

**REVISITING THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING
PARADIGM:
THE BANGLADESH EXPERIENCE**

PART ONE: TRAFFICKING OF ADULTS

**Prepared for the Trafficking Thematic Group
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CHAPTER 1

Human Trafficking: Some Inconsistencies with the Sector's present Definitions and Paradigm

A. OVERVIEW

For the past ten years, the phrase “human trafficking¹” has been used to address a wide variety of crimes and human rights abuses associated with the recruitment, movement and sale of people into a range of “exploitative” or “slave-like circumstances.” The problem with the present “human trafficking paradigm” is that many of the definitions used to define this social phenomenon are often limited in their scope and do not adequately reflect the totality of the problem. Likewise, few attempts have been made to develop usable conceptual frameworks that allow for the many variables to be encompassed under a single umbrella.

To illustrate this point, ask most people who are directly associated with the “human trafficking” sector what the phrase really means to them and you will get a wide variety of different definitions and descriptions. Because the concept of “human trafficking” is a social phenomena that is made up of many dimensions and many discrete steps, it is very difficult to easily encapsulate all of the variables into one agreed upon definition or framework. For example, depending on the person questioned, trafficking might be defined any number of ways -- as a legal problem; a human rights problem; a gender problem; a child labor problem; a health problem; a migration problem or a combination of one or more of these. Likewise, depending on how a given person defines the problem, his/her definitions will dictate what solutions are proposed -- legal problems require legal solutions, gender problems require gender solutions, etc. In summary, even after nearly ten years, the sector still lacks a consistent conceptual clarity among those who are working to reduce the problem.

The purpose of this analytical document is to provide a brief overview of some of the inconsistencies in the existing “human trafficking” paradigm. Once outlined, the text will then begin an analysis of the present “trafficking framework,” as it

¹ Other related phrases often used include “girl trafficking,” “child trafficking,” “women and child trafficking,” or simple “trafficking.”

relates to the Bangladesh context -- breaking the problem down into its basic components.

The paper will also challenge some of the present human trafficking assumptions and concepts, along with the overall scope of the problem, to ensure that as the response to this sector grows and expands, the frameworks used to describe it are able to keep pace. For example, over the past twenty years, the HIV/AIDS sector has “reinvented” itself many times to keep pace with new information and insights into this problem that continually arise. The same process is needed in the human trafficking sector at this time.

Note that this document will focus on human trafficking as it relates to **adults** (those over the age of 18). Another report on the issue as it relates to children (1-12 years of age) will follow.

B. HUMAN TRAFFICKING DEFINITIONS

Definitions

Many definitions used to articulate the human trafficking problem include statements that focus on what “occurs” as part of this process of moving and placing a person into a particular “slave-like condition.” For example, the *UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons* defines trafficking as follows:

“Trafficking in persons’ shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs.”

In many ways, this definition is very similar to others used by different organizations. To illustrate this point, the US Government has defined human trafficking as follows:

“All acts involved in the recruitment, transport, harboring and sale of persons within and across international borders through deception or fraud, coercion or force, or debt bondage, for the purpose of placing a person in a situation of forced labor or services, such as forced prostitution or sexual services, domestic servitude or other forms of slavery-like practices.”

Deficiencies with Existing Definitions

These particular definitions, along with many others, tend to focus on three basic elements:

- The movement and trade/sale of a person;
- The techniques used to bring about a condition for this movement (e.g. deception, fraud, violence, etc.); and
- A listing that relates to the “purpose” for the above-mentioned actions (e.g. forced labor, prostitution, slave-like practices, etc.).

What the definitions do not clearly address are:

- The actual “outcome” of the trafficking event (e.g. the situation a person is placed into);
- The various tortures, rapes, intimidation, and threats used to ensure that a person complies with their new situation; and
- The “slave-like” conditions they must endure over time.

Note that the definitions up above state that these actions will be done “**for the purpose of placing**” a person into a situation of forced labor or services or “**for the purpose of exploitation.**” Thus, the definition does not directly “include” or focus on the outcome of this placement – the “slave-like condition” itself. While the “outcome” is often implied within most “trafficking paradigms,” technically, it is not there within many definitions.

What is the point being made about these definitions? The answer is that most anti-trafficking definitions focus on the recruitment, movement and transport of people “**into something.**” In the absence of the “outcome” being included in the definition (in the receiving location/country), only a portion of the “real” issue is

being dealt with. In other words, many definitions only address a part of the essential elements that make up the overall problem or “harm.”² As an analogy, it is like focusing on everything that leads up to a rape, without including the rape itself as part of the problem.

As our research, understanding and interventions revolving around the “human trafficking” sector expand, there may need to be a change in the present conceptual frameworks and definitions to better articulate the “outcome” of what we call “human trafficking” – e.g. commercial sexual exploitation, domestic servitude, and other slavery-like practices. For example, the US Government definition could be greatly strengthened by adding two words – “for the purpose of placing ***and maintaining*** a person....”

The Word “Trafficking” Itself

Over the past few years, a host of new terms and phrases have begun to surface to address a variety of different situations that are considered to be somehow associated with human trafficking. For example, the term “reverse trafficking” is used in Sri Lanka to describe the phenomenon of pedophiles coming to the country to molest children. In another context, the term “reverse trafficking” (Nepal) is sometimes used to describe when a person who had once been trafficked to a place, is then forced to return back to her country of origin (repatriate) against her will. In other words, following a raid, she is told that she must go home even though she may have accepted her present lot in life and wants to stay where she is. Another phrase, “virtual trafficking,” denotes the use of children in pornographic videos that are exported throughout the world.

The problem with these new phrases is that they do not have any real relationship with the accepted definitions of trafficking -- they do not denote the process of moving or transporting people into exploitative work-type situations. Likewise, the phrases themselves provide no clarity without a detailed explanation being offered.

As more elements of the human trafficking sector begin to surface, if this trend of creating new phrases around the word “trafficking” persists, instead of introducing clarity, they will probably continue to confuse those who are not aware of the problem. Likewise, if the definition of this problem continues to expand under the overall heading “trafficking,” which will always have a strong association with the

² Chapter three will provide a detailed description of the “trafficking harm” as outlined in this document.

“movement of something” (e.g. drugs, weapons, people, etc.) one wonders whether the framework might someday face major limitations. For example, assuming an attempt is made to eventually expand all the various definitions to encompass the “outcome,” the present phrase (human trafficking) might need to be replaced with another set of words to better articulate the essence of the problem.

C. OTHER INCONCISTENCIES IN THE TRAFFICKING PARADIGM

Human Trafficking and the Sex Industry

Another basic weakness with the present “human trafficking” paradigm is that while most definitions imply that the process is open to a range of different exploitative outcomes, there seems to be a disproportionate emphasis on “human trafficking” into the sex trade. There are a number of different reasons offered to explain this trend:

- The sex industry is more visible than other “slave-like” circumstances (domestic servitude, underground factories, camel jockeys, etc.);
- Because of the strong “moral” implications surrounding the whole concept of “forced” prostitution, many groups feel a need to aggressively address this problem;
- There are some groups that feel that all forms of prostitution are inherently exploitative and therefore all migrant sex workers/prostitutes are trafficking victims;
- Because it is easier for activists and NGO representatives to elicit funding for “forced prostitution” than it is for other sectors (e.g. it is considered more shocking than most other outcomes, especially if underage girls are involved); and
- Because so little is known about the circumstances surrounding domestic servitude, abusive factory conditions, organized begging and the like, it is less easy to put an “action plan” into place to combat these other problems.

In the absence of more research and programming regarding some of these other “slave-like” conditions, the emphasis on “sex work/prostitution” will continue to grow at the expense of these other exploitative work/work-like circumstances. Thus, it is imperative that the “human trafficking” framework place an emphasis on addressing all of the abuses inherent, not just the trafficking of women and girls into the sex industry.

Human Trafficking and the HIV/AIDS Sector

On another issue related to the sex industry, up until now the trafficking sector and the HIV/AIDS prevention sector have followed very different tracks. The HIV/AIDS development workers argue that if anti-trafficking efforts take place in brothels (e.g. raids, arrests, etc), the madams and the pimps will blame them for these problems and their programs will be disrupted or stopped. As a result, protection efforts (e.g. awareness of HIV/AIDS, negotiation skills training, condom promotion, etc.) would be lost and HIV/AIDS rates would undoubtedly increase.

On the other hand, many people feel that women who have been trafficked are more vulnerable to HIV/AIDS because they have fewer choices. With this in mind, there are those in the anti-trafficking sector who feel that HIV/AIDS prevention groups that work with madams and pimps (the people who are often the ones buying and selling the trafficked persons) are indirectly supporting the trafficking process.

While there may be good reasons for keeping these sectors separate, many representatives from both sides are beginning to question whether it might be worthwhile looking for common ground between these two developmental goals, whereby both HIV/AIDS prevention and anti-trafficking objectives can somehow be achieved. This is just one example to illustrate that there are many potential linkages between the “human trafficking” sector and other developmental sectors that have not been well explored. Note that this subject will be addressed elsewhere within this document.

Trafficking and Migration

Another curious element of the present “human trafficking” paradigm is that it nearly always relates to women and children – never to men. While many women and children are trafficked into exploitative circumstances, there are also many men who go abroad and suffer a similar fate (abusive and exploitative labor conditions). Thus, when women or children go overseas and are exploited, they fall into the category of “human trafficking.” On the other hand, the same term is almost never used to describe what happens to men. When a man goes overseas and is abused and exploited, it continues to be called “migration.”

Illegal migration is often confused with trafficking. In some ways, many trafficking events are defined by the endpoint of a migratory process -- if the

process goes well, it is migration; if the process does not, it is trafficking. While most trafficking has an element of migration involved (at least for adults), there are many migration stories that have happy endings – e.g. the person is happy with the outcome.

The complexity of distinguishing trafficking from migration makes the analysis of trafficking difficult. The demarcation between the two phenomena is often a question of perception. Attempts to draw a clear line between migration and trafficking have been described as working in “terminological minefields.” The generalization in identifying the difference between the two concepts can be misleading. Likewise, attempts by some to “ring-fence” trafficking as an isolated and peculiar phenomenon unconnected to migration, has made it increasingly difficult to locate and understand trafficking.

Our present traditional, theoretical understanding can no longer resolve the ambiguities and uncertainties concerning migration and trafficking. It warrants a new theoretical framework for providing a clear picture and analytical understanding of the issue. This broader conceptual sense is required to analyze trafficking in its totality. To understand the violation of human rights, prevention, rescue, rehabilitation and integration interventions for trafficked survivors, the sector must be explored in the context of migration, migratory trends, patterns and outcomes. Thus, in some respects, policy guidelines to address trafficking for adults must have provisions for subverting trafficking by enabling access to affordable and safe migration (note the same statement is not applicable for children).

Human Trafficking and Age

Another problem in the “human trafficking” sector is the regular association of women and children in the same category as if they shared the same level of dependency and inability to exert their own “will” or “agency.” When women and children are combined together under the same heading like this, it implies that women are unable to make any choices for themselves and that they are totally dependent on others for their life decisions. This does a disservice to women and tends to underestimate their abilities to make major life choices.

Likewise, entirely different interventions are required when addressing the needs of different age groups. For example, there is a big difference in the services and the manner in which a child and an adult need to be addressed after being the victim of an exploitative situation.

Trafficking and the Element of Time

For many persons who are “trafficked,” the situation they face changes over time from being initially highly exploitative, to less so as time passes. This is because the steps involved in the trafficking process are generally set up to bring about a transition – from one rejecting a particular role they are forced into, to them eventually accepting it over time through a process of subjugation. This transition often happens with sex workers/prostitutes who are forced into the industry against their will. At some point, after coming to the conclusion that this is their “lot in life,” many chose to stay within the brothel setting – they come to realize that they have nothing to go back to after being “spoiled.” Many also begin to piece together a life that includes relationships with co-workers and regular clients (e.g. in some cases lovers).

Thus, the entry points at which organizations can effectively intervene under the heading of “anti-trafficking” are somewhat time-bound – from the point at which a person is recruited, transported, placed into a “slave-like” circumstance (trafficking outcome) and throughout the period during which they don’t want to be doing the work forced upon them. Once a person crosses over the line to “accepting” their situation, attempts to impose a change in this person’s life might in itself be considered a violation of their rights³.

This conceptualization that trafficking events have a certain time-bound element, is seldom addressed in most “human trafficking” programs.

Confusion over Voluntarism and Trafficking

In some parts of the world, people are trafficked into situations with no awareness that they will eventually be exploited. In this case, the person is looked at as a “true victim” for which something needs to be done to “right” a “wrong.” However, if there is even a hint of “voluntarism” associated with a person’s choice to enter into some kind of an employment/work-like situation, it is somehow looked at much differently. For example, if a Nepalese girl is tricked into leaving her community, taken to a brothel, sold and then forced to offer sex against her will, this is considered a clear case of trafficking. However, if a young Thai woman leaves her village willingly, knowing that she might enter into the sex trade, but after starting she decides that this was not what she wanted but can’t

³ This does not hold for minors for which by law, action is required to protect them.

leave because of threats, etc, for some, this is not considered trafficking. Why? Because she somehow “got what she deserved.”

The intent of the human trafficking paradigm is to help ALL those who find themselves in a situation where they lose their freedom to control what they want to do because they fall under the influence of dept bondage, coercion, force or threats. The question of voluntarism, however, is still often confused because it has not been well defined in most “human trafficking” programs.

D. CONCLUDING STATEMENT

The purpose of this first chapter was to raise a number of inconsistencies with the present definitions and frameworks used to address the “human trafficking” paradigm. This was done to provide a foundation for exploring this sector in more detail throughout this document.

CHAPTER 2

Thematic Working Group Overview

A. THE FORMATION OF THE BANGLADESH THEMATIC GROUP

On September 26, 2002, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) organized a roundtable discussion entitled “*Anti-Trafficking Initiatives: Bangladesh and Regional Perspectives.*” The meeting included representatives from the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, Home Affairs, Police Headquarters, ADB, CIDA, PSU-CIDA, NORAD, USAID, UNIFEM, Care Bangladesh, Save the Children Denmark, Focal Point Save the Children Alliance, ATSEC Bangladesh Chapter, Rights Jessore, INCIDIN Bangladesh, Ain-O-Salish Kendra, News Network and RAMRU (Dhaka University). The main objective of this event was “to discuss various conceptual and definitional aspects of the human trafficking sector in Bangladesh and South Asia.”

Following a series of presentations, the group discussed and debated problems that existed in the trafficking sector. As one person stated, “*I sometimes feel like we have the same meeting over and over again when we talk about trafficking. Within the first fifteen minutes, we end up arguing about the same things that have come up in past meetings. This is why I think we need to really sit down and sort what we mean by trafficking once and for all.*” Another person indicated, “*It is time that we look at what trafficking is after ten years. We need to be thinking about a “second generation” understanding of the trafficking problem.*”

Following this in-depth discussion, the representatives concluded the following:

- Many trafficking definitions being used tend to be limited in their scope and do not reflect the totality of the problem;
- There are many inconsistencies in the existing human trafficking paradigm that have yet to be resolved here in Bangladesh;
- The sector still lacks conceptual clarity among even those who are working to reduce the problem; and
- There is a need to “rethink” some of our previous assumptions to restructure and revise/expand our understanding of the problem.

To address these conclusions, it was recommended that a systematic process be adopted to formally “*come to terms*” with the trafficking paradigm in Bangladesh.

As an outcome of this suggestion, a series of thematic subgroups were formed, which would meet monthly to review various elements of the trafficking paradigm. The subgroups included the following: 1) definition; 2) prevention; 3) rehabilitation; and 4) prosecution;

IOM was selected as the coordinator for these meetings. To help manage the process, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) provided a small grant to IOM to hire a program officer to help with the logistical support. It was decided that the program would last between 12 and 16 months. USAID agreed to provide facilitation for the overall process. This included chairing all of the meetings and pulling together all of the suggestions made during each session.

B. THEMATIC GROUP MEETINGS

The first set of meetings for each of the four subgroups occurred in October 2001. Each subsequent meeting took place every three or four-weeks. To begin the first session, a conceptual diagram was created for the specific subgroups to initiate the discussion. The participants reviewed the “visual” and made suggestions that resulted in complete revisions. Each subsequent meeting further refined the diagrams.

After four meetings of each of the subgroups, the “definition,” “prevention” and “rehabilitation” representatives decided that these three groups should be combined together. It was felt that there were too many overlapping issues that needed to be addressed for them to be holding separate meetings. The “prosecution” subgroup, however, remained separate since this subject was considered more technical and required more detailed discussions to better understand the dynamics of the legal system.

From the beginning, the new “combined” thematic group set the following “guiding principles” for each session:

- The process itself is as important as the outcome;
- The outcome of the process has no ownership (e.g. diagrams, text, matrixes, etc) – anyone can use the materials for whatever purpose they want;
- Anyone is welcome to attend the meetings;
- The conceptualization process should be based on what the group feels is important and relevant, not necessarily what exists within the literature;

- Anything and everything should be questioned and debated until a consensus is reached;
- There is no limit to what element of the problem can be introduced;
- All views are welcomed and will be given due consideration; and
- There will be three different paradigms produced over time: one for adults, one for adolescents (13-18) and one for children (1-12)⁴

To date, the participants attending these meetings have included representatives from Government, donors, INGOs, NGOs, universities, and law enforcement agencies. The numbers have ranged from 20 to 50. Each meeting lasts approximately two hours. On occasions, guest speakers have been asked to make short presentations related to a specific trafficking subject. Up until March 2003, a total of 38 meetings have been held.

C. THE “MATRIX “FOR THE ADULT PARADIGM

By the fourth set of meetings, what started off as a series of single-sheet conceptual diagrams, began to change into a large matrix made up of ten pages that were taped together. The advantage of this was that it allowed all of the elements to be brought together in one place. This change helped the representatives to better understand the linkages that exist throughout the entire process of trafficking. As one person stated *“I can now see the relationships between prevention and rehabilitation when I look at the matrix. I also am able to better understand the elements that make up the problem.”* Another person made the statement, *“After seeing the various elements that motivate a person to migrate, I can now see that poverty is just one contributing factor – this will help us to come up with information campaigns that allow us to really tailor our messages.”*

During each meeting, the thematic group revisits the matrix. If there are elements that are unclear or need to be changed, the participants make suggestions. This has helped to ensure that the matrix truly reflects Bangladesh’s trafficking realities.

D. PROCESS VERSUS OUTCOME

There are two basic outcomes of this project – the “process” itself and the outcome of this process -- the matrix (Refer to Figure A for an overview of the matrix). For many, the discussions that take place during these meetings have turned out to be invaluable. As one participant stated, *“I really enjoy attending these meetings.*

⁴ It was decided that the adult paradigm would be developed first.

They help me to understand things that I was confused about.” Another person stated, *“This is the first forum I’ve sat in that has people who used to argue all the time, agreeing with each other. Since the elements of the problem are discussed from a logical and rational perspective, it is easier to get a consensus.”* Thus, in developing such frameworks, the process itself helped those working in the sector to see inconsistencies inherent within the present working definitions.

