

JANUARY -
DECEMBER

20
23

Anti-Trafficking in Persons Report for Belize

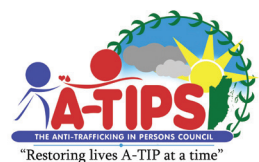
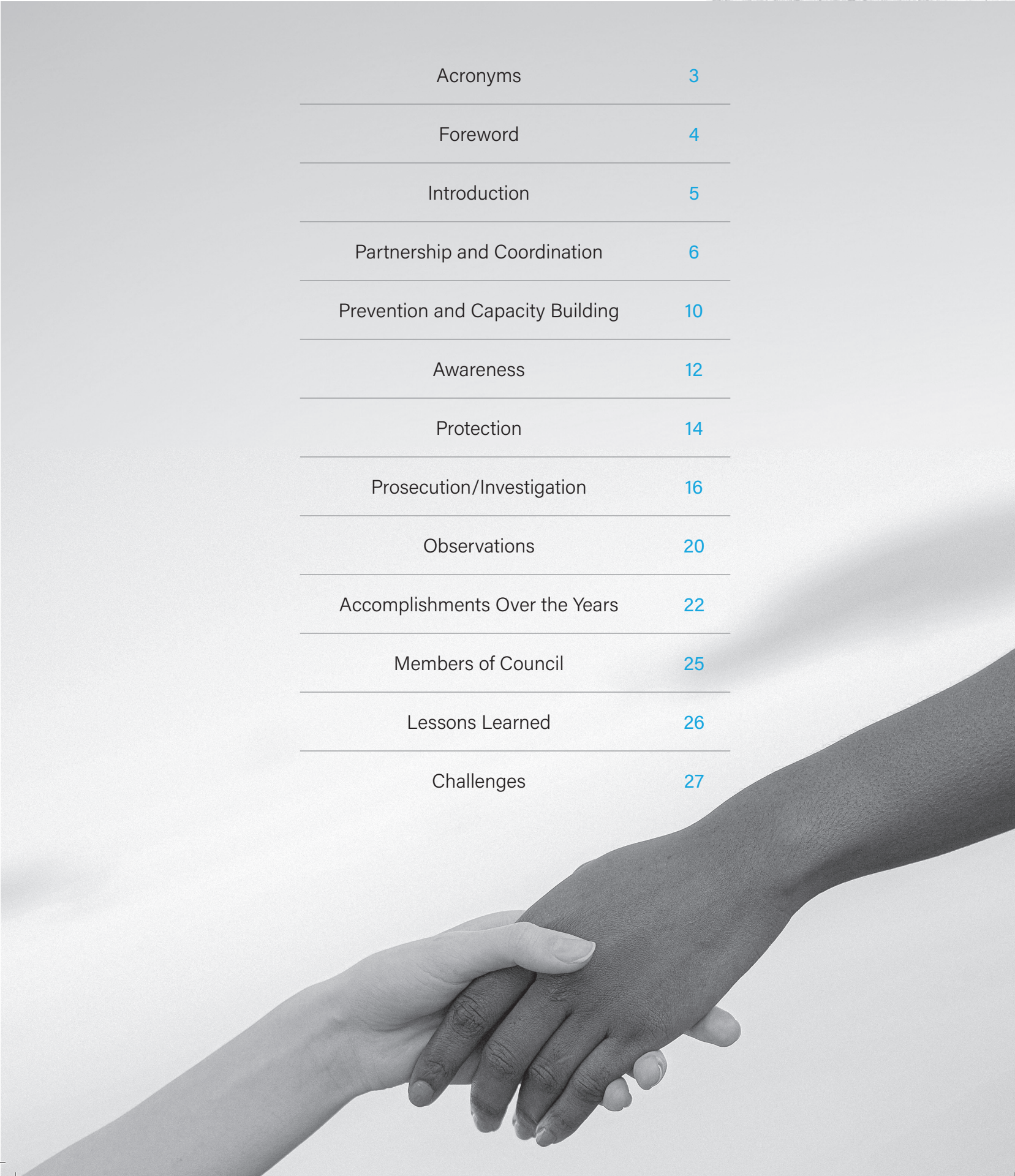


Table of Contents

Acronyms	3
Foreword	4
Introduction	5
Partnership and Coordination	6
Prevention and Capacity Building	10
Awareness	12
Protection	14
Prosecution/Investigation	16
Observations	20
Accomplishments Over the Years	22
Members of Council	25
Lessons Learned	26
Challenges	27



