

The following countries are covered in this section: Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Gambia and Togo.

Any missing information concerning the region was either unavailable or not accessed by UNODC.

Benin

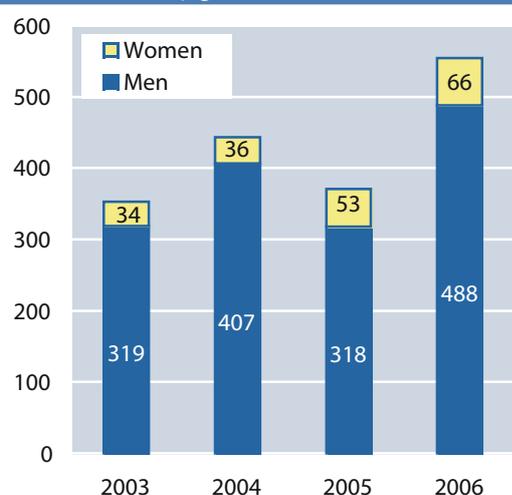
Institutional framework

The specific offence of child trafficking was established in Benin in 2006. The law does not cover trafficking in persons above the age of 18. Prior to 2006, the law on the prohibition of taking children out of the country could have been used to prosecute some forms of trafficking in children. The law also includes the specific criminalization of "using children in armed conflicts".

Criminal justice response

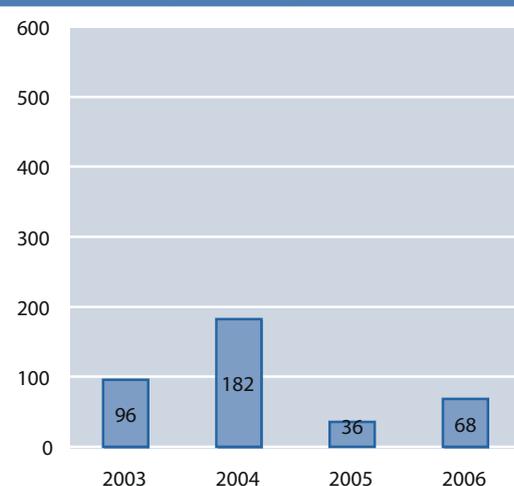
Benin has a specific law enforcement unit for the protection of minors, which also deals with trafficking in persons cases. The Brigade de Protection des Mineurs has been active since 1991. In 2004, the Brigade had about 10 officers devoted full time to the protection of minors.

Fig. 21: Persons investigated for trafficking in children and for related offences in Benin, by gender (2003-2006)



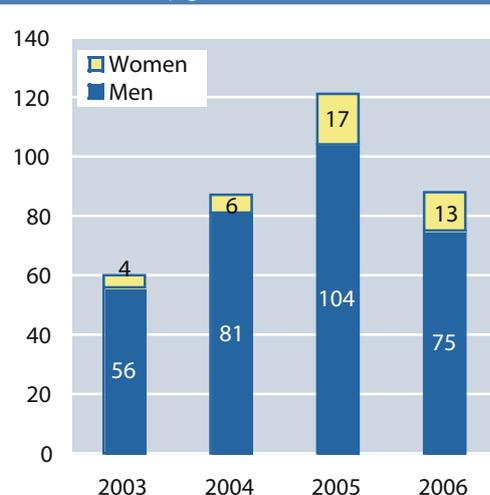
Source: Ministère de la Justice de la Législation Sociale et des Droits de l'homme

Fig. 22: Persons prosecuted for trafficking in children and for related offences in Benin (2003-2006)



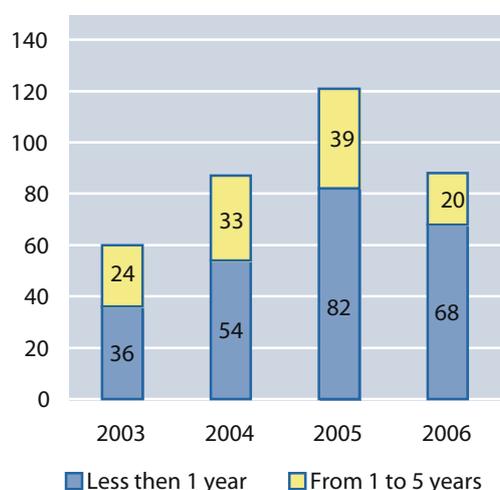
Source: Ministère de la Justice de la Législation Sociale et des Droits de l'homme

Fig. 23: Persons convicted of trafficking in children and for related offences in Benin, by gender (2003-2006)



Source: Ministère de la Justice de la Législation Sociale et des Droits de l'homme

Fig. 24: Sanctions for trafficking in children and for related offences (2003-2006)



Source: Ministère de la Justice de la Législation Sociale et des Droits de l'homme

Services provided to victims

State authorities provide legal protection, temporary stay permits, medical and psychosocial support, and repatriation of victims to their origin countries. Local NGOs provide legal protection, medical and psychosocial support, housing and shelter, and victim repatriation.