The matrix itself has also turned out to be a useful tool. As an example, a woman in Canada who is working with persons who have been exploited has taught them to use the chart to teach others about exploitation. She stated in an e-mail, *“The chart (matrix) helps these women to organize their thoughts and also provides them with some credibility – to show that they have a brain and know how to use it.”* Several women from this group traveled to a UN sponsored youth conference at The Hague (January 2002). There, they presented it to 500 high school students who spent several hours discussing and debating the elements of the chart to help them to understand the trafficking problem. The program was considered a great success. The High Commission for Human Rights also used the matrix as a reference while developing their “United Nations Principles on Human Rights and Human Trafficking” document. These are only two examples, among many, that have been outcomes of this process.

E. WHY ARE MATRIXES IMPORTANT?

Even after nearly ten years, there is a dearth of conceptual frameworks available that provide a good overview of the “human trafficking” sector. Such frameworks are needed to help those who are not well-versed in the subject to better understand the relationships that exist between various factors within the “human trafficking” paradigm. Unlike reports that describe a problem using text (often in an abstract way), a framework (matrix) can help a person to instantly visualize the inter-related elements of a problem. This allows for a group of people to be brought “up to speed” very quickly.

Another important difference between this framework and most others is that it is “person-centered.” In other words, the various boxes and arrows are used to depict that a person goes through a particular process from the point at which they are recruited to the point at which they are integrated back into society. This makes it easier for people to understand the overall trafficking experience, with its numerous steps.

Finally, since most trafficking frameworks try to take a macro-level perspective, they tend to over-generalize the problem – thus creating confusion. Such approaches make it more difficult to clearly define the many factors that make up a trafficking event and also make it difficult to integrate “human rights” principles (many of which are person centered) into the conceptualization. An attempt was made to avoid this problem during the matrix development process.

F. STATUS OF THE MATRIX (FLOWCHART)

In November 2002, a two-day “Expert Meeting” took place to bring together nine professionals from within the region to further refine and conceptualize the elements presented in the flowchart. Following this event, the adult paradigm has gone through another round of revisions.

In January 2003, the Adult version of the matrix was developed into an “interim flowchart” (poster size) which is being circulated within Bangladesh and throughout South Asia. This flowchart is in both English and Bengali. The purpose of this step is to begin using the matrix as a tool to help professionals to better understand the complexity of the trafficking phenomenon.

In February 2003, the flowchart was used for the first time as a tool to orient representatives from throughout South Asia in a regional workshop to orient

To help explain the rationale and justification for the various boxes/arrows that make up the flowchart, a detailed, comprehensive report is being written. In addition, a “PowerPoint” version is also being developed that can be used as a tool to educate managers who are working in the trafficking sector.

Since this first flowchart focuses on the trafficking paradigm for adults, beginning in June 2002, a second “child trafficking paradigm” was initiated. This process will be completed in June 2003. The adolescent version will be prepared beginning in June 2003.

E. WHAT WILL FOLLOW IN THIS DOCUMENT

The remainder of this document will attempt to provide a description of the “matrix,” the assumptions that were used to come up with it and the rationale for placing each element where it is located. It is important to have a copy of this available when reading through this document⁵.

It is also important to note that the matrix described in this document addresses **adult trafficking** only – one that addresses the needs of children is in the process of being developed and should be available by September 2002. Since there are an entirely different set of issues related to children who are trafficked, the paradigm for this age group is not the same.

Throughout the text, the remaining chapters will refer to specific alphabetized sections of the matrix. Each section is also color-coded to add further clarity. The purpose of the remainder of this document is to “walk” a person through the matrix – describing the rationale and logic outlined in each section.

⁵ Copies of the “matrix” can be obtained from the IOM/Dhaka office. For more information, contact IOM at the following E-mail address < ctthem@dhaka.net>.

CHAPTER 3

The Adult Flowchart: An Overview

A. INTRODUCTION TO THE FLOWCHART

As noted above, one of the major outcomes of the Bangladesh Thematic Group's work was the creation of a elaborate flowchart entitled: *Dynamics and Strategies for addressing Trafficking in Persons: A New Paradigm – Adult Scenario*. This flowchart has been printed on poster-size paper (60 x 90 centimeters) and is available free of charge by sending an email to the following address cttem@dhaka.net.

To fully understand how to use the flowchart, it is best to either receive a presentation on the subject from someone within the Thematic Group or to read this document. Like many conceptual tools, the flowchart itself is not meant to be self-explanatory.

The layout of the flowchart includes 20 major components that are lettered from A to R (e.g. Chart A, Chart B, etc.) Each of these components is linked with different colored arrows that allow one to track a trafficking case from the point at which a person is recruited to the point at which he/she integrates back into society. While this report includes individual breakdowns of each of the components (as figures in the text), it is best to use the actual flowchart itself to see how all of the elements link together.

When reviewing the flowchart, note that it is color coded as followed:

- Red: Trafficking Harm/Exploitation
- Blue: Non Harm/Migration Outcome
- Orange: Post-Harm Elements
- Green: Recovery/Social Integration
- Purple: Intervention Efforts
- Brown: Human Rights and Legal Elements

B. LAYOUT OF THE FLOWCHART

The flowchart addresses the following major components:

- The migratory process;
- The trafficking “harm/exploitation;”
- A list of ways in which a person transcends the trafficking harm/exploitation;
- Geographical outcome of the post-trafficking period;
- Recovery;
- Socio-economic integration (rebuilding of a person’s life); and
- Successful or unsuccessful integration criteria.

Additional components are also present on the flowchart to provide a context for better understanding underlying assumptions and related elements. These include:

- A description of Safe Migration;
- A listing of factors that can maintain safe migration or the trafficking harm;
- Demand dynamics related to trafficking and migration; and
- Access to justice and legal action.

C. INTERVENTIONS

For many of the components, there are a series of purple boxes that offer a list of interventions that can be used to address the problem. Note that these lists present only a sample of possible interventions – they are not meant exhaustive.

CHAPTER 4

Defining and Addressing the Trafficking “Harm/Exploitation”

A. INTRODUCTION

This chapter will begin by describing what the Bangladesh Thematic Group defined as the human trafficking “harm/exploitation.” In doing this, it will provide an alternative way of looking at the “outcome” of a trafficking episode. It will also provide insights into what factors allow a trafficking “harm environment” to exist in a given society and how “demand dynamics” can play an active role in the overall process.

B. THE ESSENCE OF THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING PROBLEM

Trafficking “Harm/Exploitation”

To begin the process of analyzing the existing human trafficking paradigm, it is essential that basic elements of the problem be broken down into their component parts. To do this, one of the first steps that the Bangladesh Thematic Group focused on was a discussion/debate related to the following questions:

- **Within what has been called the human trafficking sector, what is the PRIMARY “harm”⁶ or “problem” that we are trying to address?**
- **In other words, what brings all of us “anti-trafficking types” together?**
- **What are the most relevant factors that make this a legal, human rights or developmental issue?**

After discussing this topic in great detail, the Bangladesh Thematic Group came to a consensus that the basic “harm/problem” associated with the trafficking sector is as follows:

⁶ In this case, the term “harm” represents the “injury, wrong, damage, or abuse” that we are trying to prevent or correct.

TRAFFICKING HARM/EXPLOITATION

A situation where a person no longer has control over the following elements of their life for a given period of time:

- **What type of work they do (their livelihood);**
- **Their work environment and the conditions of this work; and**
- **Their freedom of movement in the context of this work situation.**

OUTCOME: Situation of forced labor, servitude and slavery-like practices (sex work, domestic servitude, hard labor, etc.)

Since the above statement could conceivably encompass a vast array of possible exploitative social, cultural and institutional situations, the Bangladesh Thematic Group participants felt that it was important to make further distinctions between what was considered the “harm/exploitation” within the human trafficking sector, versus what might be considered something else (e.g. exploitative work in general, exploitation within the family, etc.). With this in mind, six additional elements were added to the “harm/exploitation” definition outlined above to further delineate and clarify the context of the problem as it relates to the trafficking paradigm. Refer to **CHART A** on the Flowchart or **FIGURE A** within this report⁷ for a summary of these elements.

Factors that Further Define the Trafficking “Harm/Exploitation”

- 1) **Loss of Control**: “Loss of control” represents one of the basic defining elements of this “trafficking harm.” In this case, a lack of control refers to whether or not a person can physically leave (in principle) a work or “work-like” situation if he/she wanted to. In other words -- is there something that is holding him/her in place? This might include debt bondage, physical confinement, violence, threats of violence, dependency, intimidation, etc. If the answer to this

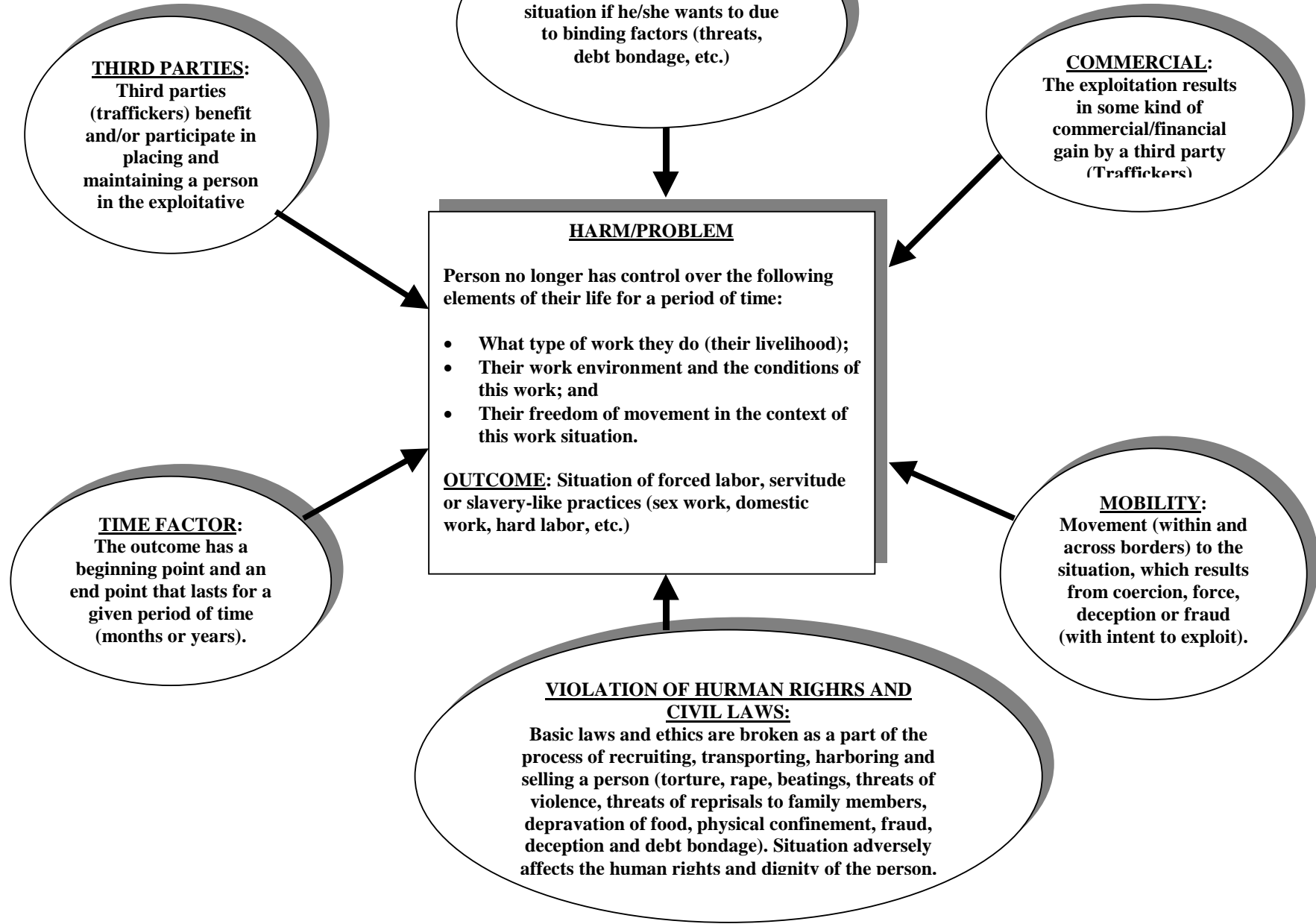
⁷ Each chart referred to in the text can be found within this report or on the actual flowchart itself. To understand how all of the pieces come together, using the flowchart is more beneficial.

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is “yes,” this represents the first distinguishing factor of the “trafficking harm.”

TRAFFICKING HARM/ EXPLOITATION

A



Example: Sushma has been trafficked from Jessore to a brothel in India. While she desperately wants to return home, she is repeatedly told that she must pay back a sum of 25,000 Taka before she can gain back her freedom. If she tries to leave before this is paid off, she is told she will be severely beaten or worse. She is watched by the *goondas* (guards) and seldom given any privileges.

This example illustrates her “lack of control” in being able to leave this situation if she wanted to.

Although many people in exploitative situations may feel that they do not really have choices (e.g. based on the limitations imposed by their poverty, family obligations, etc.), if a person can (in principle) get up and leave the situation without any reprisals or consequences, they do not fall within the trafficking “harm/exploitation.”

Example: Zareen’s husband died. To help support her two young children, she has turned to the sex industry to survive. Although she doesn’t like this situation, at this time in her life, she feels she has no other means of earning money.

While she may not perceive that she has other options, in principle, she can leave this life if she chooses to do so. Thus, this case would fall outside of the “trafficking harm/exploitation” described above.

- 2) **Third Party Involvement:** A second dimension regarding the “harm/exploitation” relates to the participation of others (e.g. family members, brokers, pimps, madams, employers, etc.) in making and influencing decisions for a person that results in an exploitative outcome. The terminology used by the Bangladesh Thematic Group to describe such a person is a “Third Party.” If a “Third Party” benefits and/or participates in placing and/or maintaining a person in an exploitative “slave-like situation” where the victim is unable to “control” his/her work-related options for a given period of time, then this represents another distinguishing factor of the “trafficking harm.”

Example: Ramesh, a local business man, approaches a family stating that he has a friend in India who would marry, Fiona, their eighteen year old daughter. He explains that this can be done without a dowry if she leaves with him on that day. Upon arriving in India, Fiona is placed into a “slave-like situation.”

In this case, Ramesh acts as the recruiter for this trafficking event. Along the way, there may be others who also benefit from this process – transporters, smugglers, border police, pimps, madams, etc. All of these individuals fall into the category of “Third Parties.”

- 3) **Commercial Nature:** To further define the trafficking “harm/exploitation,” the work-related “exploitation” must result in some kind of “commercial/financial gains” by a third party or parties. By making this distinction, it helps to separate ALL potential exploitative situations, including those that might happen within a family situation (e.g. forced work within a family setting) from those that might fall under the human trafficking paradigm. In this case, commercial refers to activities in both the formal and non-formal sectors. The third party person might be a family member, a neighbor, someone from the community or a stranger.

Example: An uncle sells his twenty-year-old niece from Bangladesh to a trafficker who plans to place her into a bangle-making factory in India. The woman is sent to Rajasthan to work seven days a week for nearly no pay. The **amount paid** to the Uncle for his assistance was Taka 23,000.

- 4) **Element of Time:** The “element of time” as it relates to a trafficking outcome is another factor that needs to be taken into account. Unlike “slavery” which is often open-ended, the outcome of human trafficking generally has a beginning point and an end point that lasts for a given period of time (sometimes months or years). In other words, the trafficking “harm/exploitation” is often a transition period in a person’s life.

Example: Sushma, an eighteen-year-old girl from Bangladesh, elopes with Pranob. After taking her to Bombay, he sells her to a brothel. After working at the brothel for two years, she is allowed to leave – perhaps to make room for a fresh recruit.

- 5) **Violation of Human Rights and Civil Laws:** The fifth element of the “trafficking harm” relates to the fact that civil laws are often broken by “third parties” as part of the process of recruiting, transporting, harboring, selling and maintaining the person. In other words, there is an underlying criminal element attached to the problem. This might include torture, rape, beatings, threats of violence, threats of reprisals to family members, deprivation of food, physical confinement, fraud, deception, and/or debt bondage. Each of these elements contributes to placing and maintaining the person into an exploitative situation. Likewise, the situation adversely affects the human rights and dignity of the person.

Example: Meena is *sold* to a trafficker. During her journey to Pakistan, she is *threatened and beaten*. Upon arriving at the border, she is *smuggled* across. When she arrives at the brothel, she is *gang raped* by several men. When she refuses to prostitute herself, she is then *tortured*.

This example demonstrates the type of crimes that are often committed leading up to and within the “trafficking harm.” The fact that she is being held there against her will is also a crime.

- 6) **Mobility:** As the final element, the movement (within or across borders) to the “trafficking harm,” often results from coercion, force, deception or fraud (with intent to exploit). For many people working in the anti-trafficking sector, this element is usually the major focus. In this conceptual framework, however, it is a relevant factor, but not the main one.

Example: Amita is taken by bus from her home in Dhaka to Jessore. There, she and four other women are *smuggled across the border* late at night. Upon arriving in India, they board a *train* that takes them to Mumbai. At every step along the way, Amita is told that she is being taken to India to work as a domestic servant in someone’s house (**deception**).

Bringing the Pieces all Together

The example provided down below shows how all of the various factors come together to clarify and define the trafficking “harm/exploitation.” Note that this “harm” does not come about from a single activity or event – it is instead a collection of activities/events that converge to create a phenomenon.

Example: Sangita, an eighteen year old garment factory worker based in Dhaka, is befriended by Ramesh, her *supervisor* in the factory (*third party involvement*). He tells her that if she goes with him, she can get a much better job in India that pays three times as much money (*deception – civil crime*). Feeling that this might be a good opportunity to earn more money for her family, she agrees to travel to India with him by *bus and train* to their destination (*mobility – cross border*). Upon arriving, she is sold to a brothel for 25,000 Rupees (*commercial transaction*). To break her in, she is tortured, raped and beaten (*civil laws broken*). For the first 14 months, Sangita is unable to leave the brothel (*no control over her life*). She is also forced to sleep with up to five men a day (*no freedom over what work she does or her work related conditions*). But over time, she begins to acquire more and more privileges. After two years, the brothel offers her an option to leave. But after hearing a regular set of stories about what life would be like in Bangladesh if her community found out she was “spoiled,” she eventually decides not to fight anymore and she chooses to stay (*time limited.*)

C) **BASIC FACTORS THAT MAINTAIN THE “HARM ENVIRONMENT”**

Since many “harm environments” (brothels, exploitative workplaces, and homes that use trafficked labor) are able to flourish unhindered in countless locations throughout South Asia, “demand” for trafficked persons becomes a major root cause of the problem. There are three generalized factors that help sustain or maintain such “harm environments,” including: personal factors; familial/societal factors; and state policies (both in the source and destination countries). Like many other variables outlined in this document, these factors influence the extent to which the trafficking “harm/exploitation” is able to exist and thrive in a given location. Below is a listing of some of the more relevant factors. Refer to **CHART E** on the Flowchart or **FIGURE E** within this report for a visual picture of these factors.