Acronyms

ACRONYM	MEANING
NCFC	National Committee for Families and Children
BCG	Belize Coast Guard
BDF	Belize Defence Force
BPD	Belize Police Department
BTB	Belize Tourism Board
CARICOM IMPACS	The Caribbean Community Implementation Agency for Crime and Security
CCCCC	Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre
CSAM	Child Sexual Abuse Material
CSEC	Commercial Sexual Exploitation of a Child
IO	Inter-governmental Organization
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NOPCAN	National Organization for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect
PITCU	Police Information, Technology and Cyber Unit
SICA	Central American Integration System
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USI	Unlawful Sexual Intercourse
YES	Youth Enhancement Services

Foreword



Hon. Dolores Balderamos Garcia

Human trafficking is a crime against humanity that robs victims of their freedom, dignity, and basic human rights. Globally, men, women, and children are coerced, deceived, or forced into labour or sexual exploitation against their will. In Central America and the Caribbean, the majority of victims are women and girls. Belize, like many nations around the world, faces this reality.

Belize's response to human trafficking is guided by the Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Act of 2013. This Act established a national multi-sectoral Anti-Trafficking in Persons (ATIPS) Council. The ATIPS Council continuously strives to enhance its capacity to prevent and respond to cases of human trafficking. The Council is chaired by the Ministry of Human Development, Families and Indigenous Peoples' Affairs and includes membership from key Government Ministries and civil society organizations.

In 2023, the Council focused on four key thematic areas: partnership building, prevention, protection and prosecution. Together, the Council created greater public awareness on key elements of human trafficking and human smuggling. This included a Blue Heart Campaign to create awareness and build compassion for survivors of human trafficking. The Council also conducted targeted training sessions with first responders, including police officers, military personnel, immigration officers, social workers, teachers, tourism workers and local government regulatory bodies.

The Council developed a more coordinated and effective approach to identifying suspected cases of human trafficking. This included the development of a geospatial map of high risk locations in Belmopan where human trafficking might take place. The project aimed to strengthen our national surveillance systems, enhance our operational capacity and establish a digital monitoring system.

The Council also implemented new protocols for holding perpetrators accountable and providing comprehensive support to survivors. In 2023, the ATIPS Police Unit strengthened its capacity to investigate and prosecute suspected cases of human trafficking and human smuggling. The Alternative Care Unit within the Department of Human Services also strengthened its provision of psychosocial, housing and other support to survivors. The Council operated a migrant shelter and facilitated the safe repatriation of migrants to their home countries.

Government's sustained commitment to addressing human trafficking, along with the significant contributions of civil society and the technical input and resources of international partners, allowed it to complete another successful year of coordination and collaboration.

Together, we will continue to make a difference in combatting human trafficking and in addressing the root causes that create vulnerabilities to labour and sexual exploitation.

Dolores Balderamos Garcia

Ministry of Human Development, Families,
and Indigenous Peoples' Affairs

Introduction

“Trafficking in Persons” is a crime rooted in the violation of the human rights of individuals. This crime has an impact on communities around the world, particularly vulnerable people. With its classification as form of Gender-based violence, human trafficking in Belize predominantly affects women and girls. Belize is a transit, destination and-to a lesser extent-a source country for persons subjected to human trafficking and human smuggling. In consideration of the context of human trafficking in Belize, we highlight Belize’s geographic, historical and cultural connection to the Caribbean and Latin America.

The 2022 Global Report on Trafficking in Persons report from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime highlights that in Central American and the Caribbean, women and girls are more often detected as victims of human trafficking for sexual exploitation¹.

The 2023 National Anti-Trafficking in Persons report will outline the efforts of the Government in responding to trafficking in persons in Belize. As we reference this crime, it would be helpful to understand the legal definition in Belize. Belize’s Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Act 2013 defines trafficking in persons as:

“The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a person by means threat or use of force or other means of coercion, or abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or abuse of a position of vulnerability, or by the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control of or over another person, for the purpose of exploitation.”

This definition is in accordance with the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United National Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

All programs and activities are derived and completed under the framework of the 2021-2023 National Action Plan.

This Report will focus on four thematic areas:



PARTNERSHIP



PROTECTION



PROSECUTION



PREVENTION

¹ https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/glotip/2022/GLOTiP_2022_web.pdf - Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2022

Partnership and Coordination

The Government of Belize responds to all suspected or reported cases of human trafficking as well as reports of persons vulnerable to labour or sexual exploitation. The Chair of the A-TIPS Council is the Chief Executive Officer of the Ministry of Human Development, Families and Indigenous Peoples' Affairs. In 2023, Mrs. Tanya Santos-Neal served in this capacity². According to Belize's legislation, the CEO assigned to the Ministry of Human Development will also assume the role as Chair of the A-TIPS Council.