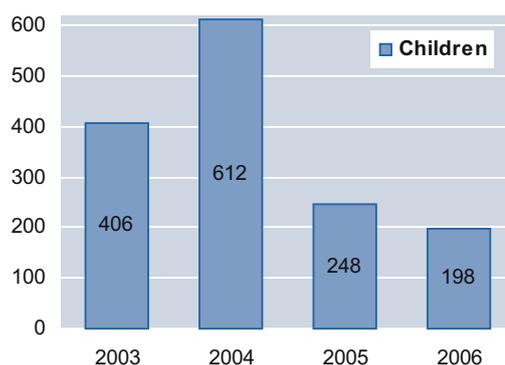
Additional information

Those convicted in 2005 and 2006 of trafficking in persons were mainly nationals from Benin, but they also included offenders from Ghana, Liberia, Mali, Niger and Togo.

In addition to victims of trafficking in persons national authorities identified about 47 victims of sexual exploitation in 2005 and 123 in 2006. In 2005, 324 victims of forced labour were recorded and 431 were recorded in 2006.

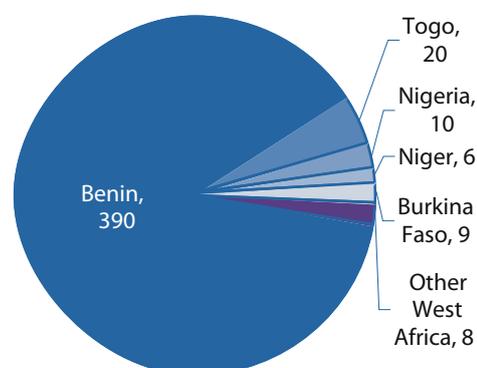
Benin has an official referral system or mechanism for victims of trafficking in persons and a central database where information concerning identified victims is registered. These services are operated by the Observatory for Family, Women and Child Protection.

Fig. 25: Victims of trafficking identified by State authorities in Benin, by age (2003-2006)



Source: Ministère de la Justice de la Législation Sociale et des Droits de l'homme

Fig. 26: Victims of trafficking identified by State authorities in Benin, by country of citizenship (2005-2006)



Source: Ministère de la Justice de la Législation Sociale et des Droits de l'homme

Burkina Faso

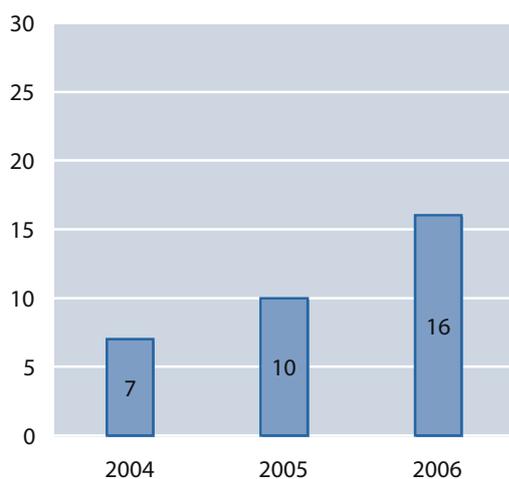
Institutional framework

The specific offence of child trafficking was established in Burkina Faso in 2003. The law does not cover trafficking in persons above the age of 18. A law covering adult trafficking was drafted in 2007, and a national action plan on child protection was adopted in 2005.

Criminal justice response

In 2008, the Brigade de Mineurs had about 180 officers dedicated full time to the protection of minors.

Fig. 27: Persons convicted of trafficking in children in Burkina Faso (2004-2006)

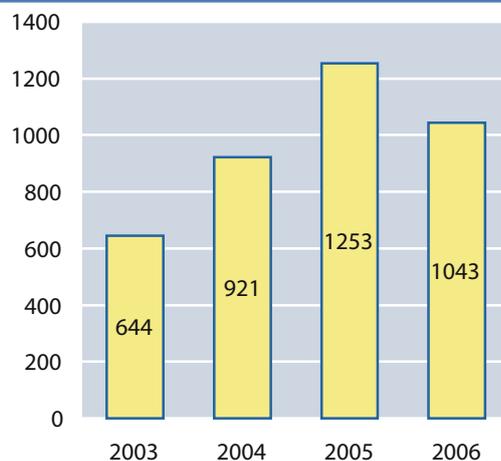


Source: Child Protection Department of the Ministry of Social Affairs and National Solidarity

Services provided to victims

State authorities provide legal protection, temporary stay permits, medical and psychosocial support, and housing and shelter for victims. Local NGOs and international organizations provide legal protection, medical and psychosocial support, housing and shelter, and repatriation of victims.