Personal Factors

One of the most important “personal factors” that maintains a person in a trafficking “harm environment” is a perceived lack of options by the victim. In

this case, the person perceives that there are no choices available to them – which may often be the case. They might also feel that their situation is out of their hands (e.g. determined by their family, guardians, employer, God, etc.). Threats of reprisals if the person were to try to leave can also act as a compelling personal factor. Whether real or perceived, fear of physical or emotional consequences often holds a person in place. Finally, geographical isolation and differences in languages allows exploiters to maintain a person within the “harm environment.”

Example: Ismail has been trafficked to Kuwait to work as a sweeper in a hotel. Upon arriving, he is brought to a place where he is forced to work 14 hours a day, seven days a week. He is also not provided with any wages. When he complains, he is told that if he doesn't do what they say, he will be beaten and then deported with no compensation. Because he doesn't speak the language and since he is isolated from anyone from his country, he is unable to do anything to help himself.

Familial/Societal Factors

Family involvement can play a major role in maintaining a person in the “harm environment.” For many, the obligation of a family member to contribute money to the family unit, irrespective of how this money is earned, can be a major factor in keeping a person within the trafficking “harm/exploitation.” Throughout South Asia, there are also well-established cultural practices such as debt bondage or *chukri*, which obligates a person to work for a given period of time to pay back a loan provided to a family. These mechanisms allow madams and factory owners to justify holding a person in place – e.g. the victim is not a slave, they are merely working to pay back money that is owed.

Example: Parveen is trafficked into a brothel after being promised a job in a garment factory. Since the person who trafficked her, provided a substantial advance (loan) to her family, if she tried to leave, her family would be held accountable to pay this money back. Thus, she is compelled to stay on behalf of her family to avoid this outcome.

The Absence of State Policies to Protect Citizens

Lack of effective law enforcement to target the exploitative situations often allows the “harm environment” to flourish. In addition, stringent migratory policies often compel people to resort to irregular and/or vulnerable migration that makes it easier for them to fall into the trafficking “harm/exploitation.” A lack of effective implementation of standard/accepted employment policies or absence of such policies in the formal or informal sectors allows exploitative work-related activities to exist unchecked. Finally, lack of effective implementation of Government policies to repatriate people can contribute to a person being stranded abroad in a vulnerable situation.

Example: Nasir, an eighteen-year-old man from Bihar, is trafficked to a factory that makes small batteries in New Delhi. He is forced to do hazardous work for eleven hours a day, with very little payment. Since there is no regulatory body in place to inspect such work places, this operation is allowed to flourish.

**FACTORS THAT
CAN MAINTAIN THE
“HARM/PROBLEM”**

Personal

E

PERCEIVED LACK OF OPTIONS

Person perceives that there are no options available to them. For example, they might feel that their situation is out of their hands (determined by their family, guardians, God, etc.) or that there is no place for them to go if they were to leave.

THREAT OF PHYSICAL OR EMOTIONAL REPRISALS

Real or perceived fear of physical or emotional consequences if a person tried to leave the situation.

ISOLATION

Geographical, language and ethnicity that adds to a feeling of isolation.

Familial/Societal

FAMILY INVOLVEMENT

Obligation of a family member to contribute money and/or support to the family unit (e.g. wife, daughter, son, etc.)

ESTABLISHED CULTURAL PRACTICES:

Long-standing cultural practices that contribute to the slave-like practices (Debt bondage, *chokri*, etc.)

State Policies

REPATRIATION POLICIES

Lack of effective implementation of Govt. policies to repatriate people stranded abroad.

INEFFECTIVE LAW ENFORCEMENT

Lack of effective law enforcement efforts targeted to address civil crimes and abuses associated with the trafficking “harm/problem.”

MIGRATION POLICIES

Existing policies often compel people to resort to illegal/irregular and vulnerable migration.

EMPLOYMENT POLICIES

Lack of effective implementation of standard/accepted employment policies or absence of such policies in the formal and informal sectors

GENDER SENSITIVE POLICIES

Lack of gender sensitive policies that take into consideration the needs/problems faced by potential migrants.

D) FACTORS THAT EFFECT DEMAND FOR TRAFFICKED PERSONS

Human trafficking is driven by two basic factors 1) the available **supply** of people who are susceptible to being tricked, manipulated and/or forced into “slave-like situations;” and 2) the **demand** created by those who use these people to fill a need for cheap, vulnerable and highly exploitative commercial sexual services and/or exploitative labor.

Up until recently, most reports related to the human trafficking sector have focused only on the supply side – the trafficked persons, their experiences, what happens to them, etc. In contrast to this, only a handful of studies have tried to address the question of “demand dynamics.” In this case, demand refers to those people/organizations/syndicates that create or influence an environment that allows for exploitative commercial sexual services or exploitative labor to exist. The limited amount of information available also differs depending upon the sub-sector of exploitation (e.g. factory work, sex work, etc.). For example, there is much more information on the sex industry than there is for domestic servitude and “sweat shop” situations, which appear to be inadequately researched.

To fully respond to the trafficking problem, more understanding is needed to address *demand factors* as a root cause of trafficking. Without this information, those who are motivated to “exploit and use” trafficked persons (e.g. the traffickers, the recruiters, the pimps, the madams, the customers who use trafficked women, etc.) will continue to remain a mystery to many of us working in this sector.

In Bangladesh, the various sectors that adults are often trafficked into include: the sex industry, domestic servitude, industrial work; hard labor; bonded labor; beggar networks; bar girls; the fishing industry, etc. To begin the discussion of **demand dynamics**, the Bangladesh Thematic Group identified that there were three general categories of persons who benefited from using “trafficked persons:”

- **Third parties who recruit and traffick persons (traffickers);**
- **Employers who use trafficked persons; and**
- **Consumers who benefit from trafficked labor.**

Below is a summary of each of these groups along with a description of what the motivation for their seeking trafficked labor is. Refer to **CHART G** on the

Flowchart or **FIGURE G** within this report for an overview of the trafficking demand dynamics.

- **Third Parties who Recruit and Transport Trafficked Persons:** This first category represents the recruiters, smugglers and traffickers. Those who fall into this group are varied, often including family members, friends, neighbors, community representatives, gang members, and strangers. Their motivation and reasons for seeking trafficking victims include the following: to make a quick profit; it is easy to recruit and transport persons with little or not resistance (using deception, fraud and coercion); in Bangladesh, there is little chance of them getting caught and punished; and a good market for trafficked persons exists both in-country and outside of Bangladesh.

Example: Ali is Sushma’s cousin. During a visit to India, he learns that there are people looking for young women to work in brothels. He is told that if a person can bring a pretty young woman to a particular location, they can make a lot of money very easily. Upon returning to Bangladesh, Ali decides to see if he can get his 18-year-old cousin to go with him to India for a short visit. Since he needs some money to purchase land, he decides to use this strategy. Feeling like he can get away with it, he approaches Sushma and talks her into going with him. To avoid getting into trouble with the family, he tells her that he received her father’s permission to travel with her. She believes him. They both travel to India together without anyone knowing what is going on. Upon arriving there, Sushma is sold to the brothel and Ali walks away with a large sum of money.

This example shows the opportunistic nature of many traffickers. Not all traffickers do this for a living. Some just see it as an opportunity to make some quick money.

- **Employers who use Trafficked Persons:** This category represents the brothel owners, pimps, madams, factory owners, and household owners. Their motivation for using trafficking victims include the following: excessive profit/less money for payment of those offering a service; these people are often easy to control (compliance through abuse); they fill a need for “hard to recruit” workers (e.g. sex workers, people needed to work in hazardous conditions, etc.); they require low maintenance costs; and since

they are kept from the public eye, it is hard for authorities to regulate what these people do and how they are treated (these victims are invisible to society).

Example: Mr. Sharma runs a small battery factory in Northern India. The work is difficult and dangerous and thus results in a high turnover. Since it is difficult to hire and maintain people in place, he begins resorting to taking on “trafficked persons.” Realizing that he can get much higher profits by forcing people to work longer hours with little or no pay, he continues to add more and more demands on his staff. In order to maintain compliance, he regularly beats and threatens those working in his factory. To justify keeping them there, he creates a situation where they become more and more in debt to him – from expenses incurred from housing, food, medical expenses, etc. Before long, the person is trapped in a cycle of debt bondage. Since he recruits persons from Bangladesh, who don’t understand the language or the culture, it is much easier to get them to comply with his wishes. Since there is no compliance with existing employment policies imposed by the State, his business is able to run – unchecked.

- **Consumers who benefit from Trafficked Labor:** Within the trafficking sector, there is no one stereotypical “customer type.” Customers include all classes, religions, ages and ethnic groups. This category represents a mixture of different types of people including: the clients of sex workers; consumers who buy goods that are produced by those who have been trafficked; and household owners who use domestic servants. Their motivation for using trafficking victims include the following: it reduces costs of goods and services (a visit to a brothel); and it fills demand for hard to recruit workers (domestic servants who will work excessive hours, sex workers, etc).

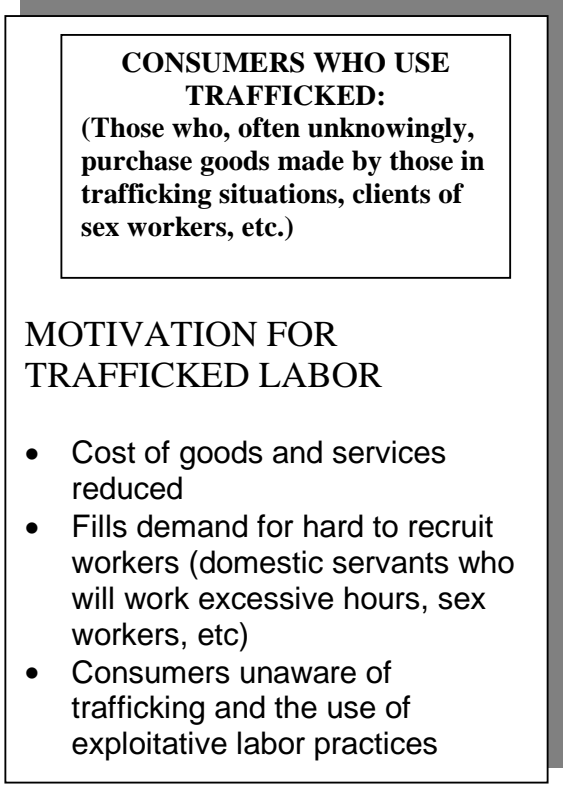
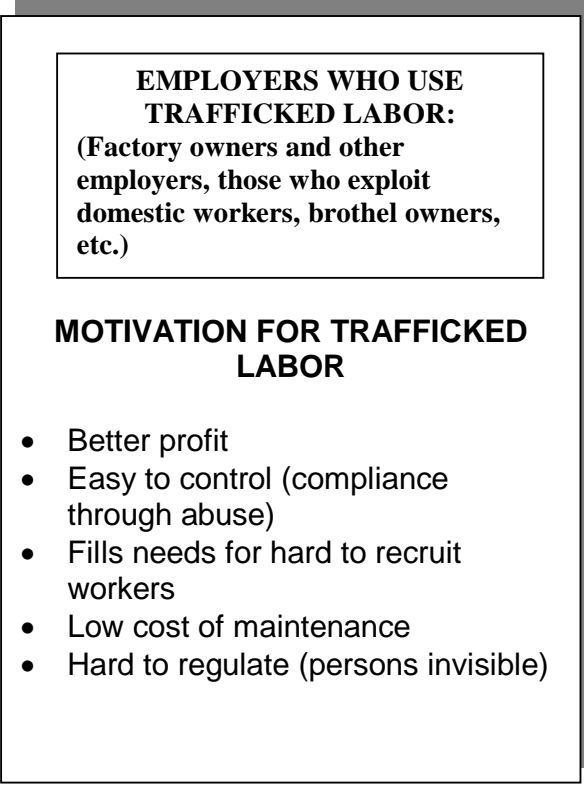
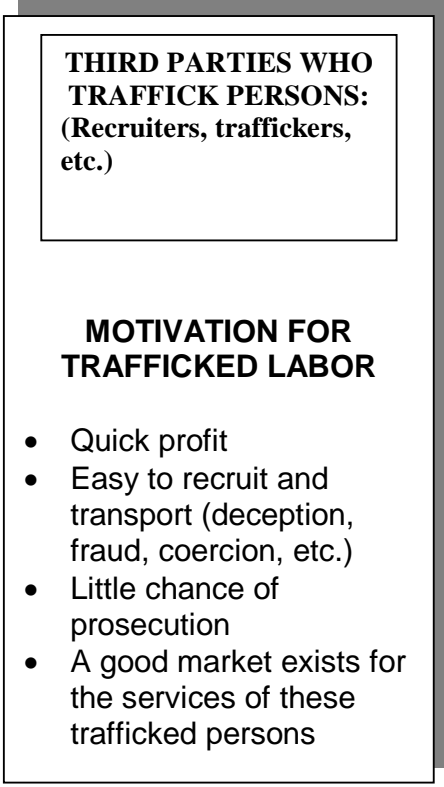
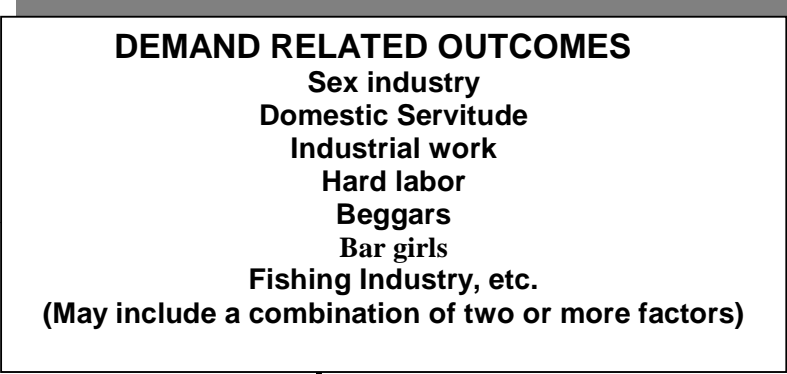
Example: Every week, Fazler travels to the local brothel to pay for sex. When asked about the girls he sleeps with, Fazler explains that they are women who have fallen – women of low moral character who can't control their own sex drive. He also goes on to explain that they are different from “good women.” They like having sex and can't get enough of it. That explains why they all actively try to seduce men each night.

Many customers of “trafficked” sex workers do not understand the situation of victimization that prevails within the sex industry. This is because they do not realize that many sex workers use seductive behaviors, not because they want to be with a particular man, but because if they don't earn enough, they will be punished.

CHART G on the flowchart or **FIGURE G** within this report provides an overview of the demand side of the equation.

TRAFFICKING DEMAND DYNAMICS

G



E. POSSIBLE INTERVENTIONS TO ADDRESS DEMAND FACTORS

CHART H on the Flowchart or *FIGURE H* within this report provides an overview of the various interventions that one can use to address demand dynamics. These interventions fall into three categories: legal action, prosecution, and prevention. Note that on the flowchart, these various columns target one or more of the three “demand categories.”

Under the heading of legal actions, there are a number of interventions that can be used to address the demand dynamics including: dissuading those who might want to get involved in recruiting and trafficking from doing so; arresting and prosecuting those who are already involved; improving the law enforcement infrastructure to take on this task; and ensuring law enforcers themselves comply with their legal responsibilities (e.g. they do not involve themselves in the crimes themselves – bribes, etc.)

Two effective activities that can be done to dissuade those who might be considering doing a trafficking-related act include publicizing trafficking arrest and conviction cases in the media to demonstrate that traffickers are being sent to jail, and providing general awareness about the implications and possible consequences of doing these crimes.

Effectively arresting and prosecuting traffickers, recruiters and those who maintain people in a slave-like condition acts as a means of preventing future trafficking events from taking place by these same persons. Likewise, it is important to arrest and prosecute those who commit crimes that are also associated with maintaining a person in the “harm environment” including, rape, torture, assault, etc. The logic behind this is that if the persons doing the trafficking are taken away to jail, the incidence of this crime will be reduced.

For law enforcement officials to take on the challenge of going after those who traffick persons, there needs to be more police training events or workshops to educate, elicit views and answer questions. Some countries have successfully set up special woman and child units to take on these crimes. These units, which often include women officers, are trained to address the special needs of persons who have been victimized by a trafficking event. Another effective approach is to have a joint bilateral agreement between Bangladesh and Indian border police to establish cooperation in addressing the cross border trafficking problem.

In some countries, law enforcement officials are part of the problem. This ranges from them turning a blind eye to trafficking events to actually being a player in the act itself. To avoid this from happening, it is important for law enforcement agencies to react swiftly to punish those who are involved by arresting or suspending them. In the absence of taking these actions, as new officers enter the force, there will be a temptation for them to also become part of the problem, not the solution.

Example: Following a “needs assessment exercise” within the police force, it is found that there is little understanding of what is human trafficking and what can be done to stop it. Based on these findings, a four-day curriculum is developed with the help of a Dhaka-based NGO. Over a six-month period, 50 officers are administered this training which helps them to better understand how the reduce trafficking within their jurisdiction.

**POTENTIAL
TRAFFICKERS**

**POSSIBLE
INTERVENTIONS**

**Dissuade
people from
becoming
involved in
trafficking**

This might include:

- Publicize cases in the media (TV, papers, etc.)
- Demonstrate that traffickers are being arrested and prosecuted (high profile cases)
- Educate on the implications of the crime.

TRAFFICERS

**POSSIBLE
INTERVENTIONS**

**Arrest people
who are
involved in
trafficking
and related
crimes**

This might include:

- Arrest and prosecute: recruiters; transporters; Those who maintain a person in a slave-like condition; those who commit other related crimes (rape, torture, etc.)
- Use community to act as a pressure group to punish traffickers
- Regularly arresting the criminals on a frequent basis for lesser charges (since the legal system doesn't always result in convictions for greater crimes)
- Educate the community about strategies used by traffickers and recruiters

**POLICE AND
BORDER
GUARDS**

**POSSIBLE
INTERVENTIONS**

**Improve the
capacity of
law
enforcement
agencies**

This might include:

- Police training
- Workshops
- Special units
- Women's units
- Joint border activities between border police

**POLICE AND
BORDER
GUARDS**

**POSSIBLE
INTERVENTIONS**

**Ensure that
law
enforcement
officials
comply with
their legal
obligations:**

This might include:

- Arrest and prosecution of officers who break the law
- Suspensions or disciplinary actions taken by a neutral party, e.g. judicial body, when and where necessary
- Judicial inquiry and publication of inquiry reports followed by exemplary punishment

H

**PROSECUTION
(Legal System)**

**POSSIBLE
INTERVENTIONS**

**Those who
traffick persons
or commit
component acts
or related
conduct (rape,
kidnapping,
torture) must be
held
accountable.
Possible
interventions to
ensure that
prosecution
takes place for
those involved
in the
trafficking
episode:**

- The state should ensure access to legal support
- Further operationalise government commitment to prosecute
- Confiscate property of those who are involved in the trafficking episode to pay for prosecution
- Reform laws to ensure trafficking

**PREVENTION
(Addressing
Employers)**

**POSSIBLE
INTERVENTIONS**

- Arrest and prosecute those who use trafficked persons knowingly
- Monitor worksite conditions (e.g. factories, sex worker sites, etc.)
- More researcher to better understand the "harm environment"
- Awareness campaigns focused on reaching those who exploit trafficked persons
- Educate the general public about the result of trafficking

**PREVENTION
(Addressing
Community)**

**POSSIBLE
INTERVENTIONS**

- Inform the public about the exploitation of those who are trafficked
- Work with communities to develop their own strategies to address the problem
- More research to better understand those who constitute the customer population
- Work with media people to get them to report on the trafficking problem in a more responsible manner (e.g. reporting stories in such a way that it does not contribute to demand by sensationalising the case stories.)
- Educate consumers about products produced by "slave-like" labour

CHAPTER 5

The Outcome of a Positive Migratory Process: A “Non-Harm” Situation

A. INTRODUCTION

This chapter will begin by describing the interplay between human trafficking and migration. It will then focus on what the Bangladesh Thematic Group defines as a “non-harm situation” (safe migration). Finally, the chapter will provide insights into what factors allow a “non-harm environment” to exist in a given society and how “demand dynamics” play an active role in the overall process.