The A-TIPS Council is a multi-sectorial agency that is further divided into three committees:

1. OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

The Operations Committee of the Council has the responsibility to the protection of suspected victims and survivors of human trafficking, investigation of human trafficking cases, and the prosecution of all human trafficking cases.

- Department of Human Services: Trafficking in Persons Care Unit
- Belize Police Department: Anti-Trafficking in Persons Police Unit
- Labour Department
- Immigration Department: Border Management and Immigration Services
- Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions
- Customs and Excise Department

2. MONITORING AND EVALUATION COMMITTEE

The Monitoring and Evaluation Committee has the responsibility to collate and analyze data, and enhance the knowledge generation and management of human trafficking data.

- Statistical Institute of Belize [Member of the M&E Committee only]
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Ministry of Health and Wellness

² When the CEOs of the Ministry responsible for human development, the Chair of the Council will take on that role change.

3. INFORMATION, EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The Information, Education and Communications committee has the responsibility to increase public understanding of the nature and consequences of human trafficking, sensitize vulnerable populations and communities, and build the capacity of front-line personnel on human trafficking. The members of the committee are:

- Labour Department
- Immigration Department: Border Management and Immigration Services
- Attorney General's Ministry
- Belize Tourism Board (BTB)
- National Committee for Families and Children (NCFC)
- Youth Enhancement Services (YES)
- National Organization for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NOPCAN)

COUNCIL PARTNERS

In partnership with the A-TIPS Council, there are organizations that supported and supplemented the response to human trafficking in 2023. These organizations are listed below:

ORGANIZATION	TYPE OF ORGANIZATION	AREA OF SUPPORT
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	Intergovernmental Organization	Capacity Building, Awareness, Migrant Support, System Strengthening
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	Intergovernmental Organization	Child Protection
Human Trafficking Institute (HTI)	Non-Governmental Organization	Training and equipping through collaboration with partners for increased arrests and prosecution of human trafficking cases
Child Development Foundation (CDF)	Non-Governmental Organization	Awareness and Victim Protection
RET International	Non-Governmental Organization	Capacity Building and Awareness
Love Foundation	Non-Governmental Organization	Awareness
United National Development Programme (UNDP)	Intergovernmental Organization	System Strengthening through advancement in technology

Partnership and Coordination



NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION PARTNERSHIP MEETING:

In 2023 the A-TIPS Council held two meetings with NGOs. The focus was on the strengthening of the Government-NGO relationship in the context of Belize's human trafficking response.

July 2023 – The Council invited NGOs to attend a meeting where they could provide feedback to the current draft Counter-Trafficking in Persons Bill.

September 2023 – the Council met with NGOs to discuss regional reports and activities to be incorporated into the 2024-2028 Belize Counter-Trafficking Strategy.

REGIONAL INITIATIVES:

Regional Operations:

The Anti-Trafficking in Persons Council, through its Anti-Trafficking in Persons Police Unit supports regional operations carried out by organizations such as Interpol, CARICOM IMPACS, and SICA.

Operations carried out country wide during 2023 included:

- Inspection of bars country wide
- Executing search warrants
- Conducting vehicular check points
- Monitoring flights
- Interviewing suspected traffickers
- Screening migrant persons that are vulnerable

Regional Projects:

The Anti-trafficking in Persons Council attends conferences regionally that encourage collaboration, information sharing and close partnership with state agencies, regional NGOs and IOs and regional bodies.

Belize remained an active contributor for the Inter-American Development Bank Regional Project “Model for Strengthening the Institutional Capacities of the Security and Justice Sector to Respond to Human Trafficking in Latin America and the Caribbean with a Gender Perspective and a Digital Approach.”

Belize was represented at six (6) regional conferences that focused on human trafficking and, in some instances, human smuggling. Regional Organization: Belize remains an active member of the Regional Coalition Against Human Trafficking and Human Smuggling.

The Regional Coalition brings together countries of Central America, Mexico and the Dominican Republic to strengthen state-state communication for human trafficking and migrant smuggling matters.



Prevention and Capacity Building

Prevention efforts are fundamental to eradicating human trafficking in Belize. The A-TIPS Council is determined to continue strengthening the efforts of the Government of Belize to prevent cases of human trafficking as well as further prevent victimization of those currently being exploited.