Fig. 28: Victims of trafficking in children identified by State authorities in Burkina Faso (2004-2006)



Source: Child Protection Department of the Ministry of Social Affairs and National Solidarity

Additional information

Those convicted of trafficking in persons in 2005 and 2006 were mainly nationals of Burkina Faso. All the convicted offenders were punished with administrative sanctions.

All of the identified victims were children. Victims receiving shelter were most frequently returned from neighbouring countries, as well as from Europe and North Africa. According to authorities, about 10% of the victims were exploited for prostitution; 40% for forced begging; and 50% for the worst forms of child labour.

Chad

Institutional framework

The specific offence of trafficking in persons does not exist in the legislation of Chad. A law on child trafficking was drafted in 2007 and is pending consideration by the competent authorities. A national action plan was adopted in 2006.

Criminal justice response

Because of the absence of a specific provision on human trafficking, no prosecutions or convictions were recorded for trafficking in persons during the reporting period. Laws criminalizing related forms of trafficking are used to prosecute some types of cases, including illegal adoption, economic exploitation, forced services and abduction (kidnapping and rape).

About 40 prosecutions and 10 convictions were reported in Chad for offences related to trafficking in persons. In addition, about 1,200 convictions for sexual exploitation, 96 for forced labour and 92 for servitude were recorded in Chad in 2007 alone.

Services provided to victims

State authorities provide legal protection, temporary stay permits, medical and psychosocial support, and housing and shelter for victims. Local NGOs and international organizations provide medical and psychosocial support and housing and shelter.

National authorities in Chad identified about 500 children in 2006 and 113 children (88 boys and 25 girls) in 2007 as victims of trafficking or related crimes.

Additional information

In addition to the victims of trafficking in persons, more than 3,400 victims of sexual exploitation; about 6,000 victims of forced labour; and more than 7,000 victims of servitude were identified by State authorities in 2007. Many cases of organs removal for mystic practices were also recorded.



Cote d'Ivoire

Institutional framework

The specific offence of trafficking in persons does not exist in the legislation of Cote d'Ivoire, but laws criminalizing related forms are used to prosecute some types of trafficking. A specific law criminalizing all forms of trafficking was pending with the competent authorities in 2007. A national action plan on child trafficking and child labour was adopted in 2007.

Criminal justice response

Because of the absence of a specific provision on human trafficking, no prosecutions or convictions were recorded for trafficking in persons during the reporting period.

About 29 men were investigated for forced labour between 2005 and 2007, with two prosecutions recorded in 2005 and 15 in 2006, resulting in two convictions in 2006.

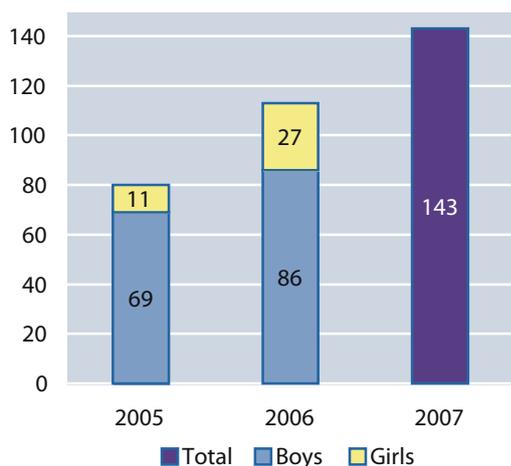
Services provided to victims

State authorities provide legal protection, temporary stay permits, medical and psychosocial support, and housing and shelter for victims. Local NGOs and international organizations provide medical and psychosocial support and housing and shelter.

Additional information

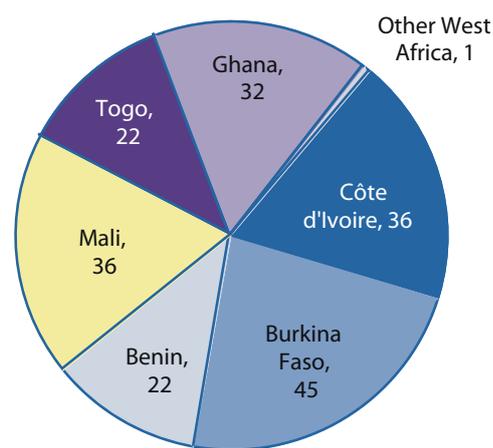
All identified victims were exploited for forced labour with the exception of three in 2005 who were trafficked for sexual exploitation.

