or child soldiers (400), and illegal adoptions. A number of reported cases (262) remain undefined and are assigned to the general category of 'child trafficking'.

Sexual Violence in Conflict Zones

Conflict currently affects 21 countries, involving 34 armed groups, militia and government security forces that systematically employ rape as a tool of war.

A UN report links sexual violence to the local economy. Rape is used to gain control of territories with natural resources, which are used by groups to fuel further conflict, as well as human trafficking and the illegal drug trade. This is particularly pronounced in parts of Central Africa, and increasingly in West and North Africa (the Sahel region).

In such conflict zones, where brutal acts of sexual violence (often continue long after the fighting has stopped) parents try to protect daughters by pushing them into early and forced marriages, which has led to cases of human trafficking and sexual slavery. Rape has also been documented as a trigger for mass flight, which further makes women, and especially youth, vulnerable to abuses.

While impunity for sexual violence remains prevalent, it is particularly acute in these situations. In particular, the prevalence of human trafficking in post-conflict areas contributes to instability in these countries for years after peace agreements are reached and arms laid down.

The Need for Rehabilitation, Reintegration and Support of Trafficking Victims

A trafficking victim's ordeal does not end with his or her extraction/rescue from a trafficking

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situation. The abuse and trauma that many victims were subjected to over time will follow them for years. The need for rehabilitation and reintegration programmes that adequately support survivors of trafficking on their journey to recovery is of paramount importance.

Rehabilitation programmes remain under-funded and are often too short to help a survivor transition back into society, or successfully reunite with their families. Stigmatisation, substance dependency or a lack of coping and life skills means that a number of trafficking survivors will return to their traffickers or a similarly exploitative life.

The plight often experienced by trafficking survivors is highlighted by the HTA Index. The longer term rehabilitative needs of survivors needs to be taken into account by policy.

The Migration-Trafficking Nexus

The migration-trafficking nexus, as noted in the previous report, remains a key point of vulnerability for migrants and refugees (especially women and children) who often are physically and sexually abused and exploited throughout their journey only to become sex slaves or involved in forced begging at the end of their journey. Men are typically exploited for forced labour. Often intercepted in transit, migrants are arrested and prosecuted for illegally entering a third country. Many in reality are victims of trafficking.

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LexisNexis and Human Trafficking

Globally LexisNexis is committed to combating human trafficking by offering direct financial support, through promoting awareness, sponsoring victims support and assisting with training and education initiatives.

We have supported anti-trafficking organisations such as the Somaly Mam Foundation and AEFSIP (Acting for Women in Distressing Situations") and publish the Human Trafficking Handbook, the definitive legal guide to preventing trafficking.

In 2012 LexisNexis South Africa produced South Africa's first ever Human Trafficking Compendium and donated copies to the Government's specialised enforcement and prosecution units, including the Child Protection Units, the South African Police, National Prosecuting Authority, Legal Aid Board and the Department of Justice, to name but a few.

LexisNexis South Africa's annual Cares Day initiative also sees us provide assistance to a number of NGOs working in the field of human trafficking.

In 2012 LexisNexis launched the REDLIGHT documentary, a powerful and inspirational feature documentary that tells the real life stories of child victims of human trafficking and two remarkable women who fight to rescue and safeguard them. The documentary was filmed over a four-year period in Cambodia and features actual footage smuggled out of brothels and testimonials from victims, relatives and advocates. It is a Priority Films Production and was directed and produced by Guy Jacobsen, President of Priority Films; Adi Ezronie, award-winning actress and television host; Charles Kiselyak, award-winning filmmaker as well as Lucy Liu, UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador.