TRAINING AND SENSITIZATION SESSIONS

Under the framework of the Information, Education and Communication Operational Plan, the Council continued to conduct training and sensitization sessions countrywide.

These sessions were facilitated by:

- Police Officers
- Social Workers
- Coordinators
- NGOs
- Intergovernmental Organizations partners



TRAINING LOCATIONS



ORGANIZATION	SESSIONS
BDF and BCG	36
Immigration	9
Police	208
Tour Guides and Hospitality Stakeholders	88
NGOs/IOs	24
CCCCC and Sustainable Development	50
Liquor License Boards and Regulatory Agencies	144
BTB	16
Teachers	525

Pathlight trained over 1,000 teachers across Belize via the Teachers Learning Institute . Since 2021, they have reached over 3,500 teachers with the Mandatory Response Protocol Training. A self-paced E-course that teachers can do to complete modules is available for those that cannot do the synchronous ones.

THE TRAINING TOPICS WERE:

- Human Trafficking 101
- Mandatory Reporting
- Child Abuse and Neglect
- Social Work in-Service Training
 - Case Management
 - Trauma
 - First 48
 - Risk and Family Assessment
 - Family Social Work
 - Family Violence

Awareness



Since 2013, the 30th of July has been recognized as **World Day Against Trafficking in Persons (WDATIP)**. The day was formalized to “raise awareness of the situation of victims of human trafficking and for the promotion and protection of their rights.” To commemorate WDATIP, the Council conducts a series of activities throughout the month of July with the intent to engage Belizeans from all backgrounds.

PANEL DISCUSSION

The Council in partnership with the International Organization for Migration hosted a panel discussion to commemorate the 30th of July. The panel was comprised of:

- A member of the NGO community
- A member of the IO community
- A human trafficking survivor
- A human trafficking survivor therapist
- A social protection/project and planning government representative

The focus of the discussion was protection of victims of human trafficking in Belize. At the event, members from the private, public and international sectors of Belize were invited to take part in the discussion where they also could where they were able to ask questions to the panel and share their concerns, opinions and suggestions for improvements in the area of survivor protection. These discussion points were taken into consideration when developing the 2024-2028 Anti-Human Trafficking Strategy.

WEAR BLUE FRIDAYS CAMPAIGN IN JULY

Blue is the official color that symbolizes raising awareness for human trafficking. It represents the sadness of victims and the cold-heartedness of traffickers. A blue heart (as shown in this document) is the official symbol to raise awareness to human trafficking.

Every Friday in July, Belizeans were encouraged to wear the color blue and post about its significance. This Blue Heart campaign was used as a conversation starter. It encouraged healthy and constructive discourse around the issue of human trafficking in Belize.

MEDIA APPEARANCES

- The A-TIPS Council appeared on Sunup7 with the Police Information, Technology and Cyber Unit of the Belize Police Department to discuss the dangers of technology and how it is used in the context of human trafficking.
- The A-TIPS Council appeared on The Love Morning Show with RET International to discuss victim protection in Belize.

POSTS AND VIDEO CREATION:

- The A-TIPS Council partnered with the RET International and the Love Foundation to publish a video outlining familial trafficking in Belize.
- The A-TIPS Council partnered with IOM Belize to develop awareness material for a social media campaign. This included posters on the elements of human trafficking and a video showcasing Government 's commitment to raising awareness on this issue. Miss Universe 2022 played a key role in promoting this campaign.



Miss Belize 2022

Protection

The Ministry of Human Development through its Department of Human Services continues to provide basic needs and essential services for potential victims and survivors of Human Trafficking. These needs and services are victim centred to accommodate everyone's needs. This is to ensure specialized care and attention.

The services provided to victims were:

- stipend
- housing
- clothing
- medical attention
- counselling services
- food and
- any other needs based on individual cases that come to the attention of the Department of Human Services.

The Department of Human Services has an Alternative Care Unit whose primary responsibility is to ensure the protection of survivors of human trafficking and those vulnerable to being trafficked.

IAD Project Team and Country Focal Points | Washington D.C.



REPATRIATION:

The International Organization, through the Assistant Voluntary Return (AVR) Program, provided support and resources for the safe repatriation of suspected victims and survivors of human trafficking.

In the event of repatriation needs, the Coordinator of the Alternative Care Unit would communicate with the team from the AVR Programme at IOM to coordinate the repatriation of the migrant.

AMNESTY:

The Ministry of Human Development, Families and Indigenous Peoples' Affairs through its Department of Human Services submitted four (4) amnesty applications on behalf of human trafficking survivors still residing in Belize.