Fig. 29: Victims of trafficking in persons identified by State authorities in Cote d'Ivoire, by gender (2005-2007)



Source: Social Protection Department, Cote d'Ivoire

Fig. 30: Victims identified by State authorities in Cote d'Ivoire, by country of citizenship (2005-2006)



Source: Social Protection Department, Cote d'Ivoire

Gabon

Institutional framework

The specific offence of child trafficking was established in Gabon in 2004. The law does not cover trafficking in persons above the age of 18. Other provisions of the penal code criminalize sexual exploitation and forced labour.

Criminal justice response

In 2006, 20 men were investigated for child trafficking, and 11 were prosecuted. Information on previous years as well as information related to convictions was unavailable.

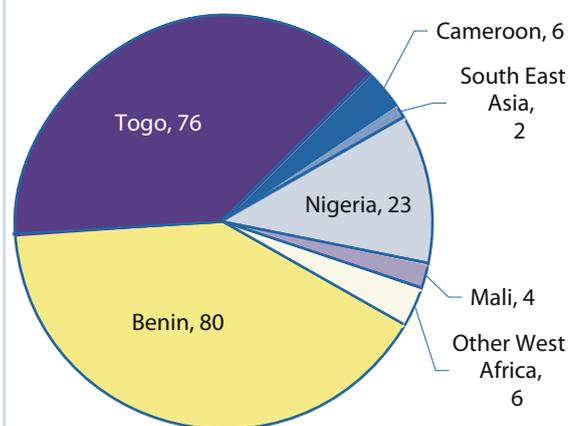
Services provided to victims

State authorities provide legal protection, temporary stay permits, medical and psychosocial support, and housing and shelter for victims. Local NGOs provide housing and shelter and repatriation services.

During 2004-2005, the Centre Arcade in Gabon sheltered 197 victims of trafficking and related crimes. These victims included 137 children (22 boys and 115 girls) and 60 adults (one man and 59 women), all of whom were victims of forms of forced labour, such as domestic servitude and street selling. About 84 of these victims were repatriated to their own countries in 2005.



Fig. 31: Victims of trafficking in persons sheltered by the NGO Centre Arcade in Gabon, by country of citizenship (2004-2005)



Source: Centre Arcade

The Gambia

Institutional framework

The specific offence of trafficking in persons was established in Gambia in 2007. A national action plan on trafficking in persons was adopted in 2007.

Criminal justice response

The 2007 Trafficking in Persons Act included the establishment of a national agency against trafficking in persons, however, it had yet to be put in place as of 2008. A special enforcement section under the Department of Immigration and Child Protection Unit also deals with some forms of trafficking in persons.

No prosecutions or convictions for trafficking in persons were recorded during the reporting period.

Services provided to victims

State authorities provide legal protection, temporary stay permits, medical and psychosocial support, and housing and shelter for victims. Local NGOs provide medical and psychosocial support and housing and shelter.



Ghana

Institutional framework

The specific offence of trafficking in persons was established in Ghana in 2005.

Criminal justice response

The Domestic Violence and Sexual Offences Unit of the Ghana Police Service is mandated to investigate trafficking in persons in addition to domestic violence offences.

The first two offenders were prosecuted for trafficking in persons in 2006, with the first conviction in 2007. In 2008 through May, five more persons were prosecuted.

Services provided to victims

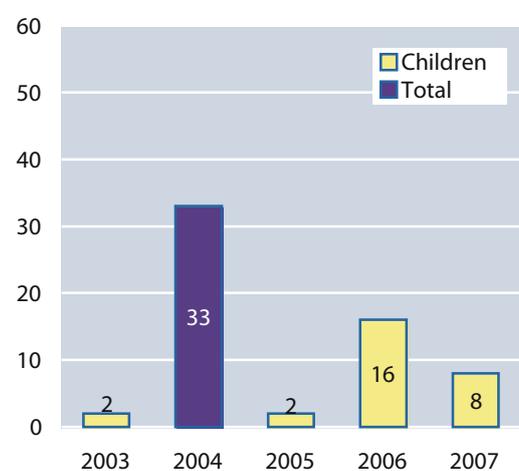
State authorities provide legal protection, temporary stay permits, medical and psychosocial support, housing and shelter, vocational training and microfinance opportunities for victims. Local NGOs and international organizations provide legal protection, medical and psychosocial support, and housing and shelter.

