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Page 1: Survey overview

Q1 Please provide a name or affiliation to be associated with the submission.

Dr. Claire Healy, Research Coordinator, ICMPD Anti-Trafficking Programme

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Q2 Please provide an email address at which we can reach the author.

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Q3 Do you consent to the submission being published on this site?   **Yes**

Q4 What can we expect from tomorrow's slavery? The report will consider current trends and dynamics in contemporary forms of slavery. We welcome concise inputs addressing: current prevalence estimates and patterns, modelling of risks and vulnerabilities, to better understand major risk factors for modern slavery, and analysis of how slavery is being impacted by major socioeconomic, technological and political developments, such as: conflict trends, labour market changes, demographic developments, climate change, shifting gender norms, any other relevant major social trends.   Please share your views on (1) major slavery risk factors, (2) oncoming risk-multipliers and (3) how you predict these will change what slavery will look like in the future. Please also feel free to share relevant sources you think should be considered. Answer in the box below, up to 1,000 words, or as part of a single 10-page submission to antislavery@unu.edu.

Our trafficking research at ICMPD has focused on the interlinkages between conflict, migration, refugees and trafficking in persons, including trafficking for sexual exploitation, labour exploitation, forced criminality, forced marriage and deprivation of liberty for extortion. The qualitative research that we have conducted in Syria and its neighbouring countries and along migration routes to Europe (Balkan and Mediterranean routes) did not provide estimates of prevalence. However, based on the vulnerabilities caused by conflict and the need to embark on irregular migration journeys contribute to an incidence of trafficking that is rarely officially identified due to IDPs, refugees and other people migrating irregularly not commonly being considered at-risk groups, and because forms such as labour exploitation, forced criminality and deprivation of liberty for extortion are not commonly the focus of anti-trafficking policies and initiatives. Looking to the future, we know that wherever there is violent conflict and displacement, there will be vulnerabilities to trafficking and other related abuses, and therefore trafficking prevention, first and foremost, as well as an anti-trafficking response must be built into responses to conflict and displacement from the beginning, rather than being an after-thought.

In terms of migration trends, if transit and destination countries continue to make it difficult or impossible for refugees and other migrants to travel to a safe country in order to apply for international protection or to work and improve their prospects and those of their families, then traffickers and other abusers will continue to take advantage of this need to travel irregularly in order to exploit people and subject them to sexual and labour exploitation, forced criminality (including forced migrant smuggling) and deprivation of liberty for extortion. In addition, the demands of the labour markets of countries of destination should be met through legal migration programmes at all skill levels, in order to ensure that people migrating to another country to work can do so regularly and have effective access to labour rights and other human rights. Research has shown that not having a regular migration status makes people particularly vulnerable to labour exploitation and far less likely to report their case to the authorities. Traffickers and exploiters may use this as a threat and a means of control over people who are afraid that they will be deported if they report to the authorities.

Specifically for asylum applicants and refugees, their vulnerabilities to trafficking and other abuses once they arrive in a country of destination are exacerbated by long and unjust asylum procedures. While waiting for a decision on their case, they may not be allowed to work and are therefore more vulnerable to exploitation. If they receive a negative decision, they may be particularly desperate.

For the full research findings on these issues and others, see: https://www.icmpd.org/fileadmin/ICMPD-Website/2019/New_Strive_Study_Final.pdf and https://www.icmpd.org/our-work/capacity-building/programmes/anti-trafficking-programme/trafficking-and-the-syrian-war/ and https://www.icmpd.org/fileadmin/user_upload/ICMPD_Working_Paper_Healy.pdf and https://www.icmpd.org/fileadmin/user_upload/Policy_Brief_-_What_are_the_protection_concerns_for_migrants_and_refugees_in_Libya_-_ICMPD_November_2017.pdf and https://www.icmpd.org/fileadmin/1_2018/Bridging_the_Gap_between_Migration__Asylum_and_Anti-Trafficking.pdf

Q5 Today's anti-slavery. This section will take stock of the current anti-slavery movement and provide an overview of what we know about what works in tackling modern slavery at the national, regional and global level. The section will then analyse what this tells us about which aspects of tomorrow's potential slavery might be tackled and/or prevented by today's anti-slavery strategies, and which aspects may require new strategies. Please share your views on (1) what is known about 'what works' in anti-slavery policy, programming and strategies, (2) whether contemporary anti-slavery efforts are organized in a way that reflects this understanding of effective strategies, and (3) what might need to be changed in anti-slavery efforts to better build on 'what works' and/or address gaps in our programming and strategies. Again, please feel free to share relevant sources you think should be considered. Answer in the box below, up to 1,000 words, or as part of a single 10-page submission to antislavery@unu.edu.

Initiatives to combat slavery, trafficking, exploitation and other abuses too often focus on the response after the fact, i.e.: protection of victims and prosecution of perpetrators, as well as determining the prevalence. The field as a whole needs to shift towards paying far more attention and developing a far better and more nuanced understanding of how to prevent these abuses from happening in the first place. This must move beyond broad terms like addressing "the root causes of migration" and "the vulnerabilities of women and children" to understanding what specific constellation of factors leads to somebody being abused in this way, and therefore how we can effectively prevent, or at least reduce it.
Based on our research, this includes:
- recognising that in certain contexts, men and boys can be more vulnerable than women and girls, because protection responses in general are more focused on women and girls;
- understanding that restrictive migration policies and inadequate international protection (refugee) policies and practices have the unintended side effect of increasing vulnerability to abuses and increasing the incidence of abuses; and
- Examining people's real-life situation through research and by consulting directly with people who may be vulnerable to abuses, and with survivors, in order to understand what would really help them (e.g. it may be the possibility to earn a decent living, rather than being placed in a protection programme).

Q6 Tomorrow's anti-slavery. This section will explore how the anti-slavery movement can adapt to effectively tackle current and future drivers of modern slavery, including new technologies, methods and partnerships.   Please share your views on the new methods and partnerships as well as technologies and tools, including potential risks, that are emerging that could help tackle tomorrow's slavery, today. Once again, please share relevant sources you think should be considered. You can either provide answers of up to 1,000 words in the box below or e-mail antislavery@unu.edu

N/A