MIGRANT SHELTER:

The Ministry of Human Development, Families, and Indigenous Peoples' Affairs through its Department of Human Services, in partnership with UNICEF, continues to operate the migrant shelter that provided housing for 60 migrant children in 2023.

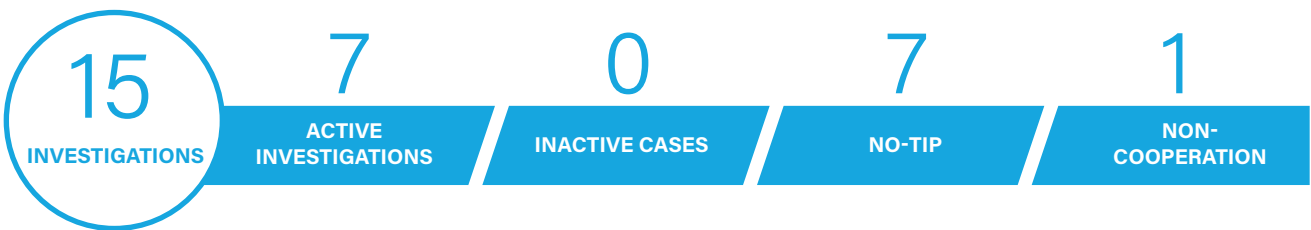


Prosecution/Investigations

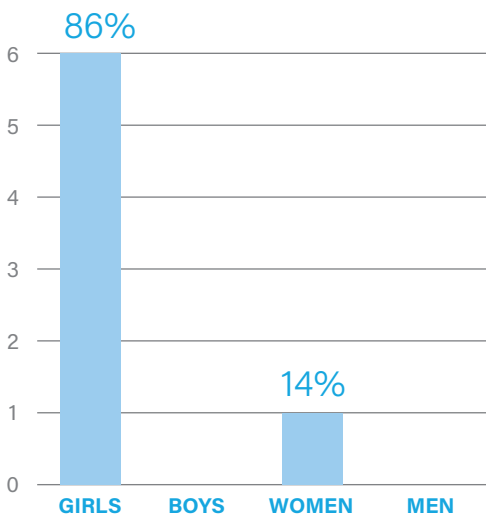
Throughout 2023, a total of 15 suspected cases of human trafficking were investigated by the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Police Unit based in Belmopan, Cayo. The A-TIPS Police Unit is led by an Assistant Superintendent of Police and has the support of 7 officers of varying ranks that are dedicated to the investigations of human trafficking cases.

The A-TIPS PU works closely with Social Workers, Immigration Officers, Labour Officers and Public Prosecutors to execute successful cases. The Police Unit handles the gathering of intelligence, organizing operations, investigation of human trafficking and the screening of migrants.

DECEMBER 2023* ACTIVE CASES RESULTS



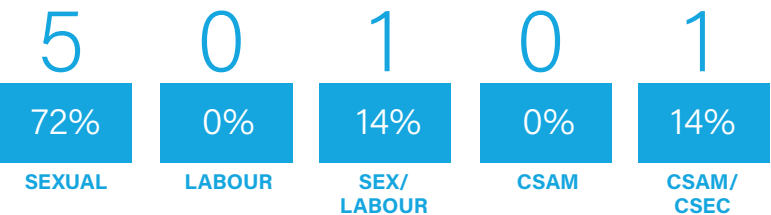
MINOR/ADULTS



COUNTRY OF ORIGIN



TYPE OF TRAFFICKING



*As of December 2023, Belize had 7 active cases from 2023 police investigations

The A-TIPS PU screened a total of 156 migrant to check for vulnerabilities as potential victims of human trafficking.

The Unit offers trauma-informed care to ensure suspected victims and survivors feel safe as they understand the psychological impacts of human trafficking.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING TRENDS IN BELIZE:

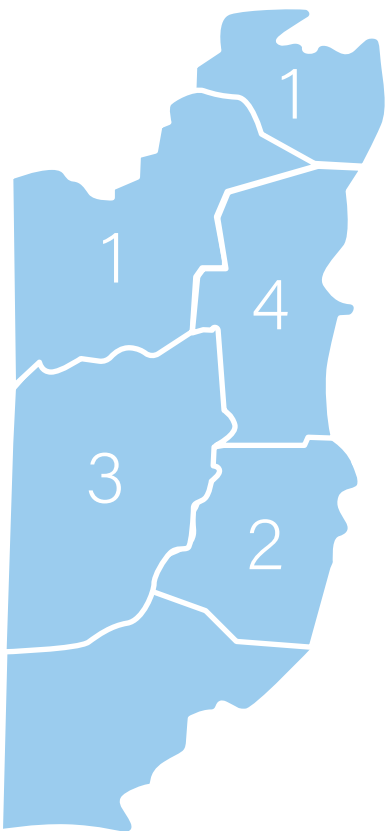
- Most cases reported to the authorities were of familial trafficking.
- More cases were referred from the local police. This can be attributed partly to the training and sensitization campaign with police officers that began in 2022.