Additional information

Fifteen of the 20 Ghanaian victims identified between 2005 and 2007 were repatriated from other countries in West Africa and Europe, and the remaining five were trafficked internally.

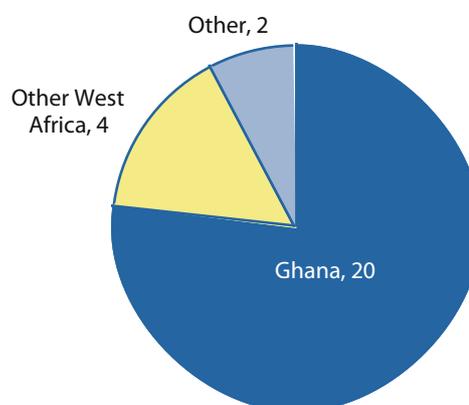


Fig. 32: Victims of trafficking in persons identified by State authorities in Ghana, (2003-2007)



Source: Ghana Human Trafficking Management Board

Fig. 33: Victims of trafficking in persons identified in Ghana, by country of citizenship (2005-2007)



Source: Ghana Human Trafficking Management Board

Guinea

Institutional framework

The specific offence of trafficking in persons does not exist in the legislation of Guinea. Some forms of trafficking in persons may be prosecuted through the offences of “pawn of human beings” and “servitude”, which have existed in the criminal code since 1998. A national action plan on trafficking in persons was adopted in 2005.

Criminal justice response

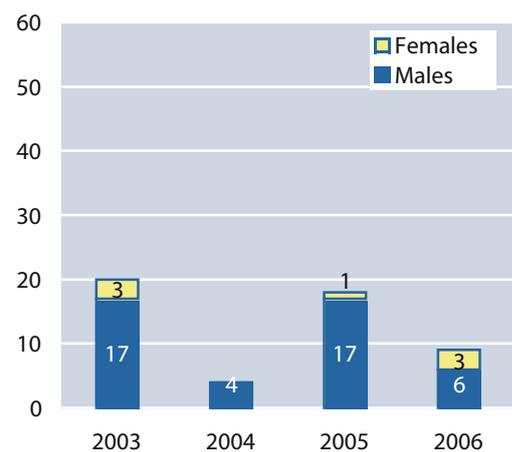
Guinea’s law enforcement has a specialized child protection unit that addresses child trafficking. Due to the absence of a specific provision on human trafficking, no prosecutions or convictions were recorded in Guinea.

The following data refer to the offences of “pawn of human beings” (Article 338 of the penal code) and “servitude” (Article 337 of the penal code).

Services provided to victims

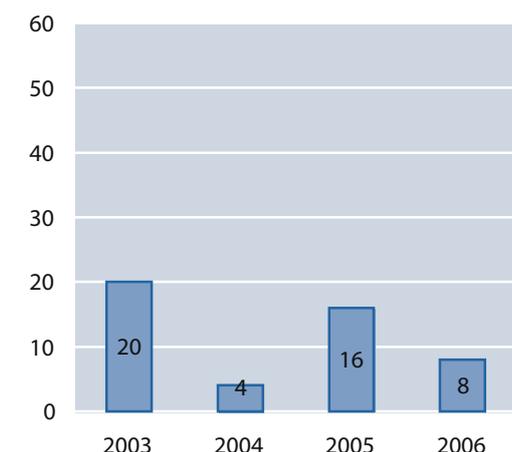
State authorities provide legal protection, temporary stay permits, medical and psychosocial support, and housing and shelter for victims. Local NGOs and international organizations provide legal protection, temporary stay permits, medical and psychosocial support, and housing and shelter.

Fig. 34: Persons investigated for “pawn of human beings” and “servitude” in Guinea, by gender (2003-2006)

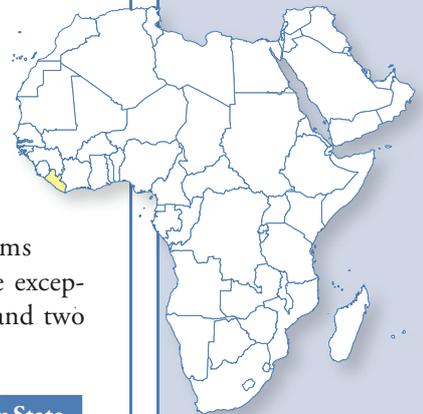


Source: Ministry of Social Affairs, Woman Promotion and Childhood

Fig. 35: Persons arrested for “pawn of human beings” and “servitude” in Guinea (2003-2006)



Source: Ministry of Social Affairs, Woman Promotion and Childhood



Liberia

Institutional framework

The specific offence of trafficking in persons was established in Liberia in 2005. A national action plan was adopted in 2006.