B. MIGRATION AND TRAFFICKING

Migration (including regular or irregular) is often confused with trafficking. In some ways, many trafficking events are defined by the endpoint of a migratory process -- if the outcome of this process goes well, it is called migration; if the outcome of this process goes badly and results in excessive exploitation for a period of time, it is often considered trafficking (especially if women are involved). This includes both internal and external (cross-border) movements. While trafficking has an element of migration involved (movement of people from one place to another), there are many migration stories that have happy endings – e.g. the person is content with the outcome and the conditions of their work.

Migration and trafficking are two distinct but inter-related phenomena. Migration represents the movement of people from one place to another (in case of international migration one country to another) in order to take up employment, establish residence, or to seek refuge from persecution. It applies to various types of movements guided by diverse causes, factors and motivations. International migration, in particular, is a complex and multidimensional phenomenon. The dynamics of international migration are often explained or measured in relation to citizenship along with a number of other factors including: motivation and purpose of migration, residence, duration of stay, outcome of the event, trans-nationalism, or place of birth. Migration can be considered a broad general concept encompassing nearly all aspects of mobility. On the other hand, trafficking is a sub-set or category of the broader concept where there is particular vulnerability

that leads to an experience of exploitation. As such, elements of “trafficking” can be conceived as a migratory event that results in a particular form of harm.

Within the migration discourse, there is no consensus on how to refer to those who migrate through a legal process and those who migrate in ways that contravene national laws. Various phrases are used to describe what is often called “irregular” or “illegal” migration. Some of the most common ones include: “alien smuggling;” “trafficking of aliens;” “illegal immigrant smuggling;” “human trafficking;” and “trade of human beings.” Many researchers and advocates prefer the more neutral terms of “irregular migrants” or “undocumented workers.” However, these terms tend to disguise or do not address the need to identify the experiences of regular and irregular migrants who fall prey to exploitation related to organized trafficking.

The complexity of distinguishing trafficking from other types of migration makes the analysis of trafficking difficult. The demarcation between the two phenomena is often a question of perception. Attempts to draw a clear line between the various types of migration, especially migration and trafficking, have been described as working in “terminological minefields.” Thus, the generalization in identifying the difference between the two concepts can be misleading. Attempts by some to “ring-fence” trafficking as an isolated and peculiar phenomenon unconnected to migration, has made it increasingly difficult to locate and understand trafficking in its broader sense.

It is obvious from the above discussion that ascertaining a clear distinction between migration, migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons is extremely complex. All three phenomena are inter-twined and make up an integral part of the “population movement process” — both conceptually and operationally.

Our present traditional, theoretical understanding can no longer resolve the ambiguities and uncertainties concerning migration and trafficking. It warrants a new theoretical framework for providing a clear picture and analytical understanding of the issue. This broader conceptual sense is required to analyze trafficking in its totality (process as well as outcome). To understand the violation of human rights (harm vs.-non-harm), prevention, rescue, rehabilitation and integration interventions for trafficked survivors, the sector must be explored in the context of migration, migratory trends, patterns and outcomes. Thus, in some respects, policy guidelines to address trafficking must have provisions for subverting trafficking by enabling access to affordable and safe migration.

C. THE ESSENCE OF SAFE MIGRATION: A “NON-HARM”

“Non-Harm/Safe Migration”

While most trafficking events have an element of migration involved (movement of people from one place to another), as noted above, there are many migration stories that have happy endings – e.g. the person is satisfied with the outcome and the conditions of their work. The Bangladesh Thematic Group defined this concept of safe migration as a **“non-harm.”** Note that this is often the goal that most adults who end up in a trafficking “harm/exploitation” situation were seeking as they began a migratory-like process.

A positive, “non-harm” migratory outcome includes the following seven elements:

Non-Harm/Safe Migration Outcome

- **The person has relative freedom to choose**
- **The person is gainfully employed abroad**
- **The person has a satisfactory work environment (wages, facilities, etc.)**
- **The person’s productively contributes to host and home country**
- **The person’s rights are respected**
- **The person’s security is protected from arbitrary deportation**
- **The person has security and social justice**

Beyond the seven elements that make up the basis “non-harm” definition, **CHART B** on the flowchart or **FIGURE B** illustrate four additional elements that provide a rich overview of other positive characteristics that one might seek when migrating from one place to another. These categories address: the working environment, freedom of choice and mobility, factors that can empower a migrant, and the role of the private sector.

NONHARM/SAFE MIGRATION OUTCOME

B

Working Environment

- Opportunity for decent work
- Rights respected
- Appropriate legal institution
- Occupational and Labor protection

Freedom of Choice and Mobility

- Person has the right to choose his/her work place
- Person can move on if so desired, within and across borders.

NON-HARM/SAFE MIGRATION

- Person has relative freedom to choose
- Gainfully employed abroad
- Satisfactory work environment (wages, facilities, etc.)
- Productively contributes to host and home country
- Rights respected
- Security from arbitrary deportation
- Security and social justice

Private Sector

- Socially responsible recruiting agency
- Accountable and transparent recruitment process
- Overseas employment ensured
- Supportive migration network.

Empowered Migrant

- Aware of rights and responsibilities
- Activity involved in personal development
- Utilizes resources for betterment
- Increased social capital
- Transfer of skills and ideas, especially good governance concepts
- Rights to be heard and to organize

Bringing the pieces together

Below is an example of a “non-harm” migratory outcome.

Example: Zadid is approached by a job-recruiter from India. He is told that he can get work in an Indian factory making good money. Feeling like he wants to earn more for his family, he accepts the offer and travels to India. When he arrives there, he is given a job that offers him much more money than he was making in Bangladesh. While the hours are long and the work is very hard, he chooses to continue working there. The work and the conditions of the work are considered acceptable to him.

Although some level of exploitation might exist in such a job, if the person chooses to remain there because he/she finds some advantages, this is considered an example of a “non-harm” outcome.

D. BASIC FACTORS THAT MAINTAIN A “NON-HARM ENVIRONMENT” (SAFE MIGRATION)

CHART D on the Flowchart or *FIGURE D* within this report provides a listing of the various factors that theoretically maintain a “safe-migration environment.” These factors fall into four broad categories and address global, regional, and national policies that must be in place, including:

- Global/regional migration policies;
- Global/regional employment policies;
- Global trade regime; and
- National policies.

Note that migration, employment and trade policies on global and regional levels can have an overall effect on making migration safe or unsafe at the community level. This point illustrates the importance of looking at the trafficking problem from a holistic perspective – taking into consideration all of the various factors that may contribute to the problem. For many working in the anti-trafficking sector, these factors are often misunderstood or their relationship to the trafficking “harm/exploitation” has never been made clear.

**FACTORS THAT
CAN MAINTAIN
SAFE MIGRATION**

D

GLOBAL/REGIONAL MIGRATION POLICIES

Global/Regional migration regime (Agreements, MOU) for movement (temporary and permanent) of people across borders.

GLOBAL/REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT POLICIES

Non-discriminatory labor market and legal system for protecting rights of labor, including migrant labor.

GLOBAL TRADE REGIME

Trade regime to enhance temporary movement of service providers (highly skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled).

EFFECTIVE NATIONAL POLICIES

Govt. policies to integrate migration into a policy -planning (a comprehensive migration policy)

Transparent, predictable as well as a managed overseas employment policy.

Policies to reintegrate returned migrants. Policies on internal migration that effectively urban migration vulnerabilities.

Policies to utilize remittances

Gender sensitive policies that promote accessible, safe and secure migration for the migratory poor and does not hinder regular migration. Replacing irregular migration with humane and orderly migration.

E. FACTORS THAT EFFECT DEMAND FOR MIGRANTS

In the Bangladesh context, the types of migrant labor often required fall into a range of categories, including: industrial sector, service sectors as providers (health, education, etc.), management sector, agriculture sector, “dirty, demanding and dangerous” (cleaners, construction workers, etc.), and private sector (domestic help, entertainers, etc.). The Bangladesh Thematic Group identified that there were five general categories of people who benefited from using “migrant labor:”

- **Third parties who facilitate migration (Government agencies, recruiting agencies and migrant networks);**
- **Employers who use migrant labor;**
- **Consumers who use migrant labor;**
- **The migrant himself/herself; and**
- **The migrant’s family and/or community.**

Below is a detailed description of the motivation for seeking migrant labor for each of these categories.

- **Third Parties who Facilitate Migration:** This first category represents government agency, recruiting agent and migrant network representatives who are involved in helping to facilitate the migration process. Their motivation and reasons for seeking migrant labor include the following: it represents a business venture; it addresses the need for employment abroad and overseas remittances; and it fulfills a development strategy.
- **Employers who use Migrant Labor:** This category represents the factory owners, service providers, management services, domestic household owners, etc. Their motivation for using migrant labor include: it meets a demand for inexpensive labor; it helps to better diversify the labor sector; it adds knowledge to work; it allows for new and innovative services and goods; and it helps to ensure competitive labor markets.
- **Consumers who benefit from Migrant Labor:** As noted in the trafficking section, there is no one stereotypical customer type. They include all classes, religions, ages and ethnic groups. This category represents consumers who buy goods from all walks of life. Their motivations for wanting migrant labor include the following: it ensures better goods and services; it ensures competitive prices; it allows for their demands to be

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satisfied; it allows for ethically produced goods/services; and it helps to offer specialized services (e.g. translation, etc.)

- **Migrant himself/herself**: The advantage to the migrant is that it ensures personal economic benefits; and acts as a stepping stone for better opportunities.
- **Family and Community**: The benefit to the family/community is that it provides economic growth.

Refer to *CHART F* on the Flowchart or *FIGURE F* within this report for an overview of the **demand dynamics** of safe migration.

MIGRATION DEMAND DYNAMICS

F

ECONOMICALLY MANAGED DEMAND

Outcomes might include:

- Industrial sector
- Service sectors as providers (Health, education etc.)
- Management sector
- Agriculture sector
- Dirty, demanding, and dangerous (DDD) activities
- Private sector – domestic work, entertainers, etc.

THIRD PARTIES WHO FACILITATE MIGRATION
(Govt. agencies, recruiting agencies, migrant networks etc.)

MOTIVATION FACTORS

- Business venture
- Employment abroad and remittances
- Development strategy

EMPLOYERS WHO USE MIGRANT LABOR:

MOTIVATION FACTORS

- Labor demand met
- Diversified labor sector
- Adds knowledge to work
- New and innovative services/goods
- Competitive labor

CONSUMERS WHO USE MIGRANT LABOR

MOTIVATION FACTORS

- Better goods and services
- Competitive prices
- Demands satisfied
- Ethically produced goods/services
- Specific services e.g. for language support, etc.

MIGRANT HIMSELF/HERSELF

MOTIVATION FACTORS

- Personal economic benefit
- Stepping stone for better opportunities

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

MOTIVATION FACTORS

- Family/community economic benefits

D. INTERCHANGE BETWEEN THE “HARM” AND “NON-HARM” ENVIRONMENT

It is important to note that the outcome of any migratory process can fall into either a “non-harm” (safe migration) or “harm/exploitation” category (trafficking outcome). When addressing the movement of people seeking employment, both of these possibilities exist. This point is important since it helps us to see that the migratory process has potential positive or negative consequences.

It is also, however, important to note that these categories represent the endpoints of a continuum that spans between the two extremes. For example, it is not uncommon for people to fall somewhere in-between these two categories or for them to go from one to the other over time. **CHART A/B** on the Flowchart or **FIGURE A/B** within this report provides an overview of the interchange between the harm and non-harm environments.

**POINTS TO NON-HARM/SAFE
MIGRATION OUTCOME**

TRANSPARENT, LEGAL AND
INFORMED MIGRATION

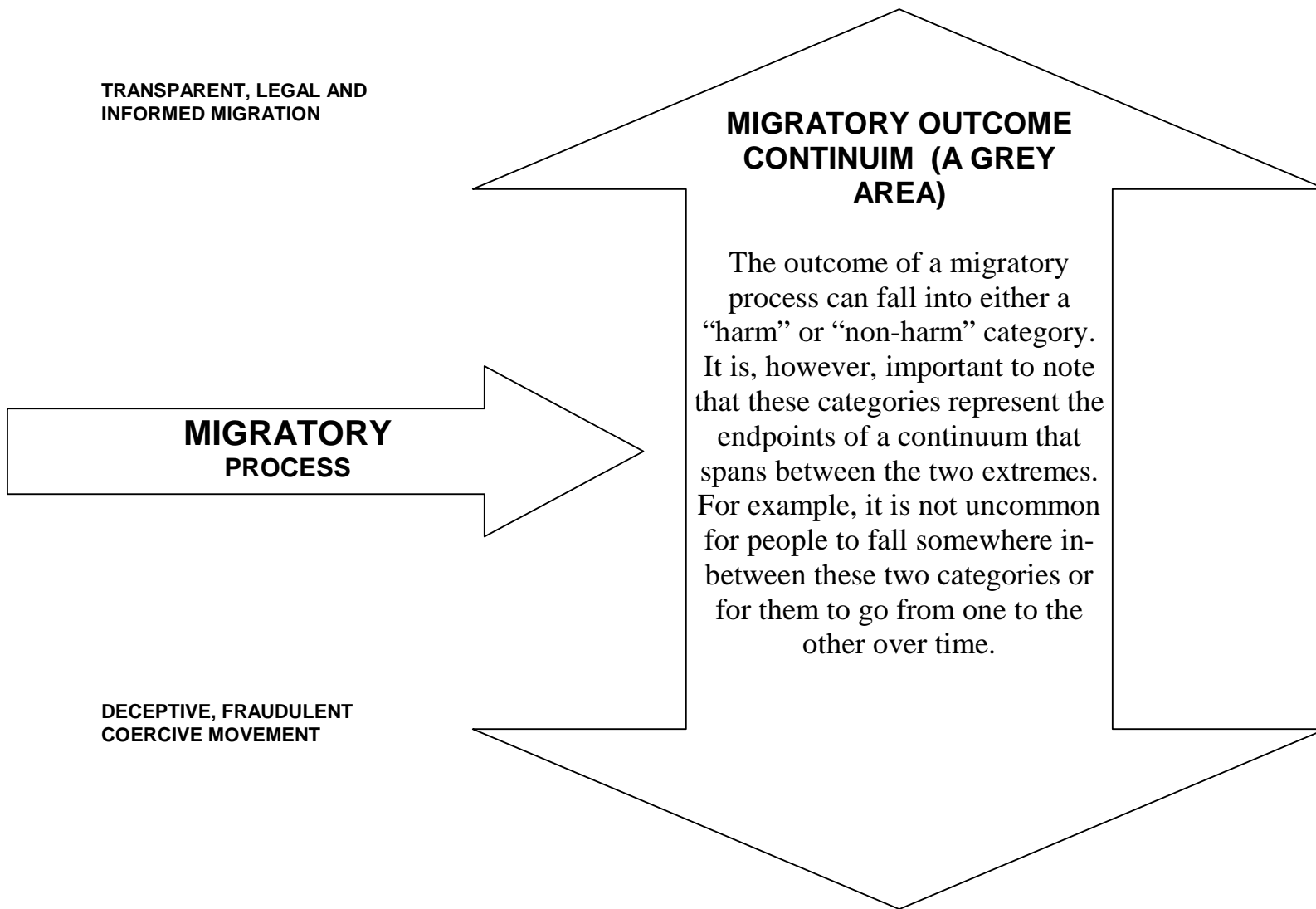
**MIGRATORY OUTCOME
CONTINUUM (A GREY
AREA)**

The outcome of a migratory process can fall into either a “harm” or “non-harm” category. It is, however, important to note that these categories represent the endpoints of a continuum that spans between the two extremes. For example, it is not uncommon for people to fall somewhere in-between these two categories or for them to go from one to the other over time.

**MIGRATORY
PROCESS**

DECEPTIVE, FRAUDULENT
COERCIVE MOVEMENT

**POINTS TO TRAFFICKING
HARM/EXPLOITATION**



CHAPTER 6

Overview of the Migratory Process as it relates to Trafficking and Migration

A. INTRODUCTION

This chapter will focus on 1) the reasons/motivations why adults often enter a migratory process; 2) who is involved in making decisions related to a person entering a migratory process; and 3) a description of factors that hinder or facilitate a person's entry into a trafficking "harm/exploitation" outcome.

B. THOSE WHO MIGRATE AND WHY

Out of the general population, there are always those who are either compelled or motivated to make a change in their life – to move (or migrate) toward something or away from something else. This change sometimes includes leaving their home in search of something different or better than what they have. The motivating factors differ from person to person. For some it is out of need -- for others it is out of a desire to get more out of life or to experience their own country or perhaps the outside world. This segment of the population that decides to make this move (or has someone else decide on his or her behalf), might benefit from the experience or be exploited somewhere along the way. Note that the migratory process, in these cases, can either occur in-country or across borders.

Below is a list of some of the most relevant motivating factors/needs that often act as a catalyst to initiate this movement:

- **Lack of Basic Needs:** The person and/or their family is suffering from a lack of resources to address their basic human needs, including food, shelter, clothing, etc. The motivating factor here is to acquire the means to satisfy these essential needs. In this case, "poverty" or "survival" as general categories, are the motivating factors. This particular motivation is often found within communities where few work opportunities exist. Thus, the person goes elsewhere to seek viable employment.
- **Lack of Economic Security:** The person and/or his/her family may have the basic needs covered at present, but this situation is not necessarily

guaranteed for the extended future. Those who survive from utilizing seasonal employment often fall into this category. This lack of security creates tremendous stress, frustration and a longing for more stability. Thus, seeking a sense of economic security through migration is a motivating factor for some to look for opportunities elsewhere -- where there is a “perception” that more options exist.