You can get more information on LexisNexis's efforts to combat human trafficking, and our commitment to the Rule of Law principle by visiting:
www.lexisnexis.co.za/ruleoflaw
www.lexisnexis.com/redlight.index.html
http://redlightchildren.org/
http://law.lexisnexis.com/webcenters/RuleoflawResourceCenter

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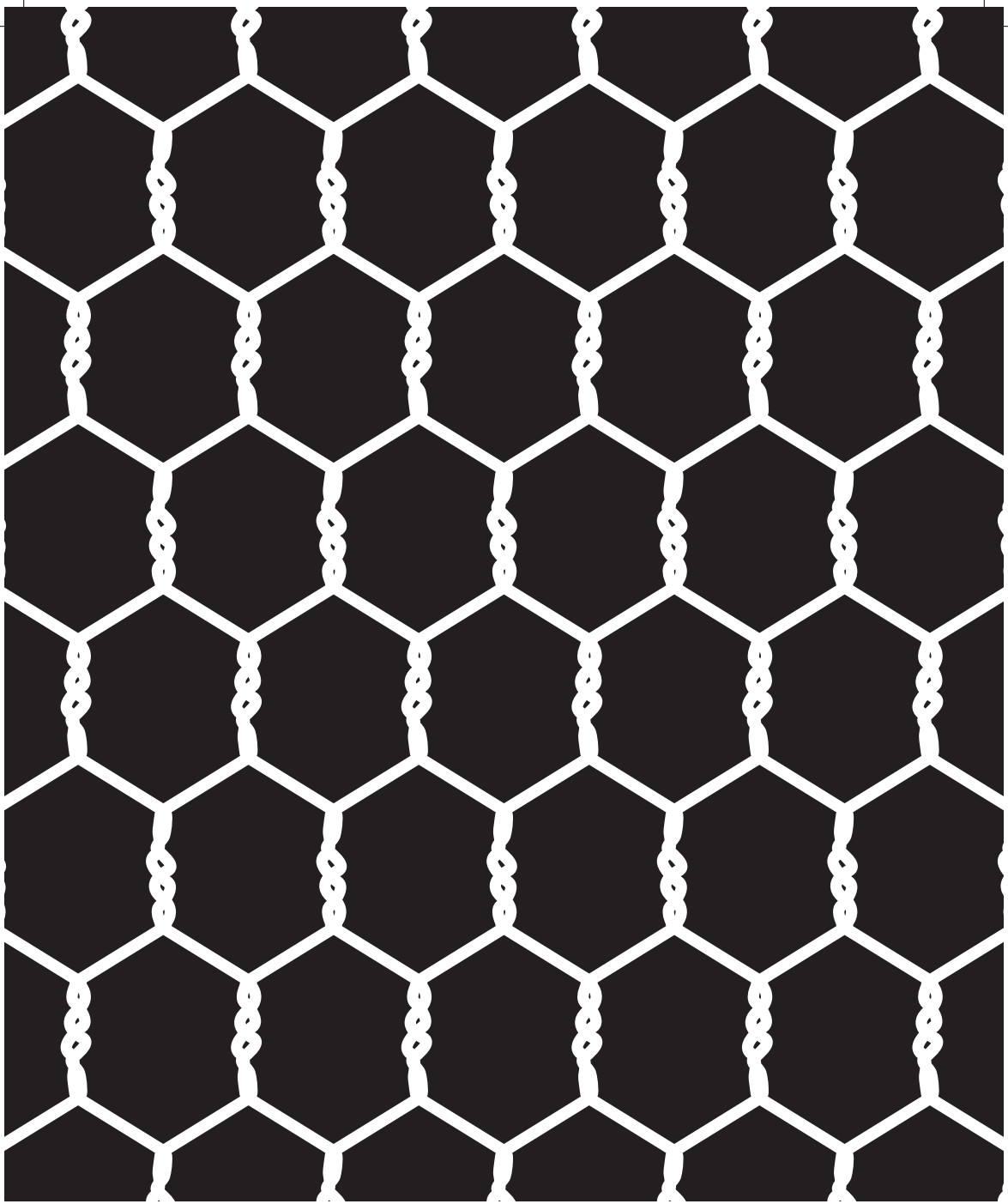

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