Criminal justice response

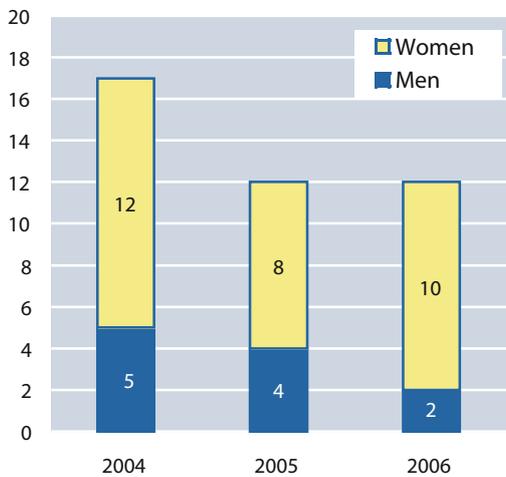
The Women and Children Protection Section was established in 2005 as part of the Liberian National Police. The section is responsible for the protection of women and children and has responsibility for investigating cases of trafficking in persons as well as sexual assault, sexual exploitation, domestic violence, child abuse and other related offences.

No convictions were recorded during the period considered by this report.

Additional information

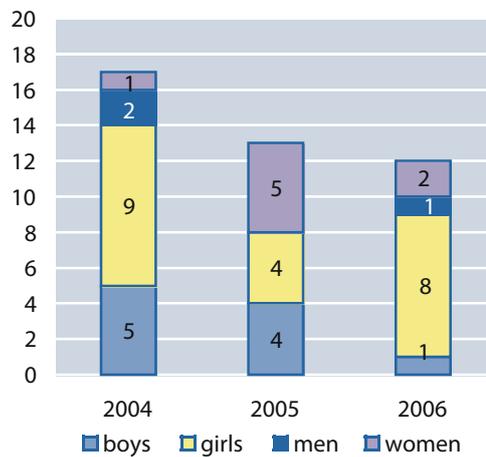
The Faith Consortium of Liberia receives trafficked children, collects related data and transfers the children to a shelter run by the Women and Children Protection Unit. All the victims reported above were Liberians, with the exception of two victims from North Africa and two from other countries in West Africa.

Fig. 36: Persons investigated for trafficking in persons in Liberia, by gender (2004-2006)



Source: Anti-trafficking in Persons Secretariat, Liberia

Fig. 37: Victims of trafficking identified by State authorities in Liberia, by age and gender (2004-2006)



Source: Anti-trafficking in Persons Secretariat, Liberia

Fig. 38: Victims of trafficking identified by State authorities in Liberia, by exploitation (2005-2006)



Source: Anti-trafficking in Persons Secretariat, Liberia

Services provided to victims

State authorities provide legal protection, temporary stay permits, medical and psychosocial support, and housing and shelter for victims. Local NGOs provide legal protection, and international organizations provide housing and shelter.

Mali

Institutional framework

The specific offence of child trafficking was established in Mali in 2001. The law does not cover trafficking in persons above the age of 18. Other provisions criminalize the sexual exploitation and the forced labour of adults. A national action plan on child trafficking was adopted in 2002.

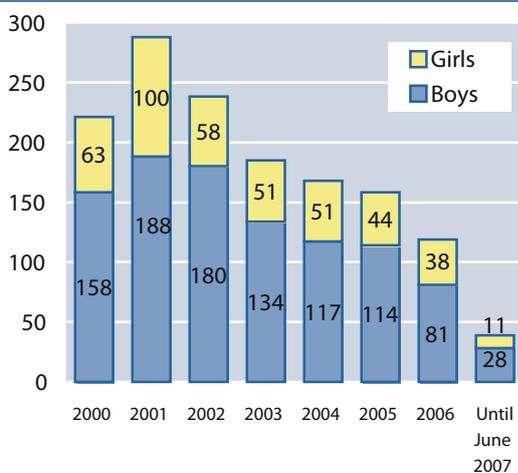
Criminal justice response

Eight persons – seven men and one woman – were investigated for child trafficking in Mali between 2003 and 2006 (four in 2004, three in 2005 and one in 2006). Three persons were prosecuted during this same period, all of them in 2005, but no convictions were recorded prior to 2006.