- **Desire for more Income/Status:** The person and his/her family may have security for the future, but they might still want more out of life. For example, they might have a home and a plot of land, but now they want a motorcycle. In this case, the motivating factor centers on a desire to have additional resources. Likewise, for those who are born into a family that expects its members to do work that brings “prestige,” if such jobs are not available locally, this sometimes becomes a motivating factor for a person to go elsewhere in search of such opportunities.
- **Social Considerations:** There are Bangladeshi women who feel that the restrictive patriarchal environment they live in limits their personal development and growth. This sometimes compels them to want to go elsewhere in search of additional opportunities and freedoms as a means of achieving their own personal goals, which they feel cannot be achieved in a traditional village setting.
- **Escape from Stigmatization/Violence:** For women living in a traditional, conservative society, there are sometimes factors that can stigmatize them, thus forcing them to leave their community to avoid being oppressed. For example in Bangladesh, if word gets out that a woman has been raped (whether this happened or not), she is sometimes sent away from her family because of the stigma associated with this “shameful act.” It doesn’t matter that she was an innocent victim in this crime – the outcome is often the same. If a woman is widowed or divorced, there is also a stigma attached to this that creates hardship. Likewise, any association with the sex industry can have a stigmatizing effect on a woman, thus preventing her from being allowed to remain in a given community.
- **Aspirations and Adventure:** In some cases, the person simply leaves his/her home out of a sense of adventure. This motivation alone, accounts for many people entering the migratory pool.

- **Seeking Emotional Stability:** A person may leave his/her home and go in search of a new life elsewhere to escape a dysfunctional or abuse family situation. In this case, the environment pushes them away. In contrast to this, there are those who feel a lack of emotional security. They are seeking a situation in life where an emotional support system is present (a fulfillment of a belonging, love, etc). If they cannot get this at home, some migrate to someplace else in search of this.
- **Opportunities Abroad:** Not all those who contemplate going abroad for migration purposes are necessarily poor. For example, there are those who go abroad to seek education, research and work opportunities that will increase the person's status, salary and knowledge of his/her area of specialization.
- **Involuntary Movement/Fear/Threat:** Political unrest, discrimination, and displacement of refugees can also be factors that result in a person moving from one location to another.
- **Lack of Human Security:** In places where a person's civil rights and liberties are compromised, it is not uncommon for people to migrate. This sometimes occurs in locations where military activities are on-going.

C. **DECISION INFLUENCERS AND DECISION-MAKERS**

Based on the motivations/needs listed above, a decision to migrate is sometimes made. Depending on the age of the person and his/her dependency on others, this decision might be made by a parent, spouse or guardian. Other times the decision is made by the person who is migrating himself/herself.

The decision-making process is seldom carried out in a vacuum. Neighbors, friends, local leaders and those who have migrated themselves often provide advice and guidance based on their own experiences. There are also those who assist in the process by offering opportunities to a person (the prospect of a marriage, a good paying job, a better life, etc.). These recruiters or in some cases traffickers play an important role in helping to bring about a migratory decision.

In summary, different types of people make decisions for themselves and for others that set in motion the migratory process. In many cases, combinations of different persons ultimately influence the final outcome.

D. THE MIGRATION/TRAFFICKING DYNAMIC

What the Bangladesh Thematic Group calls the “Migration/Trafficking Dynamic” represents the interplay between the **motivating factors and needs** listed above and the **decision influencers and decision-makers** who act on this. This is the period during which a decision to enter a migratory process takes shape. In the present context, if the outcome of this process is positive, it is considered migration (a non-harm situation); if it ends up with a highly exploitative outcome (as outlined in the trafficking “harm”); it is often called “human trafficking.”

The reason for making these distinctions is to help those looking at the trafficking problem to realize that there is no “one” motivating factor that compels people to migrate (e.g. poverty) and no one influencing individual or set of individuals who determine whether and in what manner the migratory process might take place. In reality, there are many factors that happen **simultaneously**. This is important when prevention activities are being conceived to ensure that the specific messages address the varied reasons why people leave their community in search of a change. It also helps us to better understand the different target audiences that need to be focused on (e.g. family members, neighbors, etc.).

E. A FEW WORDS ABOUT DECEPTION IN THIS CONTEXT

The basic approach most traffickers use within the “migration/trafficking dynamic” is very simple – they gain a person’s trust and then they lie about a possible opportunity. They might take a young, vulnerable person -- one who is facing hardship and poverty -- and offer the one thing that that seems completely out of reach for him/her -- a better life, an easier life, a life that will not only benefit himself/herself, but also the immediate families. In other words, they offer a dream to their victims (and sometimes to their families), with little or nothing asked for in return.

Whether such promises relate to a good marriage, a marriage without a dowry or a good paying job, the messages are nearly always the same – “If you do what I say, if you trust me, then your life will be infinitely better.” Not, sometime in the distant future, but “Right now! Today!” For those who seldom have access to any options at all, such offers are sometimes too tempting to pass up, even if there might be concern that what is being arranged could come with a price. The reason this is able to happen is that human beings tend to be optimists by nature. If someone swears that something is true, and they sound very convincing, most will

tend to believe it, especially if this comes from someone who is known to the person (a relative, neighbor, someone from the community, etc).

As a result, one the biggest challenges the anti-trafficking sector faces is the ease at which people will accept what is promised to them. Many of those who have been trafficked were naïve -- they wanted so desperately to believe that what was being offered was real, that they put common sense and logic aside and entered into an agreement that allowed themselves to be exploited. But let's be clear, it is not just poor, ignorant people who are naive, we are all like this to a certain extent. For example, for most of us, if one of our family members or friends wanted to traffick us, they could do so without any trouble. Why? Because we would most likely go along with what they said because of our relationship with them.

Thus, the basic factors that allows many trafficking scenarios to be worked out in South Asia focus on two elements – trust and deception. A sense of “trust” is one of the most powerful tools that traffickers have available to them. If we trust someone, we are more apt to do what is asked of us. In contrast to this, if we don't trust someone, we will never agree to what this person has to offer. Why? Because trust is based on a reliance of faith that someone is working in our own best interest. If this faith is not present, distrust enters the equation and the whole thing falls apart.

F. FACILITATING OR HINDERING FACTORS

As noted above, for each and every migratory event, there is the possibility of a “**non-harm**” or “**harm**” outcome. This outcome is often influenced by social and cultural factors that can either facilitate a positive experience or hinder it.

Below is a list of factors that are relevant to this process. Note that it is not just one factor that determines the outcome – it is often the combination or the “coefficient effect” of all of them in influencing a positive and negative result. These factors can come together to work against a person migrating from one place to another or to aid the person in this process.

Unless we understand the importance of these interrelated variables, it is easy to oversimplify the trafficking situation. For example, there are people in the trafficking sector who feel that if they can “fix” the legal system, that trafficking can be stopped. In the absence of addressing the other factors, however, this is an unrealistic expectation. The legal system in only one element that works for or against the trafficking phenomena – there are many others.

Thus, a holistic perspective is very much needed. For those working to reduce the possibility of a “trafficking outcome,” one must try to improve the facilitating influences of as many of these factors to help bring about a “non-harm outcome” (safe migration). The related factors include:

- **Organized Crime:** The absence or presence of organized crime networks that seek to systematically exploit a person is an important factor.
- **Family Involvement:** The extent to which a family is protective of its members or willing to allow them to be exploited in order to earn money, is a factor. For example, if there is an expectation that a person has to earn for the family, under any and all circumstance, this can often create a tremendous vulnerability.
- **Law Enforcement:** The presence or absence of effective law enforcement and prosecution mechanisms or procedures to prevent crimes and prosecute criminals is an important factor.
- **Physical and Emotional Security:** Threat of physical and/or emotional security may force a person to pursue clandestine means to leave his/her place of residence.
- **Social/Cultural Practices:** The presence of a tradition of social practices that foster “slave-like conditions” including debt bondage, indentured servitude and *tsukri* can add to the vulnerability.
- **Employment Policies:** The presence or absence of employment policies that help to ensure that work-based settings meet a certain minimum standard to protect workers’ rights is relevant.
- **Developmental Policies:** The presence or absence of developmental policies that help to ensure that there are work-related options available in a particular country or community is a relevant variable.
- **Conflict and Disaster:** The presence or absence of internal conflicts (e.g. war, civil unrest) or national disasters is a factor.

- **Economical Factors:** Absence or lack of livelihood opportunities is one of the major motivations for a person to leave his/her home in search of economic means to survival.
- **Education Policies and Institutions:** Educational systems play a vital role in helping people to find appropriate and adequate means of livelihood. On the other hand, absence of a proper educational system often compels people to undertake irregular means for survival.
- **Global/Regional Economic Institutions and Arrangements:** Global and regional economic systems influence national economies. A global system based on non-discriminatory policies and practices can help create a healthy national economy within which people can ensure better living within the country.
- **Migration Myths and Migrant Expectations:** There is a gap between migration myths or expectation, and migration realities. Integration of a migrant into the new society and economy is an extremely difficult task. Sometimes migration myths are created by groups to lure people to migrate in an unsafe condition for making “profit.” A transparent and regulated migration regime can bridge the gap between the migration myth, expectation and realities.
- **Gender Inequality:** Gender inequality can lead to discrimination and violence against women forcing them to leave their place of residence.
- **Social Inequality:** Social inequality can threaten a person’s existence and force him/her to adopt irregular means of migration.
- **State/National Migration Policies:** The presence or absence of state/national policies that help to ensure that there are legal migratory options available in a particular country or community is a relevant variable.
- **Ethnicity and Religious Affiliation:** Sometimes a particular affiliation to an ethnic or religious group can play a role in a person deciding to leave his/her place of residence, either through regular or irregular channels.

INTERPLAY BETWEEN THE VARIOUS FACTORS

Example: Following a flood that washes away her family's land (**disaster situation**), Riffat, an eighteen year old is left homeless. When asked by her family to migrate to India in search of work (**family involvement**) she reluctantly agrees, realizing that she doesn't have much of a choice. The family is approached by Mohammed Ali, a member of a local gang (**organized crime**), to travel to India to accept a job offer there. To help sweeten the deal, an advance is offered to the family (**social factor – debt bondage**). After deciding to go, the two leave early one morning. Along the way, a local smuggling gang (**organized crime**) helps to get her past a check point along the border. Upon arriving in India, they are stopped by a police officer who asks a number of questions (**law enforcement**). After accepting a small bribe to allow them to pass, Mohammad and Riffat manage to continue on their way. Upon arriving, Riffat is sold to a factory owner. There she is forced to work seven days a week, for nearly no pay (**employment polices lacking**).

Note that in this example, many of the factors work against Riffat entering into a non-harm outcome.

G. TRAFFICKING OUTCOMES THAT RESULT FROM A NON-MIGRATORY PROCESS

While most adults in Bangladesh who end up in a trafficking outcome go through a migratory-type process (as described above), there are also examples where a person is kidnapped and taken to the final destination. Because of the logistical complications involved in moving a person against his/her will from one place to another, especially if this involves crossing an international border, this approach is less often used in the Bangladesh context. It is much easier to transport a person who goes willingly with a trafficker (having been deceived by some kind of promise) than to force or coerce them to go along.

Example: Farhana is coming home from the university walking along a deserted stretch of woods. While she usually travels with others, on this day she is alone. Without warning, she is jumped by a group of young men who take her off to an abandoned structure. She is raped continuously throughout the night while being held captive in this building. Despite her pleas for help, no one comes to her rescue. The following day, she is then transported to Mymensingh where she is sold to a brothel. After threats against herself and her family are made if she tries to escape, she is forced to endure her new life.

In this case, the trafficking occurred through a non-migratory process. This is also an example of in-country trafficking – from a rural to an urban setting.

H. BRINGING THE PIECES TOGETHER

CHART C on the Flowchart or *FIGURE C* within this report provides a summary of how the various pieces come together. The chart illustrates that out of the general population, there is always a sub-set of people who are looking to make some kind of a change in their lives – often a migratory change. The motivations/needs that influence this process are varied and differ from person to person. Likewise, the decision-influencers and decision-makers also vary. The box that encompasses these two categories depicts the “migration/trafficking dynamic” – the fertile ground where “trafficking recruitment” often takes place. It is here where deception and fraud can be introduced and exercised in order to begin moving a person into a “harmful” outcome.

Once a person has entered a migratory process (based on the “trafficking dynamic), there are both facilitating and hindering factors that either help a person to protect themselves from “harm” or that foster them into a harmful outcome. Each culture has different combinations of these factors that come into play. The relative alignment (positive or negative) of them helps to determine risk factors for many of those who enter into this process.

Chart C also allows us to introduce a number of important distinctions. First, it helps us to better understand that there are many motivations/needs that influence a person’s decision to enter into a migratory situation. In other words, it is not just

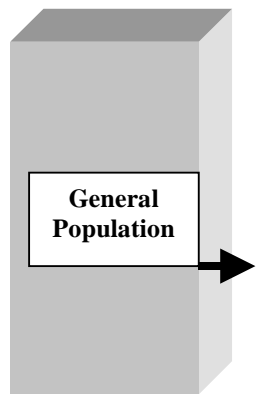
poverty – there are many other motives/needs that are equally important. Second, there are different actors that influence how this process unfolds. Third, programs must look at all of the facilitating and hindering factors collectively to better understand the complexity of the environment they are working in. For example, thinking that merely addressing the law enforcement system can reduce trafficking is an unrealistic assessment, since so many other factors help to facilitate the process beyond this one element.

By taking these varied factors into consideration, one can better understand the complexity of the problem. For example, when developing an anti-trafficking prevention campaign, one can see that the motivations/needs and target group (decision-makers) must be taken into consideration in order to avoid oversimplifying or over generalizing a given message. The example used below helps to once again show how the various factors come together:

Example: Sangita, an eighteen year old garment factory worker based in Dhaka, is befriended by Ramesh, her supervisor in the factory (*decision influencer*). He tells her that if she goes with him, she can get a much better job in India where she can get three times as much money (*motivation – improve status, adventure and security*). A woman who recently returned from Calcutta also tells Sangita that she is better off in India – “There is a lot of money that can be made there” (*decision influencer*). Feeling that this might be a good opportunity to earn more money for her family, she agrees to travel to India with him. Since the *migration laws (negative influence)* do not provide acceptance of regular migration between the two countries, the border crossing is done late at night. On the way, she and her trafficker are stopped at the border by a border guard, but after paying a Taka 100 fee, they are allowed to continue (*law enforcement weak and corrupt*). Upon arriving in India, she is handed over to a man who works as a recruiter for a gang located in Calcutta (*organized crime strong*). He had already worked out the arrangements to move six girls to the city.

MIGRATORY PROCESS FOLLOWED BY THOSE WHO MIGRATE AND THOSE WHO ARE TRAFFICKED

C



“NEEDS/MOTIVATIONS” (MIGRATION)

- Basic Needs
Food, shelter, clothing, health, employment, etc.
- Lack of Economic Security
Sustainability of basic needs over time
- Desire for more Income/Status
Increased income and/or status
- Social Stigmatization
Incest, rape, former sex work, divorce, widowed, etc.
- Social Considerations
Elements of society that limit a woman’s personal development
- Aspirations and Adventure
Desire to experience life and explore the world
- Emotional Stability
 - Family situation dysfunctional
 - Seeking and emotional support system
- Opportunities Abroad
 - Education/research opportunities
 - Work opportunities
- Involuntary Movement/Fear/Threat
 - Education/research opportunities
 - Work opportunities
- Lack of Human Security
Civil rights and liberties compromised, etc.

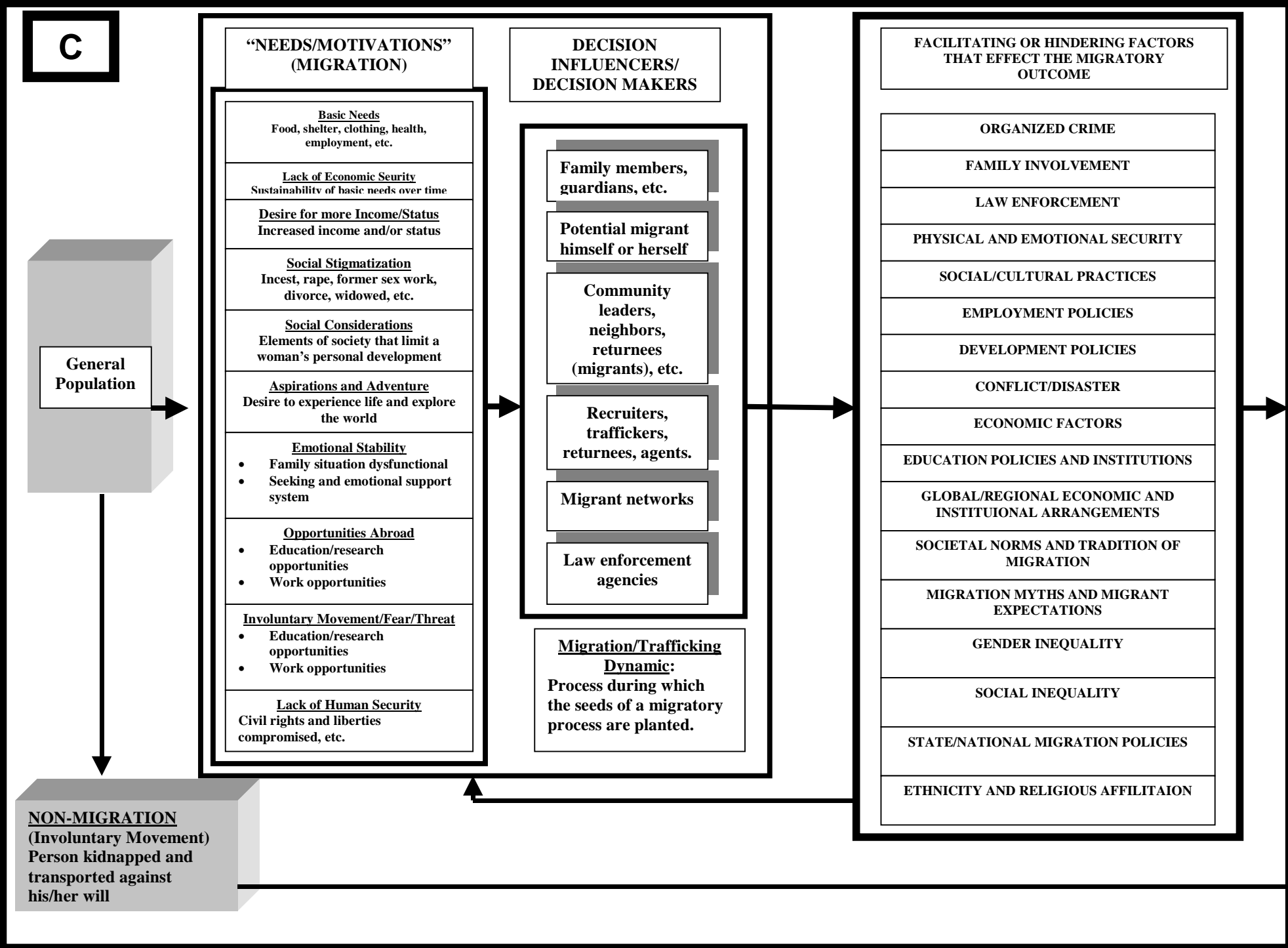
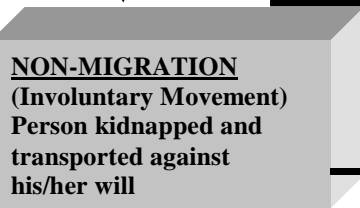
DECISION INFLUENCERS/ DECISION MAKERS

- Family members, guardians, etc.
- Potential migrant himself or herself
- Community leaders, neighbors, returnees (migrants), etc.
- Recruiters, traffickers, returnees, agents.
- Migrant networks
- Law enforcement agencies

Migration/Trafficking Dynamic:
Process during which the seeds of a migratory process are planted.