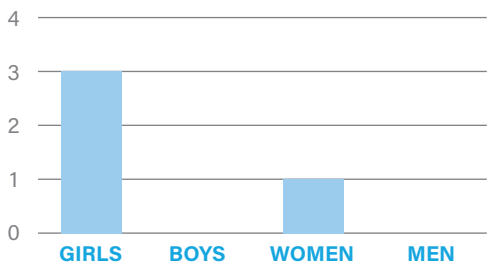
Prosecution/Investigations

PROFILE OF ACTIVE CASES 2021-2023 (4)

CASES BY DISTRICT



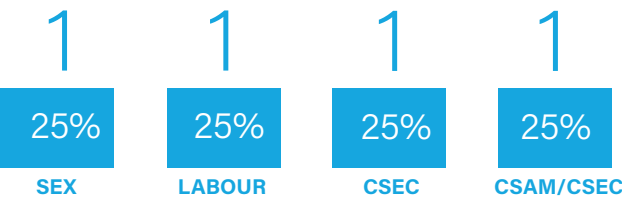
MINOR/ADULTS



NUMBER OF CASES



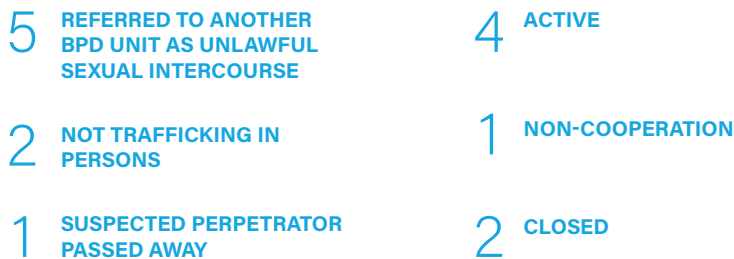
TYPE OF TRAFFICKING



COUNTRY OF ORIGIN



OUTCOME OF CASES



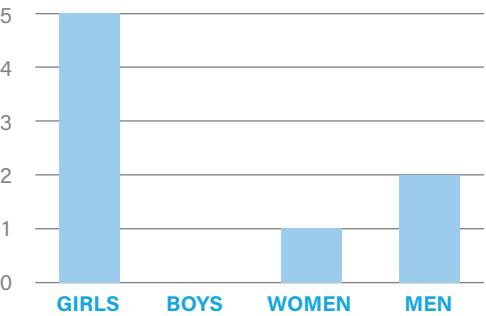
The data represented may not represent all cases of human trafficking that exists in Belize. The numbers we present come from cases referred from the Belize Police Department Inter-Governmental Agencies, Ministry of Health, and Wellness. Cases are also initiated after identification during a A-TIPS PU led operation.



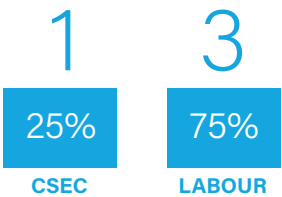
PERSONS SCREENED FOR
TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS:

BRAZIL	71
CHINA	19
ECUADOR	6
GUATEMALA	10
HONDURAS	32
TURKEY	18
<hr/>	
TOTAL	156

ACTIVE CASES:
2021-2023



TYPE OF TRAFFICKING



COUNTRY OF ORIGIN



Prosecution/Investigations

COURT PROCEEDINGS

Important facts to know about human trafficking High Court cases:

All human trafficking cases were heard at the high courts⁴ where there was an assigned justice to preside over all cases. As of 2022 all cases of human trafficking were tried by judge only.

2023 PROGRESS MADE AT THE HIGH COURTS

CONVICTION

1 **BELIZEAN MALE** 

Convicted of the offence of making child pornography under section 7 of the CSEC Act

PERSONS BEING PROCESSED AT THE MAGISTRATES COURT

1 **BELIZEAN MAN** 
Charges with unlawful sexual intercourse

PERSONS AWAITING TRIAL



2 **BELIZEAN MEN**  
Charge for procuring a child for sexual exploitation

1 **BELIZEAN WOMAN** 
Charges for procuring a child for sexual exploitation



Charged with trafficking in persons under section 11 (1) of the TIPs Prohibition Act

Since December of 2023, some of those cases have been resolved.