Services provided to victims

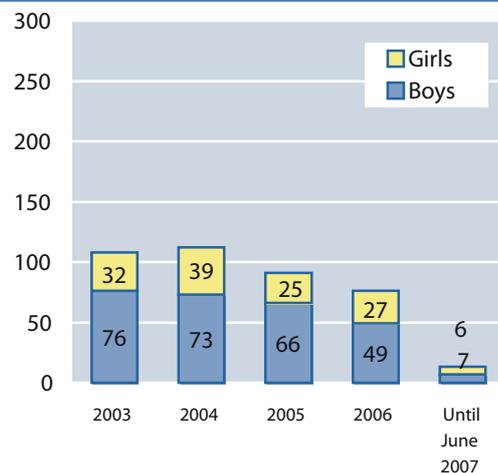
State authorities provide legal protection, temporary stay permits, medical and psychosocial support, and housing and shelter for victims. Local NGOs and international organizations provide medical and psychosocial support and housing and shelter.

Fig. 39: Victims of trafficking identified by State authorities in Mali, by gender (2000-June 2007)



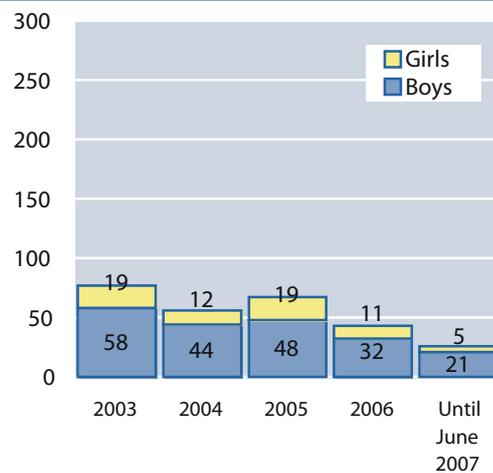
Source: Direction Nationale de la Promotion de l'Enfant et de la Famille

Fig. 40: Internally trafficked victims identified by State authorities in Mali, by gender (2000-June 2007)



Source: Direction Nationale de la Promotion de l'Enfant et de la Famille

Fig. 41: Victims trafficked abroad identified by State authorities in Mali, by gender (2000-June 2007)



Source: Direction Nationale de la Promotion de l'Enfant et de la Famille

Additional information

All the victims identified during the reporting period were Malian; some were repatriated, while others were victims of internal trafficking. Victims were mainly repatriated from other countries in West and Central Africa.

Mauritania

Institutional framework

The specific offence of trafficking in persons was established in Mauritania in 2003, and new provisions were adopted in the penal code in 2007 criminalizing slavery. A national action plan on child trafficking was adopted in 2005.

Criminal justice response

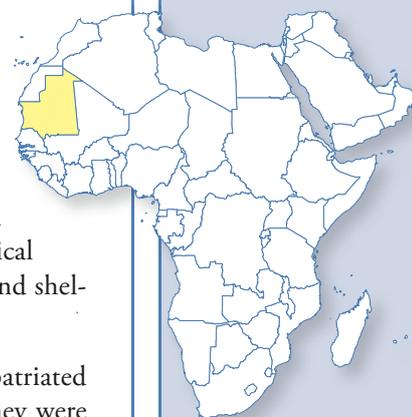
A special Child Police Brigade targeting child forced labour and child prostitution was established in 2006.

Two men were investigated for trafficking in persons between 2003 and 2006. No prosecutions and no convictions were recorded prior to 2006.

Services provided to victims

State authorities provide legal protection, temporary stay permits, medical and psychosocial support, and housing and shelter for victims. Local NGOs and international organizations provide medical and psychosocial support and housing and shelter.

Twenty-one Mauritanian boys were repatriated from the Middle East in 2006 where they were exploited as camel jockeys. No other information was available concerning victims.



Niger

Institutional framework

The specific offence of trafficking in persons does not exist in the legislation of Niger, although some forms of trafficking may be prosecuted through other offences, such as “forced begging” and “panhandling”. In 2007, draft legislation was under consideration by the competent authorities.

Criminal justice response

Because of the absence of a specific provision on human trafficking, no prosecutions or convictions were recorded during the reporting period. Episodes of trafficking, however, might have been investigated and prosecuted under other offences, with about 150 persons suspected under these related offences since 2003. One conviction was recorded for sexual exploitation in 2006.

Services provided to victims

State authorities provide legal protection, temporary stay permits, and medical and psychosocial support for victims of trafficking. Local NGOs and international organizations provide legal protection, medical and psychosocial support, and housing and shelter.



Nigeria

Institutional framework

The specific offence of trafficking in persons was established in Nigeria in 2003. A national action plan on trafficking in persons was adopted in 2006.