FACILITATING OR HINDERING FACTORS THAT EFFECT THE MIGRATORY OUTCOME

- ORGANIZED CRIME
- FAMILY INVOLVEMENT
- LAW ENFORCEMENT
- PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL SECURITY
- SOCIAL/CULTURAL PRACTICES
- EMPLOYMENT POLICIES
- DEVELOPMENT POLICIES
- CONFLICT/DISASTER
- ECONOMIC FACTORS
- EDUCATION POLICIES AND INSTITUTIONS
- GLOBAL/REGIONAL ECONOMIC AND INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS
- SOCIETAL NORMS AND TRADITION OF MIGRATION
- MIGRATION MYTHS AND MIGRANT EXPECTATIONS
- GENDER INEQUALITY
- SOCIAL INEQUALITY
- STATE/NATIONAL MIGRATION POLICIES
- ETHNICITY AND RELIGIOUS AFFILITAION



I. POSSIBLE INTERVENTIONS TO PREVENT TRAFFICKING

CHART Q on the Flowchart or *FIGURE Q* within this report provides an overview of selected interventions that can be used as prevention strategies to reduce trafficking. Note that these factors are divided into two categories: vulnerability reduction and awareness creation and informed choice/decisions through enabling initiatives. Under this second group, the target populations include: potential migrants/victims; out-going migrants; communities; policymakers; the media; and NGO/Civil Society.

For “effective” prevention to take place, a combination of these factors should be carried out simultaneously. This increases the likelihood that individuals within a community will be protected from traffickers.

Vulnerability Reduction

The basic concept behind this approach is that if a country is able to develop an environment that offers “livelihood options” within villages and communities, there is less need or desire for people to go elsewhere to seek viable employment. As a general rule, this option often falls within the general category of “poverty alleviation.” For a country like Bangladesh, having an impact on this process happens over a long period of time and may not bear fruit for many people for years to come. The type of interventions in this category include: low interest loans for needy families (Grameen Bank Model) and vulnerable populations (widows, divorcees, ethnic groups, etc.); job placement programs; skill development training programs for young adults; and adult and female literacy. Since the resources needed to effect a change at this level are substantial, this intervention often falls well beyond what most anti-trafficking programs are able to address with their limited funding.

Example: Zuraira lives in a section of northern Bangladesh where there are few job opportunities. Being eighteen years old, her family decides to consider sending her to India for work. Before this decision can be made, a donor funded “jobs training” program opens in the regional center. Through the sponsorship of a local NGO, Zuraira is given a chance to attend this three-month course. Upon completing the training, she is offered a good paying job that allows her to remain in a nearby community.

Awareness Creation

Under the heading of “awareness creation,” two examples of generalized categories include: safe migration awareness; and general awareness associated with the risks of trafficking. For safe migration, an effective prevention method is to provide potential migrants and communities with focused information that will help to educate and protect them from the trafficking “harm/exploitation.” The target audience for this includes local leaders, decision-makers, prospective migrants, etc. Some of the activities include: the distribution of easy-to-read and understand safe migration pamphlets; posters that highlight important information on safe migration; group orientations and one-on-one counseling on the subject; creation of migration referral centers that ensure that all migration opportunities are legitimate (these centers monitor sites, help with logistical arrangements and report any problems that are identified); and in some countries, referral hotlines exist to allow prospective migrants to get answers to questions that help them migrate safely.

Another strategy used is a **general awareness campaign** that focuses on the risks associated with migration and trafficking – not to scare people, but instead to empower them with the information they need to protect themselves. This can be done at all levels of society using targeted mass media, rallies, school-based programs, posters, community workshops, etc. The objective is to help people to understand what trafficking is and what can be done to stop it within their community.



CHAPTER 7

Life after the leaving the trafficking “Harm”

A. INTRODUCTION

This chapter will focus on 1) the ways in which a person transcends a trafficking harm environment; 2) an example of a case where a trafficked person might remain in the “harm environment” even after a possibility of leaving is offered; and 3) a discussion of the relationship between the HIV/AIDS and trafficking sectors.

B. POST HARM ELEMENTS

Most people who experience a “trafficking outcome” eventually leave the “harm environment” at some stage. This is what separates the conditions associated with the outcome of “trafficking” from the concept of “slavery” (which is opened ended).

Although most trafficked persons who are given the opportunity to leave the “harm environment” do so, there are also those who remain, even after their “agency” (ability to make choices based on available options) has been granted back to them. In this section, both of these situations will be discussed in detail to explain why this occurs.

C. THOSE WHO PHYSICALLY LEAVE THE “HARM ENVIRONMENT”

There are a number of different ways in which a trafficked person might physically leave the “harm environment.” (Refer to **CHART I** on the Flowchart or **FIGURE I** within this report for a summary of these factors along with a listing of possible interventions that could be used under these conditions). Below is a summary of the main ones:

TRAFFICKED PERSON



Opportunity to leave Voluntarily

Thrown out: (e.g. health conditions)

Contract over (Middle East)

Escape (run off)

Rescue/ Police Raid

Death

Possible Interventions

- Ensure that information on where to go is available to those who leave the exploitative situation (hotlines, posters, referrals within exploitative site, etc.)
- Ensure that NGOs are able to find those who have been victimized and who are in need
- Ensure that a system is in place to provide counseling on life options, health care and trauma management
- Ensure that the person's identity is kept confidential
- Ensure that anti-trafficking measures do not adversely affect the human rights and dignity of those who have been trafficked
- Establish a responsible and systematic rescue policy and procedure for both the NGOs and the police
- Provide appropriate health services
- Work with networks to ensure efficient and timely repatriation

Possible Interventions

- Establish a responsible and systematic rescue policy and procedure for both the NGOs and the police
- Work with the police to ensure that raids/rescue do not further victimize the victims
- Develop effective partnerships with the police and NGOs
- Ensure that a system is in place to repatriate quickly, without delay (if requested)
- Sometimes a trafficked person is stranded in judicial custody following a raid. Attempts should be made to see that this does not happen
- Ensure confidentiality (i.e. taking photographs of trafficked person along with the traffickers and publishing them in newspapers, media, etc.)

Possible Interventions

- Ensuring proper funeral rituals (as per religious belief) are performed
- Repatriation of dead body

- **The person is allowed to leave (“agency” granted):** Some trafficked persons are allowed to leave after a given period of time. Since many of the trafficking “harm” situations are based on a debt bondage arrangement, when it is felt that a person has paid what he/she owes (along with the many other excessive expenses that have been added to the original amount), they are given their “agency” back. This approach is sometimes used as a means of making space for fresh “trafficking recruits.”

Example: When Gita was first sold to the brothel, she was told by the madam that she had to reimburse the 25,000 Rupee fee that had been paid for her. In addition, she was told that she’d also have to pay for her food, lodging and medical care. For three years, Gita struggled to reimburse this debt, but since additional expenses kept being added to her total, it was nearly impossible. When the madam began to feel that Gita was less profitable, she went to her and said she could leave – her debt had been paid off. This was done to make space for a new, fresh recruit that had just been acquired.

- **The person is “thrown out” for some reason:** In some cases, trafficked persons are “thrown out” when it is discovered that they have a disease or are in some ways no longer physically able to carry out their work. For example, a woman working in the brothel might be thrown out when it is discovered that she has tuberculosis or AIDS. To address this problem, those victims who find themselves on the street need to know where to go to receive help. Likewise, NGOs need to be able to provide health services to assist these persons.

Example: Shaheen received a visa to enter Malaysia to do construction work. For a period of two years he worked in slave-like conditions without being paid. The work was hard and often hazardous. One day, he fell and injured his back – the injury was serious enough to prevent him from working. Within a week his visa was revoked and he was returned to Bangladesh without any money. The employer explained that the money owed to him was used to cover his medical expenses.

- **The person’s contract period is over:** For work assignments in places like the Middle East and elsewhere, a person who has completed his/her contract

period may be allowed to leave. This often coincides with the length of their visa.

Example: When Marukh was 18 years old, her new husband told her that she should travel to Kuwait to make some money for the family as a domestic worker. Since much less money was required for the visa to send a woman than a man (40,000 Taka versus 80,000 Taka), her in-laws decided she should go. Upon arriving at the airport, she was taken to the home of a local businessman. For the first month she did house work. But after that, she was forced to provide sexual services to the men in the house as well as those from other families. At first she resisted, but after regular beatings, she finally gave in. Since her family had borrowed from money-lenders back in Bangladesh, she felt there was no way she could return empty handed. For three years she remained in this situation until her visa expired and she was returned to Bangladesh.

- **The person escapes from the “Harm:”** Some trafficked persons are able to run off if an opportunity arises. If caught, the response to this risky endeavor can be very severe. In some cases, an unsuccessful escape can result in a person being beaten to death.

Example: For nearly three years, Sita was held as a virtual prisoner within the house where she worked as a domestic servant. Whenever she did anything that was considered inappropriate, she was beaten. Even when she did nothing wrong she was punished. At times, her employer would sexually abuse her. When she wasn't working, she was locked in her room. She was never allowed out of the house and received no salary. Since she was living in a country where she didn't understand the language, she did not know what to do or where to turn. One day, when one of the house boys left the door unlocked, she decided to run away. After entering into a nearby bazaar, she found a man who spoke Bangla. He took her to a nearby police station.

- **The person is rescued in a raid (police/NGO, etc.):** Some trafficked persons are taken out of the “harm environment” during a “rescue.” NGO representatives or community leaders, often working with the police, are generally the ones who carry out these raids/rescues. In some cases, the

motivation for these events is misplaced (e.g. the persons organizing it do so to gain publicity for themselves). In other cases, the activity is warranted to help people who have been forced into a highly exploitative situation to regain their freedom.

Example: It was nearly midnight when a group of six police officers raided the brothel. There were a number of city officials and a camera crew to catch the action. This event was staged to show that the public officials were doing their part to address the “shameful” situation that existed in the brothels. In addition to rounding up the madam and some of the security people, all of the foreign women were taken down to the station house. After a number of photographs were taken for the newspapers, the media and public officials departed, leaving ten Bangladesh women in the jail. For nearly two days they remained there until being transferred to a local vagrant house for their “self protection.” For nearly fourteen months they remained there until a Bangladesh-based NGO helped them to return home.

If done correctly, rescues can result in a positive outcome for those who want to leave the “harm environment.” However, as is often the case, many of those who are rescued are further victimized by legal systems that are not equipped to provide real protection. For example, following a rescue, the victims might be placed into jails or “remand homes” (vagrant centers) for safe custody, which both stigmatizes them and offers the possibility of further abuses. There are also examples of people being sold back to the brothels (e.g. by the law enforcement representatives) when those doing the rescuing lose interest in following through with the long, drawn-out process of repatriation.

Finally, there are times when women are removed from the brothels against their will. In other words, they have accepted the life they have and do not want to be taken out (refer to the section down below). In this case, removing a person from such a situation has been termed “reverse trafficking.”

For rescues to be effective partnerships are needed between the NGOs and police that ensure that a system is in place to voluntarily repatriate the victim quickly, without further trauma or delay. In all of these cases, it is important

that the victims know where to go to get help after being released, if this kind of support is sought.

- **The person dies while in the Harm Environment:** Some trafficked persons leave the “harm environment” as a result of dying. This could be from a disease or an accident that takes their life. For the family members, ensuring proper funeral rituals and/or repatriation of the dead body is very important.

D. THOSE WHO REMAIN IN THE “HARM” ENVIRONMENT

CHART J on the Flowchart or *FIGURE J* within this report reflects the reality that not all adults who have the ability to leave the “harm environment” actually do so. In some cases, this environment changes over time in such a way that the victim feels compelled to remain. For example, there are many women who have been trafficked into the sex industry, who when eventually given the option to leave, remain in the brothel setting (original harm environment). There are a variety of reasons for this, including:

- **Subjugation: (passive acceptance):** There are those who no longer have the strength to “carve-out” a new life. While they might have been given the freedom to leave, they remain. For example, the trafficked person may have heard what will await her if she returns to her home – e.g. she will not be accepted by her family, she will be stigmatized, she may end up in a worse situation, etc.
- **Normalization:** As restrictions are lessened over time, the victim might take on a boyfriend and/or have a child within the “harm environment.” For many, their co-workers become their “adopted” family. Thus, to leave would result in a loss of their support system. Likewise, many come to internalize that they’ve been “spoiled” which will result in them not being accepted back within their family or community.
- **Negotiated Status:** Many women who have been trafficked eventually learn how to work the system -- they become “clever.” This change sometimes allows a person to negotiate, maintain and/or fashion a situation for which they gain status, power and more control over their lives within the “harm environment.” Some victims remain within the system after acquiring their “agency” because they are afraid that they will lose this status if they go elsewhere.

- **Full Agency:** In this case, what was once an oppressive situation has turned into an environment where the victim feels like she can somehow benefit. For example, over time she might be given more freedoms and allowed to keep more of her earnings. Realizing that she is making much more money than could be earned in other low skill sectors, she remains within the “harm environment.” These women sometimes move on to become traffickers themselves.

E. POSSIBLE INTERVENTIONS TO PREVENT TRAFFICKING

CHART I on the Flowchart or *FIGURE I* within this report provides an overview of selected interventions that can be used when addressing those who transcend the harm environment.

FREE AGENT:
(choice over life options)

TRAFFICKED PERSON WHO REMAINS IN A PREVIOUS “HARM ENVIRONMENT/LOCATION” AFTER AN ONGOING OPPORTUNITY FOR DEPARTURE EXISTS (EXAMPLE: SEX WORKER IN A BROTHEL)

People who are trafficked into the “harm” will often experience an evolution of the episode that eventually leads to a realignment of the “levels of control” in their lives. This realignment sometimes creates opportunities to leave the “harm”, but for various reasons some people remain in the same environment/location. Sometimes harm is mitigated, sometimes it continues.
Below are some reasons for this.

Adaptation/Normalisation of the situation in comparison with other expectations (family, child, lover, etc).

Through sustained and various points of **resistance**, the balance of agency and control shifts to the trafficked person. Her expectations of situational improvement may lead her to conclude that the “harm environment” offers the most accessible benefits.

Agency granted: Person feels like she somehow now benefits from her situation (e.g. economic security).

Subjugation: Passive acceptance of the situation (“gives in”).

The trafficked person is so pacified by the “harm environment” and subjected to such fear of stigma or exclusion by society that she concludes that she would not benefit from leaving the “harm environment”.

- INTERVENTION OPTIONS:**
- Harm reduction for HIV/AIDS, STDs (condom promotion)
 - Alternative life/work skills development
 - Support mothers to keep their children outside brothels, voluntarily
 - Create an enabling environment
 - Improve the conditions of the industry based on human rights principles
 - Drug abuse counseling

- INTERVENTION OPTIONS:**
- Alternative life options offered (counseling)
 - Counseling support to build self-esteem
 - HIV/AIDS, STD harm reduction/counseling
 - Work skills training
 - Drug abuse counseling

E. HIV/AIDS PROGRAMS VERSIS ANTI-TRAFFICKING ACTIVITIES

Whether the person leaves the “harm environment” or eventually stays, the moment he/she truly has the “option” to leave, he/she is considered a trafficking survivor. While this person might still remain within some other type of “harmful” situation, this new “harm” will most likely have a different set of circumstances.

Likewise, the interventions needed to address the problem also differ once a trafficked person makes this change. For example, they might need to be exposed to HIV/AIDS harm reduction and condom promotion efforts to reduce their vulnerability to sexually transmitted diseases. For those who eventually chose to leave the sex industry as they get older, they might need alternative life skills training to find other work. Finally, support to protect their children from a similar fate is sometimes offered within brothel settings to provide an education so that they might lead another, less harmful lifestyle.

As noted in an earlier chapter, up until now the trafficking sector and the HIV/AIDS prevention sector have followed very different tracks. The HIV/AIDS-prevention development workers argue that if anti-trafficking efforts take place in brothels (e.g. raids and rescues), the madams and the pimps will blame them for these problems and their programs will be disrupted or stopped. As a result, protection efforts (e.g. awareness of HIV/AIDS, negotiation skills training, condom usage, etc.) would be lost and HIV/AIDS rates would undoubtedly increase.

On the other hand, many people feel that women who have been trafficked are more vulnerable to HIV/AIDS because they have fewer choices. With this in mind, those working on anti-trafficking efforts sometimes feel that by HIV/AIDS prevention groups working with the madams and pimps, the people who are often the ones buying and selling the girls, they are somehow providing legitimacy to these criminals to continue trafficking.

The reason for providing the example above (e.g. a woman who was trafficked but now chooses to remain in the “harm environment),” is to show that both development sectors (anti-trafficking and HIV/AIDS prevention) have a role to play in addressing the needs of vulnerable persons at different stages.

F. THOSE WHO LEAVE THE HARM BUT END UP RETURNING TO IT AGAIN

For some who leave the “harm environment,” within a short period of time new traffickers are able to acquire control over them again. This often happens under circumstances where the person’s “needs/motivations” to migrate force them to return to a situation where they are vulnerable to be re-trafficked. This topic will be discussed in more detail in later chapters.

CHAPTER 8

Elements related to Post-Trafficking Events

A. INTRODUCTION

This chapter will focus on 1) geographical outcomes of the post-trafficking event; 2) voluntary and involuntary repatriation; and 3) “Access to Justice” and the importance of specific human rights principles regarding trafficked persons.

B. GEOGRAPHICAL OUTCOME OF THE POST-TRAFFICKING EVENT

After a trafficked person has left the “harm” (brothel, factory, etc.), the question of where they go next often arises. Based on experience, there appears to be a number of different options followed by trafficked persons from Bangladesh. For example, the person may decide to: remain in the “harm environment,” remain in the country/community of destination, voluntarily travel to a third country, or voluntarily repatriate to their country/community of origin. In some cases, the person might also be forced to repatriate to their country/community of origin or be sent to a jail or a remand center. Below is a more detailed description of these options.

- **Person remains in the Previous “Harm Environment” even after an Option to Leave Exits:** As noted above, not all people who are trafficked leave the harm environment for the reasons outlined above.
- **Trafficked persons who remain in the country/community of destination:** There tends to be an assumption that ALL trafficked persons want to return to their destination country or community. However, experience from Bangladesh shows that this is not always the case. For example, many trafficked persons, upon leaving the “harm environment,” decide to reside in the country/community where they were trafficked. Some of the reasons for this include: they feel that the existing location is better suited to address their present needs; some may have taken on a family or partner in the origin country/community; they may have come to realize that they have little to return to in their country or community of origin (for example, if their family or community feels that they have

somehow been “spoiled,” many understand that they will not be allowed to integrate back into this situation.); or some may have been gone long enough that they have learned the language, come to understand the customs and feel more at home in the destination setting.