⁴ Anti-Trafficking in Persons PU, Office of the DPP and the A-TIPS Council.

Observations

Women and girls are at higher risk of sexual exploitation while men and boys are at higher risk of labour exploitation.

- Most victims use public transportation including buses, minibuses, boats and taxis on the instruction of the traffickers to travel to Belize. This may also include crossing at irregular border points on foot where water levels are low.
- Traffickers usually have close ties to source countries, i.e. countries where they recruit victims from.
- Victims are often lured under false promises of high paying employment in luxurious resorts, restaurants, and hotels in Belize.
- Regionally, most identified and suspected victims of human trafficking have come from Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador. This, however, does not mean that people from other countries have not or cannot be trafficked in Belize.
- No sophisticated or organized human trafficking networks or rings have been identified in Belize

PILOT PROJECT: GEOSPATIAL MAPPING OF THE CITY OF BELMOPAN

In July 2023, the Council partnered with the Ministry of Home Affairs' Belize Crime Observatory and the United Nations Development Program to execute a pilot project in the City of Belmopan. The general objective of the project was to implement a pilot program to enhance Belize's surveillance and operational awareness against human trafficking. Specific objectives included strengthening victim identification mechanisms, mapping high-risk locations, gathering data on trafficking cases, and providing information to the municipal government for efficient monitoring of establishments with liquor licenses.

An outcome expected from this project is to enhance Belize's interagency collaboration in the prevention, identification and response to human trafficking.

The project successfully mapped schools, churches, hospitals, parks/playgrounds, and establishments licensed in the City of Belmopan to sell alcohol.

Accomplishments Over the Years

DEVELOPMENT OF PROTOCOLS AND PROCEDURES

2018

Establishment of the Alternative Care Unit in the Department of Human Services of the Ministry of Human Development to provide care and protection for all victims of human trafficking (men, women, boys and girls).

Establishment of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Police Unit suited with officers trained on investigating human trafficking cases and conducting evaluations for vulnerable persons.

2021

Validation of the Protocol for Accompanied and Unaccompanied Migrant Children

- The Government of Belize, through the support of the International Organization for Migration, began developing a protocol to streamline the way that frontline officials respond to migrant children in Belize. This document includes the protection of those that are suspected of being victims of human trafficking.
- The Protocol was validated in 2021, followed by a series of training country wide of all agencies included in the Protocol.

Development of a Management Information System to track human trafficking cases in Belize from inception until conviction. This helps with making informed decisions on strategies to address human trafficking in Belize.

Establishment of a migrant shelter that accommodates both accompanied and unaccompanied migrant children while parents or others are processed for immigration offences.

2022

Development of the Trafficking in Persons Identification Guidelines and Referral Standard Operating Procedures for Frontline Officials in Belize (Guidelines that lists indicators for Social Workers, Immigration Officials and Labour Officers)

- The Human Trafficking Institute, through a grant funded by the US Embassy, supported the Government of Belize in developing guidelines and referral standards for immigration officers, labour officers and social workers.
- In 2022 country wide training sessions were conducted with all agencies, along with the provisions of durable indicator cards fitted for wallets and pockets.

2022

Development of the Child Friendly Guide to Care

- The Government of Belize through the support of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) developed a guide to care booklet designed to be given to children when they enter Belize's child protection system. It was designed to help create a comfortable environment for all children that enter the care of DHS.

Council Meeting | City of Belmopan



Accomplishments Over the Years

ARRESTS

2020

1 BELIZEAN MAN



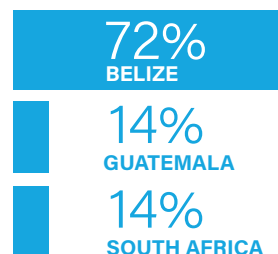
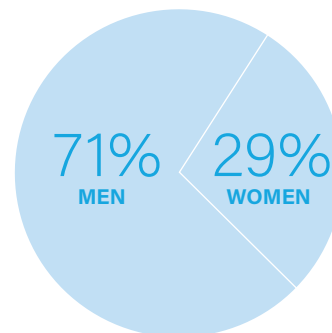
2021

