



SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA RESEARCH GUIDE

Major Forms of Trafficking

Forced Marriage

Zambia, South Africa

Child soldiers

Congo, Uganda,
Liberia

Sex trafficking

Nigeria, South Africa

Baby harvesting (trafficking for adoption)

Nigeria

Child labor

Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire

Domestic servitude

Ethiopia

Forced begging

Senegal

Organ trafficking

South Africa, Eritrea

Anti-Trafficking Organizations

- Heartland alliance (various countries)
- Global Welfare Association (Cameroon)
- HAART (Awareness Against Human Trafficking) (Kenya)
- Devatop Center for Africa Development (Nigeria)

Quick Stats

- An estimated 6,245,800 Sub-Saharan Africans are currently enslaved¹
- 13.6% of globally enslaved people are from the Sub-Saharan African region²
- Central African Republic, DRC, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Mauritania have the highest rates of human trafficking in Sub-Saharan Africa³

Terms

Baby factories: location where women are encouraged or forced to become pregnant and give up their newborns for sale.

Baby harvesting: the active drafting of parents and children for the adoption market. Often occurs in baby factories.

Boko Haram: Islamic extremist terrorist group based in northeastern Nigeria, who have publicly admitted to engaging in human trafficking.

Child soldiers: Any child under 18 who is used for any military purpose.

Domestic servitude: In this type of forced labor, domestic workers (maids, servants, housekeepers...) are exploited and controlled

Forced begging: The act of begging by someone who has been forced to do so.

Juju, voodoo: Spiritual belief systems that have been used as a coercive tool by Westerners to traffic women.

Organ trafficking: the illegal and non-consensual acquisition and distribution of human organs.

Sex tourism: vacations organized with the purpose of taking advantage of the lack of restrictions imposed on prostitution and other sexual activities by some foreign countries.

Supply chain: the sequence of process involved in the production and distribution of a commodity. Certain supply chains (notably in the cocoa industry) have been known to incorporate labor trafficking in the early sections of the sequence.

Talibé: A boy studying the Quran at a daara (Quranic school), usually in West Africa. These boys are often later exploited as street beggars by their 'spiritual leaders,' or marabout.

Transplant tourism: When patients travel abroad to purchase organs for transplants. It has led to organ trafficking.

Ukuthwala: Practice of abducting young girls and forcing them into marriage (often with the parent's consent) in South Africa.

Useful French Search Terms

La traite des personnes/ le trafic d'êtres humains: human trafficking

Traite à des fins d'exploitation sexuelle: sex trafficking

Traite à des fins d'exploitation de main-d'œuvres: labor trafficking

(for information on Burundi, Chad, the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Madagascar, Rwanda, Togo, Senegal, Niger, Mali, Gabon, Côte d'Ivoire, Comoros, Cameroon, Benin, Burkina Faso, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Guinea, Mauritius, Seychelles)

Anti-Trafficking Legislation

- 26 countries have criminalized the trafficking of men, women, and children.⁴
- Only 6 countries criminalize forced marriage.
- Current legislation on human trafficking in Benin, Burundi, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Guinea, and Togo covers only child trafficking.⁵
- However, legislation in existence does not guarantee its effective implementation and practice. Access to country by country information on prosecutions is provided in the Resources section.

TIP Report Rankings

Tier 3 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa include:

Burundi, Central African Republic, Comoros, Democratic Republic of Congo, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, South Sudan, Sudan

Resources

- <http://www.refworld.org/docid/585ba7144.html> : A country-by-country report providing information, statistics and legislation relating to human trafficking in every Sub-Saharan African country.
- <https://www.globallaveryindex.org/region/sub-saharan-africa/> : A useful report (updated yearly) containing many statistics on human trafficking as it pertains to the Sub-Saharan African region.
- https://www.researchgate.net/publication/237769872_AN_OVERVIEW_OF_HUMAN_TRAFFICKING_IN_SUB-SAHARAN_AFRICA : An overview of human trafficking in the Sub-Saharan African region, written by Professor Carol Allais of the University of South Africa.
- [http://www.eif.gov.cy/mlsi/dl/genderequality.nsf/0/12D2A22FAC60DA74C22579A6002D950A/\\$file/poverty_and_human_trafficking.pdf](http://www.eif.gov.cy/mlsi/dl/genderequality.nsf/0/12D2A22FAC60DA74C22579A6002D950A/$file/poverty_and_human_trafficking.pdf) : An extensive UN study undertaken to report on human trafficking in Sub-Saharan Africa.