Example: Sharda worked within a brothel outside of Calcutta for five years after being trafficked from Bangladesh when she was eighteen years old. After being told that she had paid back what she owed to the madam, she decided to remain in the Calcutta area. In addition to having a boyfriend in the area, she had made many friends there. Since she recalled the abusive nature of her previous family life, she decided that returning home would not be in her best interest.

- **Trafficked Person decides to travel to a third country:** Some trafficked persons decide to travel to a “third country” (a location other than their country of origin or destination.) This may result from them having heard that there are economic opportunities present there or perhaps a better standard of living. Within the international trafficking arena, the issue of voluntary “third-country” resettlement is presently being extensively discussed. For example, a third-country option might be needed to prevent reprisals from traffickers in both the country of origin and destination, or in cases where re-trafficking is considered a strong possibility.
- **Voluntary Repatriation: Those who voluntarily chose to repatriate to their country/community of origin:** In addition to those who chose to stay, there are also those who may decide to voluntarily return back to their country or community of origin. This process can be facilitated with the help of well-wishers or NGO representatives, or in many cases, the person returns on their own. The reasons for wanting to return often include: everything about the destination environment is tainted by the traumatic experience; they want to return to what is familiar to them – language, food, customs, etc.; they miss their family, friends and/or community; or they are not aware of the stigma that might await them upon their return.

Example: Gita was trafficked to a household in Bombay. She went there with the promise of a good paying job as an Ayah (nanny). But upon arriving, in addition to taking care of four children, she was forced to do all of the housework and cooking. Each day, she worked from 6:00 am until 11:00 pm for virtually no salary. She was told that if she tried to leave or if she complained, she would be severely beaten. One day, an uncle of hers came from Bangladesh to see how she was doing, but the family refused to allow him to meet with her. After going to the police station and complaining, he was given a chance to see her. Upon finding out the conditions of her employment, Gita was released from the household. She immediately returned with her uncle to Bangladesh. The experience was so traumatic, she felt a need to immediately leave the country.

- **Involuntary Repatriation: Those who are forced to repatriate to their country/community of origin:** In some cases, state authorities in a destination country sometimes force a trafficked person to repatriate to their country of origin. This has been called “reverse trafficking” by those who feel that it is a violation of a person’s rights to force them to return to a country following a trafficking episode. This process often results in an incomplete resolution of the “trafficking episode,” since the person’s “migratory needs/motivations” are generally not taken into consideration. Upon return, the person may also be compounded by excessive debt and stigma. In many cases, these trafficked persons remain vulnerable to be re-trafficked.

In some countries around the world, if the trafficked person does not agree to cooperate in the prosecution process, he/she might be involuntarily forced to repatriate to their country of origin. This phenomenon does not appear to be a problem in the Bangladesh context at this time.

C. **ACCESS TO JUSTICE, LEGAL ACTIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

Access to Justice

Although the option to prosecute those involved in the trafficking sector is always a possibility after a person leaves the “harm,” this seldom happens in the South Asian context for the following reasons: many trafficked persons lack confidence in the police and judicial systems; without money and a strong support system, it is

difficult to secure a conviction against a trafficker; intimidation and threats are often used by traffickers to prevent a person from taking legal action; and since recruiters and traffickers are sometimes members of a family or community, there is often pressure from within to avoid initiating a legal action against them.

For prosecution of traffickers to be effective, legal and other assistance must be provided to trafficked persons for the duration of any criminal action against suspected traffickers. The State must also provide protection to victims and witnesses during the legal proceedings.

Since some trafficked persons are sometimes detained, charged or prosecuted for the illegality of their entry into or residence in the country of destination, it is important that the legal system not punish them for their unlawful activities to the extent that such involvement was a direct consequence of their situation as a trafficked person.

CHARTS L on the Flowchart or **FIGURE L** within this report address these issues in more detail.

Human Rights Principles

CHARTS R on the Flowchart or **FIGURE R** within this report provides a listing of several important human rights principles that must be addressed when working with trafficked persons. These represent guidelines that must always be taken into consideration when addressing the problem.

ACCESS TO JUSTICE

At present, many people choose not to engage with the criminal justice system for the purpose of prosecuting traffickers as there is a lack of confidence in the system and a general fear that the outcome of engagement in the legal process could have severe repercussions on their own personal liberties and security.

OTHER ISSUE

- Trafficked persons are sometimes detained, charged or prosecuted for the illegality of their entry into or residence in the country of destination.
- It is important that trafficked persons should not be punished for their unlawful activities to the extent that such involvement was a direct consequence of their situation as a trafficked person.

LEGAL ACTION

Governments working with its partners, should continue ensuring that legal and other assistance is provided to trafficked persons for the duration of any criminal, civil or other actions against suspected traffickers. This should cover the period from when a crime is reported to the end of the prosecution process.

ENSURING RIGHTS FOR ALL TRAFFICKED PERSONS

- The human rights of trafficked persons must be at the centre of all efforts to prevent and address trafficking and to protect, assist and provide redress to victims.
- The Government, working with other partners, must accept the responsibility to act with due diligence to prevent trafficking, to investigate and prosecute traffickers and to assist and protect trafficked persons.
- Counter – trafficking measures should not adversely affect the human rights and dignity of persons.
- With the Government and NGOs working closely together, efforts to integrate trafficked persons into a community, should be participatory (trafficked person involved) and comprehensive (the needs of the trafficked persons are addressed).

CHAPTER 9

Recovery and Integration of Trafficking Survivors

A. INTRODUCTION

This chapter will focus on 1) the recovery process; 2) the social integration process; and 3) definitions of what constitutes successful or unsuccessful social integration.

B. RECOVERY PROCESS

Once the person is physically out of the “harm,” a recovery process begins. Depending on the person and the trauma that he/she may have experienced, this can take weeks, months or years. In this case, the term “recovery” is being used loosely to refer to a stabilization process during which the survivor develops the means (physical and emotional) to face their new life situation. This recovery can be facilitated with assistance from an individual (social worker, counselor or legal representative) or from an institution (public or NGO managed home). However, in most cases the survivor finds their own way with no help from any others. The recovery can also take place in the country/community of destination or the country/community of origin, depending on the person’s situation.

- **Self-Recovery Process:** In many cases, the trafficked person is forced to recover without the help of anyone. For most of these people, they are unaware that there are individuals or organizations willing to help them. For others, while they might be aware of such facilities (e.g. NGO shelters), they are either too embarrassed or too ashamed to seek this support. Many have been betrayed so many times, they are incapable of trusting anyone to help them. While this is the most common way a trafficked person returns after leaving the “harm environment,” there is very limited research information available that offers insights into how they go through this process. It is important to note that self-recovery can sometimes begin in the “harm environment” itself (refer to Figure M1).

Example: Sushma was trafficked to a brothel in Bombay. After nearly four years, she was allowed to leave when she had paid back what they said she owed. Since her family thought she was in India working in a Carpet factory, she returned home without telling anyone what she had been doing. When asked where the money she had earned was, she lied and said that it was stolen as she was returning home. While she was allowed to re-enter the community, she lived in constant fear that someday someone would recognize her and reveal her secret. She did her best to live with the shame and the depression that followed her long ordeal.

- **Facilitated Recovery Process:** Under the category of progressive facilitated recovery, the range of choices might include short and long-term stay homes, as well as drop in centers. In Bangladesh, several NGOs run long-term stay homes that include up to fifty or more trafficked persons of varying ages. To protect them from further exploitation, there is high security within these shelters which tend to limit their freedom of movement. While counseling, food, shelter, medical care, and schooling are all offered, there is presently no tangible strategy in place to integrate those within the shelters back into community life. As a result, many will remain in the facility for years to come.

Based on research carried out throughout the world, people who become accustomed to a rigid institutional routine often do not develop the skills needed to face the real world. As a result, many find themselves being exploited when they return to a community setting again. Many others end up returning to an institutional setting when they fail to adjust.

Example: At the age of four, Ramesh was sent to the Middle East to be a camel jockey. After three years, when he became too heavy to effectively compete, he was returned to India. Since his parents couldn't be located, he was placed in a shelter home. For nearly twelve years, he lived in this facility. He received food, shelter, and an education in a structured setting. When he was finally allowed to leave, however, he found it nearly impossible to cope with the rigors of community life. Having followed a strict routine within the facility, he was totally unprepared to face a return back to society.

The ideal situation for facilitated recovery is a location that covers the basic needs (food, shelter and medical support), has a limited number of people (between 5-10) in a family-like setting, trained counseling staff, freedom of movement, and a playground (for children). The goal is to help stabilize the survivor through a structured short-stay program in order to get them back into a safe, protective family or community environment as soon as possible. The services must be adapted to the needs of each individual trafficked person since each case is unique and requires a different kind of support.

As an alternative to institutions, several organizations in Bangladesh have expressed an interest in experimenting with parent craft and foster care programs. The Government of Bangladesh is working with the NGO sector to provide oversight to help foster this process.

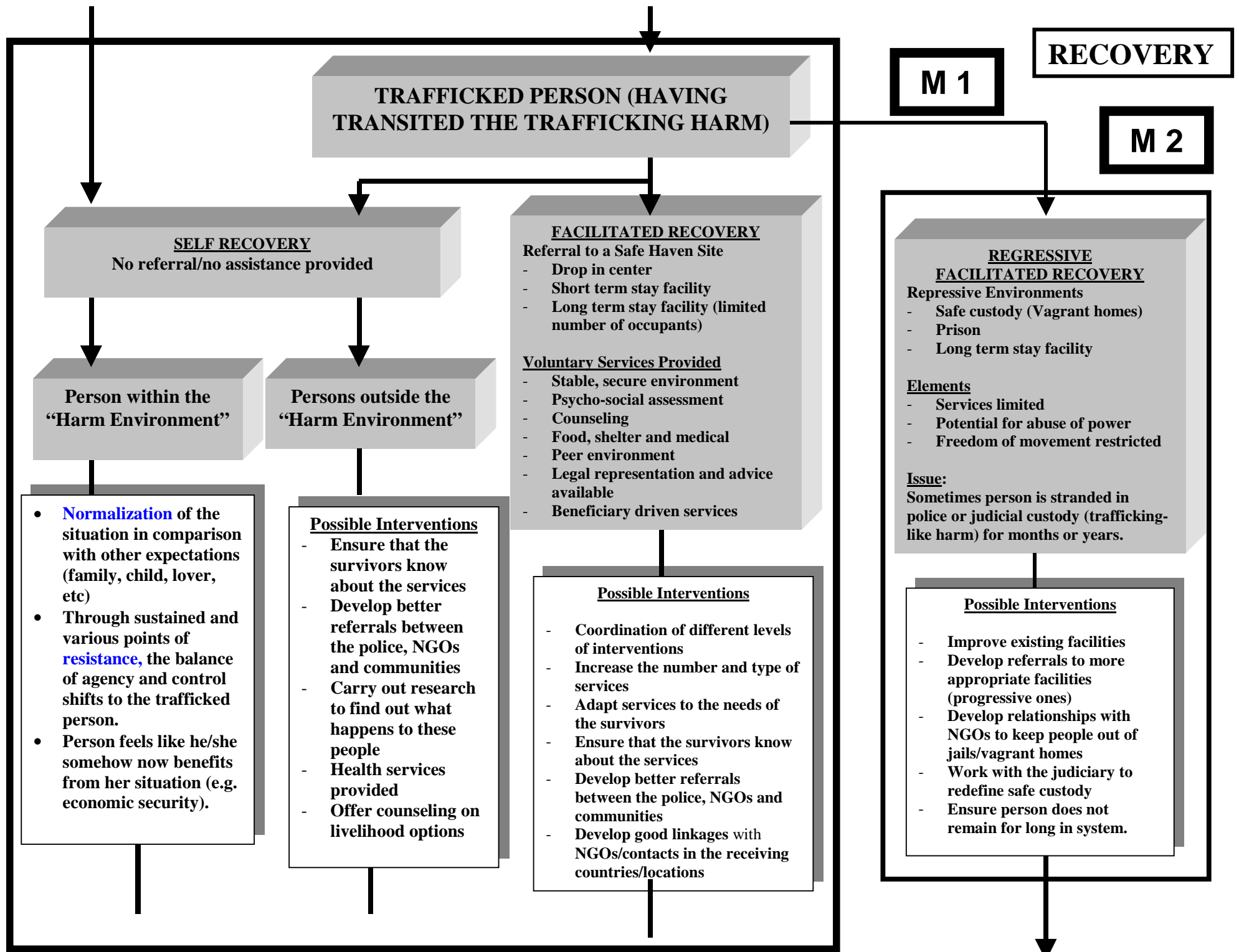
- **Regressive Facilitated Recovery:** Not all facilitated recovery approaches are necessarily helpful. For example, under some circumstances, trafficked persons are placed into prisons or vagrant homes for safe custody. These public-run facilities tend to be overcrowded, limited in their services, offer no freedom of movement and offer an environment where abuse of power can sometimes thrive. As a result, they tend to further victimize and/or stigmatize the person. There are also examples of trafficked persons who have been placed into these facilities that remain there for many years before the system allows them to leave.

Example: Seema is rescued from a brothel in Patna. While the repatriation process is being started, the State sends her to a vagrant home for safe custody. With major backlogs in the overall system, the case drags on for many months. After a while, those who carried out the rescue lose interest in the case. With no one moving the legal process forward, Seema is forced to stay in the home for nearly six years before her case is brought to the attention a Bangladesh NGO.

Since few public run facilities in Bangladesh (or anywhere else in South Asia) have the services and trained staff needed to address the specific needs of those who have been through a trafficking experience, referrals are needed to more progressive facilities (often run by NGOs) that offer psycho-social assessments, counseling, and a safe, supportive environment.

Last Updated on: 05/31/04

CHARTS M1/M2 on the Flowchart or ***FIGURE M1/M2*** within this report provides an overview of the recovery options along with various possible interventions to address the various categories described.



D. SOCIAL INTEGRATION PROCESS

At some point, the trafficked person must consider what he/she wants to do with the next stage of his/her life. The options include returning to their family, a community setting, a workplace setting or a combination of one or all of these. Once again, this process can be facilitated or the person can go through it with no assistance from anyone.

- **Self-Integration:** Similar to the recovery process described above, in many cases, the trafficked person is forced to integrate back into society without the help of anyone. Many of these people are unaware that there are individuals/groups willing to help. For others, a generalized lack of trust may keep them away. While this is the most common way a trafficked person returns, there is limited research information available that offers insights into what they do.
- **Facilitated Integration:** Facilitated integration refers to a process by which a trafficked person is helped to return to daily life in society. Those providing the assistance might include a social worker, a counselor or an NGO worker. Their job is to ensure that the survivor is placed into a safe, stable environment that will not allow for further exploitation. This often requires visiting the site, interviewing family members, providing counseling, and follow up. To do this work effectively, those providing the assistance must be well trained and experienced.

Example: Zareen, a domestic within a household, has been repatriated from India after being rescued from an abusive employer. After arriving back in Bangladesh, she remains for nearly two months in a group home where she is offered counseling and care. Once she feels strong enough, a social worker from the facility travels with Zareen to her village home. There, the counselor works with the family to help them understand what Zareen has gone through. After being placed back into her home environment, the social worker periodically follows up with a visit to the home to provide further care and support to both the family and to Zareen.

- **Integration Options: Family, Community or Workplace:** The ideal situation for integration is the immediate **family**. If this is not possible, the extended family should be considered. However, some families are so

dysfunctional, they are not suitable and may further harm the person. Likewise, not all families accept the survivor back – many don't. If the family is not an option, a situation that offers a family-like community environment is considered the next best alternative. Finally, in some cases, a workplace environment might also be a consideration.

For those who are able to keep their exploitative experience a secret, being accepted back within the family might be possible. But for many throughout South Asia, if there is knowledge or suspicion that the family member has done something “shameful,” she is often cast out and not accepted. Even if the person was a total victim, society is often not very forgiving – there are brothers and sisters that need to be married off. The stigma can have a negative effect on the entire family.

Returning the person back to a community setting is very important. This might include having the victim share a room with several other women. Living in a community setting helps to develop coping skills that cannot easily be taught in a rigid institutional environment.

In some of the larger urban areas, integration into a workplace setting is another option (e.g. a dormitory that is associated with a business). This offers a chance for the person to return to social life, earn a living and begin to rebuild his/her life. To do this, job training, might be required.

A long-term goal for all of these programs is to build up life skills that help to provide the basic foundation for the person to function in society. One of the main problems in this process is the stigmatization that goes along with the trafficking outcome. Throughout South Asia, many communities still victimize the victim by not allowing them to return home. Over time, one of the goals of the trafficking sector should be to help communities to reduce the stigma attached to a trafficking victimization. This change will not come without years of positive reinforcement. One approach to address this is to use mass media to desensitize people to accepting those who have been trafficked as victims of exploitation who deserve our help, not our scorn and disapproval.

- **Social Integration versus Reintegration – A Question of Conceptual Clarity:** Many anti-trafficking programs around the world use the term “reintegration” to describe when a trafficked person is returned to a community. The Thematic group spent a lot of time discussing this matter.

At the end of this discourse, it was decided that “social Integration” was a better phrase. It was felt that “reintegration” implied that the trafficked person is returning to a specific place – their family, their old community, etc. While this may be the case for some, for many others, after leaving the “harm environment,” they might enter up in a totally different situation (new country, new community, new setting, etc). By using the prefix “re”, it implies a return to the same. The phrase “social integration” allows for both “reintegration” as well as a wider range of other options (e.g. the person starts a new life somewhere else).

Bringing the Pieces Together

CHARTS M1/M2 on the Flowchart or *FIGURE M1/M2* within this report provides an overview of the recovery options along with various possible interventions to address the various categories described.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INTEGRATION
(Rebuilding of life)

N

FACILITATED INTEGRATION
Assistance provided in helping with social integration process by NGOs, GOs & CBOs

SELF INTEGRATION
No assistance in social integration process

Extended Family

Community

Workplace

- Possible Interventions**
- Use media to sensitize families to non-punitive and non stigmatization of survivors
 - Provide counseling to family members
 - Offer suggestions for alternative employment
 - Provide to trafficked person:
 - Job training
 - Skills development
 - Access to loans
 - Literacy training
 - Create an enabling environment for trafficked returnees to come back to place of origin

- Possible Interventions**
- Use media to sensitize communities to non-punitive and non-stigmatisation of survivors
 - Provide counseling to community leaders
 - Provide to trafficked person:
 - Job training
 - Skills development
 - Literacy training
 - Small scale loans (micro credit), etc.
 - Create an enabling environment for trafficked returnees to come back to place of origin

- Possible Interventions**
- Use media to sensitize employers to non-punitive and non-stigmatisation of survivors
 - Provide to trafficked person:
 - Job training
 - Skills development
 - Improve placement (hire survivors and train them)

D. OUTCOME OF RECOVERY AND INTEGRATION

The process of recovery and integration has both successes and failures. To address these options, the Bangladesh Thematic Group came up with criteria for judging success. This criteria uses as an index – the level of control a person has over their life as outlined below.