2 1 GUATEMALAN WOMAN
1 SOUTH AFRICAN MAN



2022

4 BELIZEAN
3 MAN / 1 WOMAN



CONVICTIONS

2020

1 GUATEMALAN WOMAN
Sex and labour trafficking



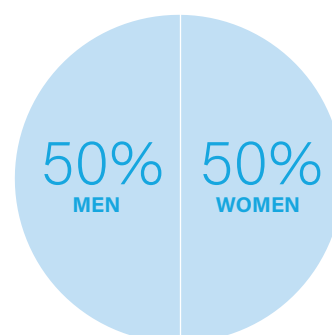
2021

2 BELIZEAN
1 MAN / 1 WOMAN
Commercial Sexual Exploitation of a Child



2023

1 BELIZEAN MAN
Child Pornography



In Belize, for those arrested in more recent years, the majority of offenders are men and are originally from Belize. For those convicted of trafficking offences, the offenders are both men and women.

The average sentence given to convicted traffickers is seven (7) years.

Members of the Council

Current Chair of the Council since January 2024

Adele Catzim Sanchez

Director of the Department of Human Services

Shawn Vargas

Labour Commissioner of the Labour Department

Rissela Dominguez

Director of the Immigration Department:
Border Management and Immigration Services

Debra Baptist-Estrada

Director of Public Prosecutions

Cheryl L. Vidal

Attorney General's Ministry Crown Counsel

Stacy Martinez

Belize Tourism Board Security Specialist

Herman Blease

National Committee for Families and Children Acting Director

Shakira Sutherland

Director of Youth Enhancement Services

Stephanie Reina

Director of the National Organization
of the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect

Denbeigh Yorke

Ministry of Foreign Affairs Foreign Service Officer

Melissa Rodriguez

Ministry of Health and Wellness Doctor

Dr. Russell Manzanero

Customs and Excise Department Officer: Enforcement

Jose Asevedo

Ministry of Home Affairs - Anti-Trafficking in Persons Police Unit

Lessons Learned

1. AWARENESS IS IMPORTANT:

It is imperative to enhance Belize's awareness of human trafficking at all levels of the private and public sector. The more awareness, the more eyes are looking out for the protection of suspecting victims and vulnerable persons.

2. ALL VULNERABLE PERSONS SCREENED:

Screening for human trafficking on operations, immigration stops, and during labour inspections is crucial in identifying potential victims.

3. COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIP:

Local and regional collaboration is essential for the success of combatting human trafficking. Human trafficking is a trans-national crime and therefore requires joint efforts from all levels of society and across countries.

4. GUIDELINES AND PROTOCOLS ARE IMPORTANT:

The implementation of written guidelines, procedures and protocols are effective in promoting systematic implementation of the response to human trafficking.

5. BUILDING CAPACITY IS BENEFICIAL:

Training in partnership with non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations organizations increase the capacity of Belizeans across the sectors in identifying human trafficking while strengthening partnership.

Challenges

1. MISUSE OF TECHNOLOGY BY TRAFFICKERS:

Technology is being misused by traffickers during all stages of the crime which allows traffickers anonymity. This creates additional barriers for law enforcement while also unfortunately giving traffickers immediate access to vulnerable communities, especially children using social media and technology.

2. HUMAN RESOURCE LIMITATIONS:

The Anti-Trafficking in Persons Council through its various organizations recognizes the importance of continued improvements in human resource training and expansion. This is a constant work in progress and we look forward to the increase in staff and the capacity to continue strengthening our response.

3. INSUFFICIENT RESEARCH TO DRIVE DECISION MAKING:

While the Council has strategized on how to conduct more analysis of trends and vulnerabilities, there is limited research conducted on human trafficking and risk factors to human trafficking.

4. PERCEPTION OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING:

The misinterpretation of the crime of trafficking in persons has affected the accurate identification of suspected cases of human trafficking. Often times human trafficking and human smuggling are used interchangeably that may misinform people on what to look out for and how to report cases. Trafficking in persons is also different from crimes such as domestic violence and unlawful sexual intercourse with a minor. The council is dedicated to continuing the information sharing campaigns to address the information needs of the country.





TO REPORT HUMAN TRAFFICKING:

In any case of emergency and immediate danger, please call 911.

Report Anonymously to Crime Stoppers via:

- P3 TIPs App
- Call 922
- Visit Crime Stoppers Website

Report to the Department of Human Services:

- DHS Direct/During Working Hours: 227 2057
- Toll Free 0-800-PROTECT

A-TIPS Council representatives:

- Facebook
- Instagram