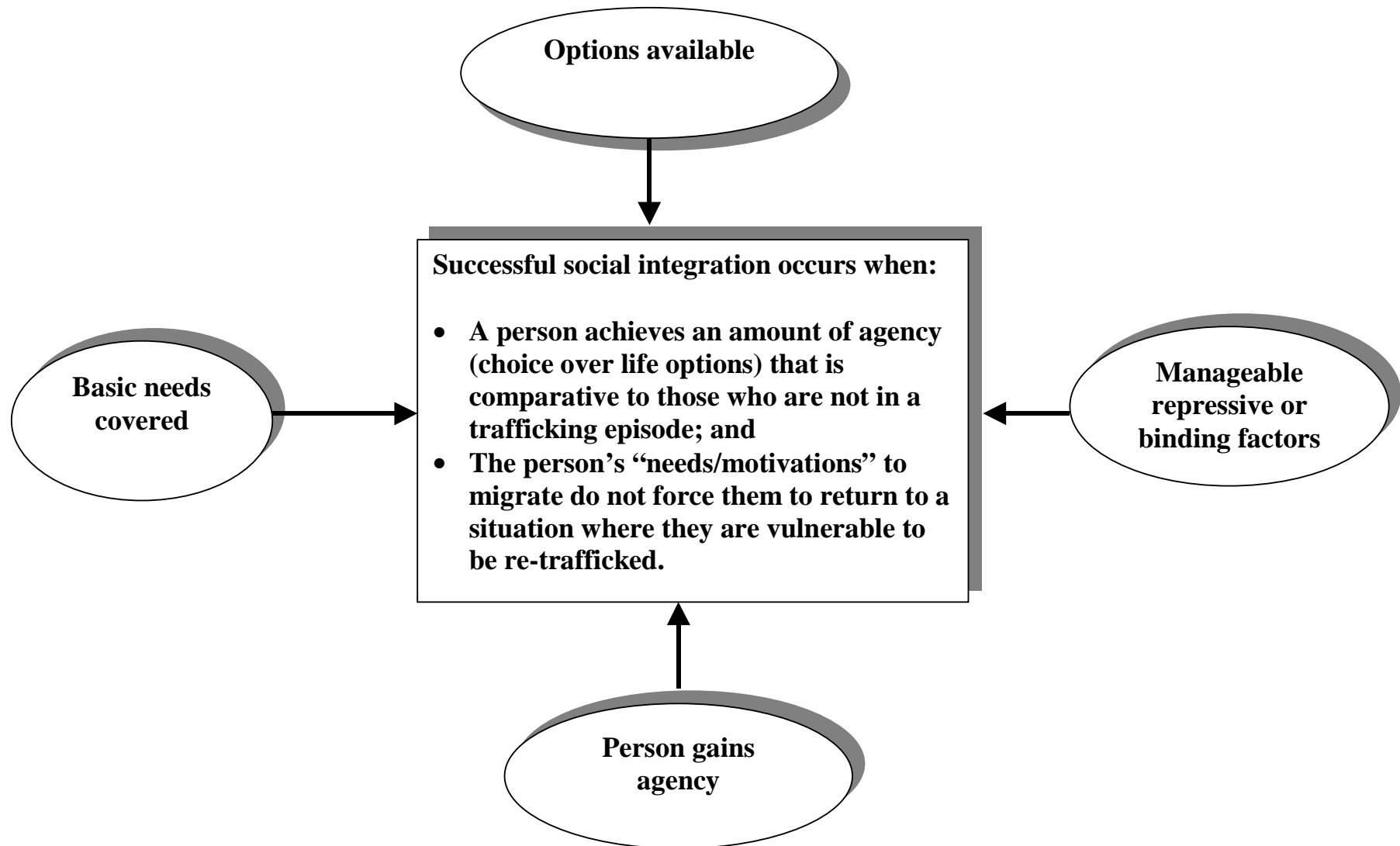
- **Successful Social Integration:** The thematic group spent a lot of time debating what would constitute a successful integration for a person. At the end of this discussion, it was agreed that the successful integration occurs when:
 - A person achieves an amount of agency (choice over their life options) that is comparative to those who are not in a trafficking episode. (In other words, this statement accepts that fact that none of us really have full agency – there are always binding factors that prevent us from having full control over our lives.); and
 - The person’s “need/motivation” to migrate does not force him/her to return to a situation where he/she is vulnerable to be re-trafficked. (In this case, they are not locked into a situation that pre-disposes them to accept another susceptible situation.)

Thus, for those who succeed, they have what might be termed “comparative agency.” Other related factors include the following:

- The person’s **basic needs** are covered (food, shelter, etc.);
- **Options** are available to them (the option to leave or stay, the option to seek other employment, etc.); and
- **Binding factors** (debt bondage, threats, force, etc.) or repressive factors are manageable and do not dominate the course of a person’s life.

Refer to **CHART O** on the Flowchart or **FIGURE O** within this report for a visual representation of this.

SUCCESSFUL SOCIAL INTEGRATION PROCESS:
THE PERSON HAS “COMPARATIVE AGENCY”



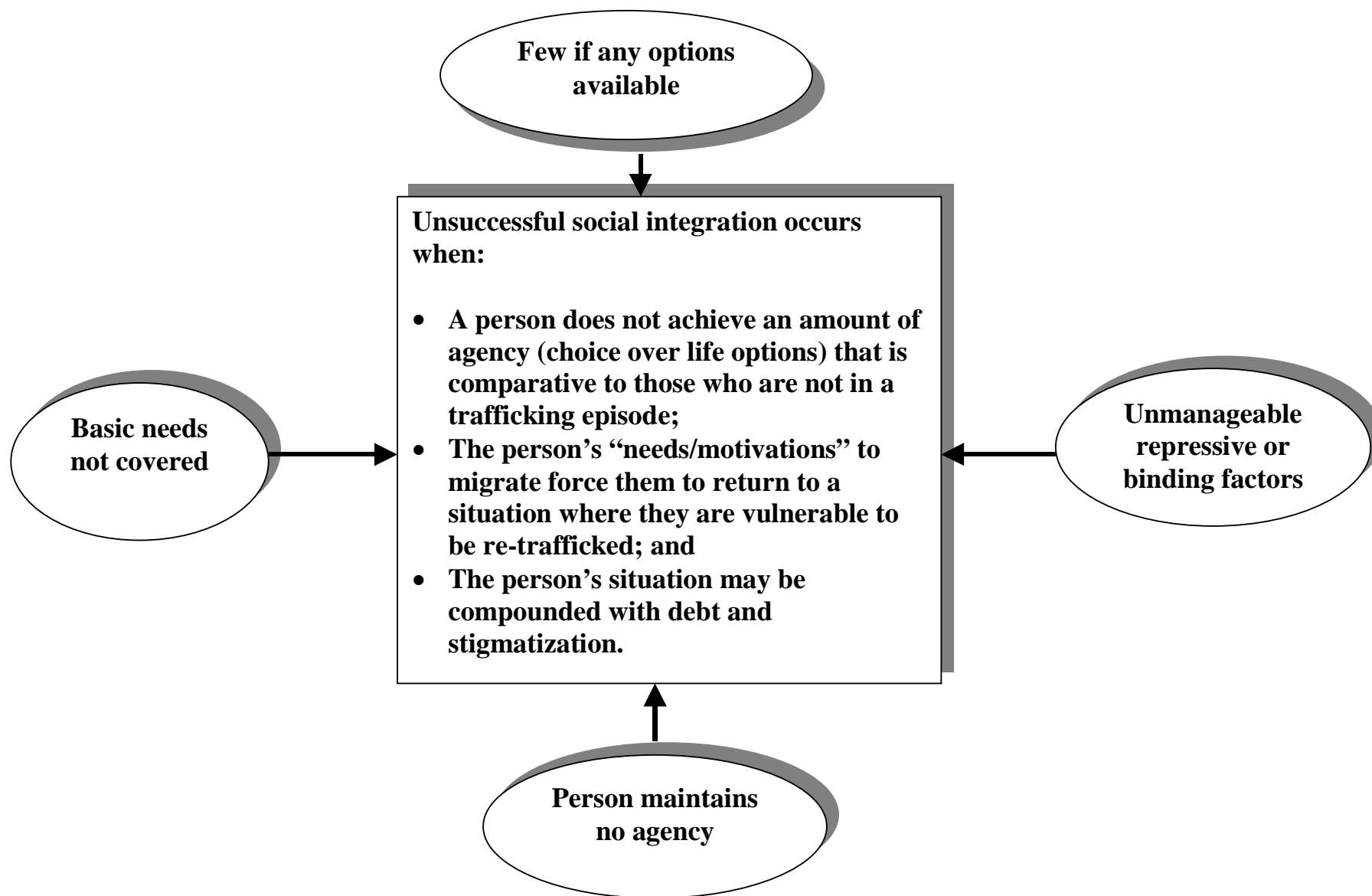
- **Unsuccessful Social Integration: Return to Exploitative Situation:** On the other hand, there are many others who find themselves once again returning to the “harm environment” all over again. This may occur because they are stigmatized, which creates a heightened vulnerability, or because they lack the skills to protect themselves from those who exploit. The thematic group felt that unsuccessful social integration occurs when:
 - A person does not achieves an amount of agency (choice over their life options) that is comparative to those who are not in a trafficking episode. (In other words, there are many binding factors that prevent him/her from having much control over his/her live.);
 - The person’s “need/motivation” to migrate forces him/her to return to a situation where he/she is vulnerable to be re-trafficked. (In this case, they are locked into a situation that pre-disposes them to accept another susceptible situation.); and
 - The person’s situation may be compounded with debt and stigmatization.

Thus, for those who do not succeed, the person has little or no agency (choice over life options). Related factors include:

- The person’s **basic needs** are not covered (food, shelter, etc.);
- **Few, if any, options** are available to them (the option to leave or stay, the option to seek other employment, etc.); and
- **Binding** (debt bondage, threats, force, etc.) or repressive factors are unmanageable and dominate the course of a person’s life.

Refer to **CHART P** on the Flowchart or **FIGURE P** within this report for a visual representation of this.

UNSUCCESSFUL SOCIAL INTEGRATION PROCESS:
LITTLE OR NO AGENCY (CHOICE OF LIFE OPTIONS)



CHAPTER 10

Second Generation Thinking: What Next?

From the first day the “Bangladesh Thematic Group” was formed, the concept of addressing “second generation thinking” within the trafficking sector was introduced. As the Thematic Group progressed, this concept began to take on a life of its own, as the various conceptual elements were refined and expanded. For example, during a major anti-trafficking conference held in Hawaii (November 2002), the second-generation concept was introduced to others working in the anti-trafficking movement as part of several Bangladesh presentations. Based on these presentations, a number of other presenters repeatedly made calls for having the entire sector move from “first” to “second generation thinking” within the trafficking sector.

During a South Asia regional conference entitled “Workshop to Explore a New Paradigm for Addressing Trafficking in Persons” (March 2003), 35 participants from throughout South Asia came to Dhaka to debate and contribute to the development of a second generation conceptualisation of trafficking. Some of the key outcomes of the workshop were 1) a consensus on the parameters/guidelines on the second-generation thinking; 2) an agreement that the Bangladesh Thematic Group would now be expanded into a South Asian Thematic Group; and 3) an agreement that other countries in the region will initiate a similar country-specific process.

To better articulate the basic components of “second generation thinking” as expressed in the expanded thematic group, a number of specific suggestions emerged. First, the thematic group felt that “second generation thinking” needed to begin by focusing on all of the various steps involved in the trafficking process – from when a person is recruited, the movement of that person to the “trafficking harm/outcome,” and through the recovery and integration process. The idea is to avoid presenting “trafficking” as a single event -- but instead as a series of interrelated events along an extended continuum that spans a given period of time.

Second, the group felt that more approaches were needed to visually present the process (e.g. through mapping, flowchart development, etc.) so that those addressing the problem can better see and understand the complexity of the process. Since trafficking scenarios differ from country to country, each flowchart should be adapted to accommodate the specific needs of a given setting.

Third, the group felt that all trafficking outcomes (e.g. domestic servitude, camel jockeys, beggars, factory workers, and prostitution) should be given equal attention when addressing the trafficking problem. In the past, there has been more emphasis on trafficking into the sex trade, at the expense of other exploitative outcomes. For this change to happen, more research is required to further explore other trafficking outcomes, especially in the destination countries.

Fourth, the group felt that there was a need for a clear distinction between the approaches and interventions used to address the different needs of women who have been trafficked versus children who have been trafficked, as separate target groups. When addressing trafficked persons, women and children are often combined together in the same category as if they share the same level of dependency and inability to exert their own will. When women and children are put into the same category like this, it implies that women are unable to make any choices for themselves and that they are totally dependent on others for their life decisions. This does a disservice to women and tends to underestimate their abilities to make major life choices.

Fifth, the Thematic Group felt that more time and effort is needed to show how the migratory process coincides with many trafficking events for adults (this does not always hold true for children). This is not to legitimize the problem, but instead to help provide a better understanding of how traffickers “deceive” victims through a promise of migratory benefits or outcomes (e.g. a marriage, a good job, etc.). As noted above, our present traditional, theoretical understanding can no longer resolve the ambiguities and uncertainties concerning migration and trafficking. It warrants a new theoretical framework for providing a clear picture and analytical understanding of the issue.

Sixth, the Thematic Group felt the need to further emphasize the importance of “demand” factors in understanding the trafficking phenomenon. Human trafficking is driven by two basic factors 1) the available supply of people who can be tricked, manipulated and/or forced into “slave-like situations;” and 2) the demand created by those who use these people to fill a need for cheap, vulnerable and highly exploitative commercial sexual services and/or exploitative labor. Up until recently, most reports related to the human trafficking sector have focused only on the supply side – the trafficked persons, their experiences, what happens to them, etc. In contrast to this, only a handful of studies have tried to address the question of “demand dynamics.” In this case, demand refers to those people/organizations/

syndicates that create or influence an environment that allows for exploitative commercial sexual services or exploitative labor to exist.

Seventh, the Thematic Group felt that a flowchart format can be used to: link appropriate “interventions” with the various stages of a trafficking episode; link research needs/gaps to the various stages of the trafficking episode; and introduce indicators and methods of measuring impact as a part of everything the sector does to address the trafficking problem. This approach would allow for more “science” (supporting research, focus group testing to create targeted messages, etc.) to be introduced into the sector in terms of what interventions should be used to reduce the problem in an environment of limited funding.

Other elements discussed included 1) the health of trafficked persons should get special attention; 2) the recovery process in trafficking can have both progressive and regressive elements; 3) the integration process can be facilitated or self integrated; 4) participation of trafficked persons is necessary at all stages of counter trafficking interventions; 5) power relations and a person’s own level of “agency” need to be understood in the context of trafficking events; and 6) trafficking is a development concern and should not be treated as a “political” one.

Refer to **FIGURE S** within this report for a summary of the elements identified during the South Asia Regional Meeting.

Figure S
Second Generation Concepts

Elements	Conceptualization	Strategy/Intervention
1. Clarity	Clear, open and balanced understanding in national regional and global context (common ownership)	Thematic discussion, at all levels (local, national, regional and international)
2. Thematic Mapping	Trafficking phenomenon as a continuum of interrelated issues, events and problems	Initiate mapping exercise, at all levels, to establish links between issues, events and problems
3. Trafficking-Migration nexus	Migration, Smuggling and Trafficking are three distinct but interrelated phenomena	Interventions should be integrative in nature taking into consideration the specific need of each of the vulnerable groups
4. Adult, Adolescent and child Trafficking	Trafficking of Adult, Adolescent and child cannot be effectively addressed within a single paradigm	Separate types of interventions for addressing the trafficking in Adult, Adolescent and child
5. Supply and Demand	There are interrelation between “demand side” and “supply side” of trafficking like other population mobilities	Counter trafficking interventions needed along the trafficking continuum both at the demand and supply end
6. Exploitative Outcome	Outcome not only ends in sex work, but also in other types of exploitative, bonded and forced labor (e.g. domestic servitude, camel jockeying, forced marriage, etc.)	Identify various trafficking harms, develop focused programs and initiate research
7. Multi-dimensional problem	Labor, Human Rights, legal, socio-cultural, security, health hazards, economy, trade and business, gender, development., education, and migration phenomena	Study and identify roles and responsibilities of individuals, family, civil society, state, international community, etc.

Elements	Conceptualization	Strategy/Intervention
8. Trafficking Vulnerabilities	Lack of livelihood options, lack of information, gender discrimination, age, conflict and disaster create conditions for people vulnerable to trafficking	Gender sensitive and sustainable livelihood options and social opportunities needed for vulnerable groups. Bring attitudinal change towards vulnerabilities.
9. Health and Injury in Trafficking	Trafficked persons have special physical, emotional and mental health needs, which are often overlooked	Special interventions need to be adopted for trafficked persons including trauma and counseling
10. Limitation and impediments in legal instruments and establishments	Legal instruments and establishments often fail to consider the best interests of the survivor. National & International legal instruments are not implemented in its totality.	Legal and law enforcement agencies need sensitization and reorientation. Adequate quality legal aid is needed.
11. Progressive, Regressive, Recovery	Access and availability of services contributes to the survivors empowerment.	Make recovery a progressive phenomenon, remove regressive elements
12. Integration Continuum	The process of integration could range from successful, unsuccessful and revictimization outcomes presenting a continuum	Appropriate interventions and specific programs to take care of the needs of trafficked persons
13. Facilitated vs self integration	Integration can be either facilitated or executed by the survivors herself/himself	Better understanding and appropriate, need based interventions for facilitated and self integrated survivors
14. Child Trafficking “HARM”	Child trafficking harm is different from adult trafficking harm	Appropriate and need based interventions for the best interests of children
15. Child Migration	Children alone, often do not voluntarily migrate. They are generally forced, compelled by actors and factors.	Consider this while developing migration and counter-trafficking policies, programmes and interventions.
16. Adult/Child Care Services	Adult and Child care services should be treated according to their needs, rights and the situations.	Appropriate and need based programs should be adopted keeping in mind that the children have specific needs. Standards for care services need to be developed.

Elements	Conceptualization	Strategy/Intervention
17. Participation of trafficking persons	Active and genuine participation in all stages of counter trafficking interventions	Create space and opportunities for active and genuine participation of trafficked persons in the decision making which affects their lives.
18. Strategic collaboration among the stakeholder	Ideological and internal conflicts and competitions among the stakeholders in counter trafficking field compromises the maximization of impacts.	Attempts should be made to reduce internal conflicts and competitions among the stakeholders in the counter trafficking field
19. Power Relations & Control	Factors that influence a persons position in formal and informal power structure and thereby determines a persons level of control	Exploring ways to facilitate levels of control in a persons life.
20. Trafficking is a National, Regional and Global issue	Not enough emphasis on genuine national, regional and global cooperation and coordination	Structured and cohesive efforts among various stakeholders are required. Facilitate implementation of regional and global instruments at national level
21. Trafficking as a development issue	Development policies and issues have not adequately addressed trafficking phenomena.	Development policies and programs should better consider trafficking phenomena in a integrated and holistic manner within the human rights framework.
22. Impact of globalization on trafficking	Adverse aspects of globalizing forces have aggravated trafficking	Study the relationship between globalization and trafficking