Criminal justice response

Nigeria has three different specialized police units dealing with trafficking in persons. The first is the National Agency for the Prohibition

of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP). NAPTIP is responsible for investigation, enforcement cooperation and coordination, and the legal department of the agency has skills in the prosecution of human trafficking cases. The police force also has a specialized unit to combat trafficking in persons that coordinates its efforts with NAPTIP. The special immigration unit to combat trafficking in persons concentrates most of its work on interception of victims and traffickers at border and exit points. About 100 officers were dedicated full time to combating trafficking in persons in 2007.

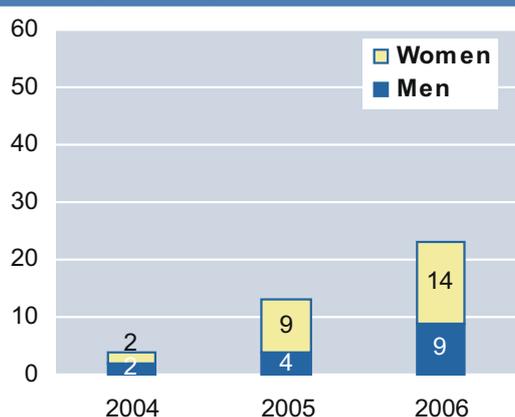
All persons convicted traffickers were Nigerians.

Services provided to victims

State authorities provide legal protection, temporary stay permits, medical and psychosocial support, housing and shelter, vocational skills training, schooling, job placement and small business start-up support for victims. Local NGOs and international organizations provide housing and shelter.

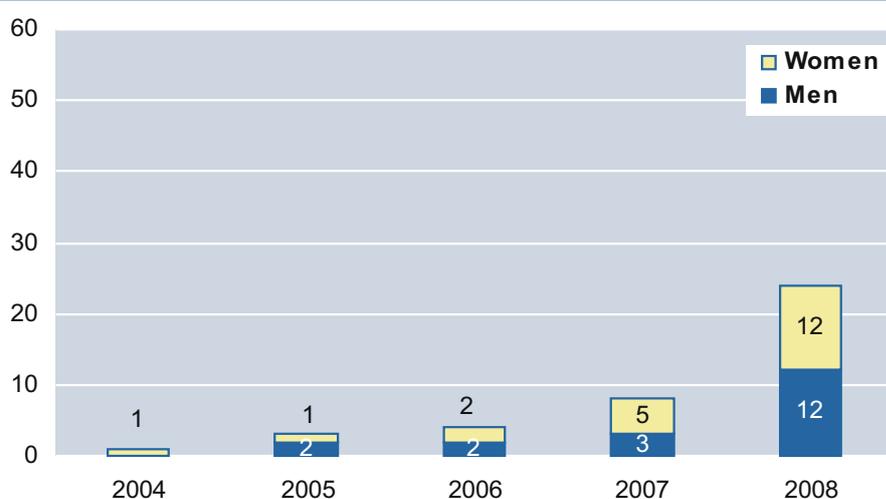


Fig. 42: Persons prosecuted for trafficking in persons in Nigeria, by gender (2004-2006)



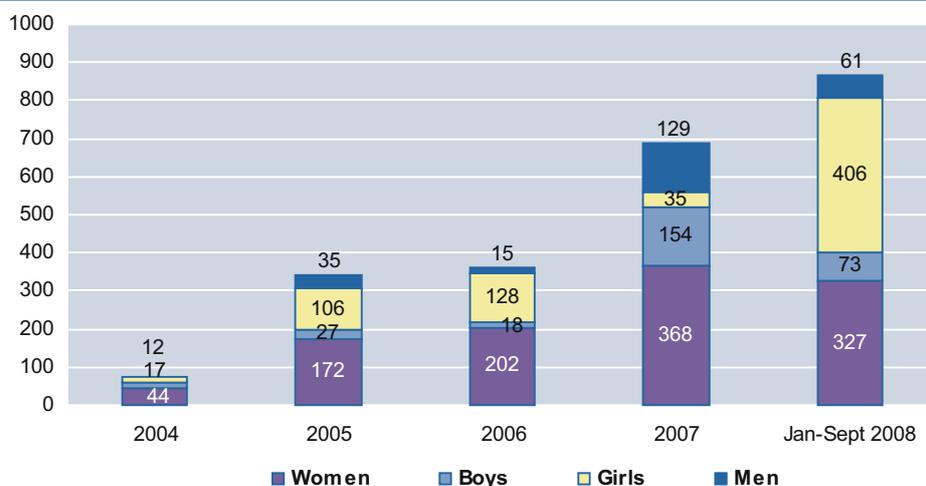
Source: Legal and Prosecution Department, NAPTIP

Fig. 43: Persons convicted for trafficking in persons in Nigeria, by gender (2004-2008)



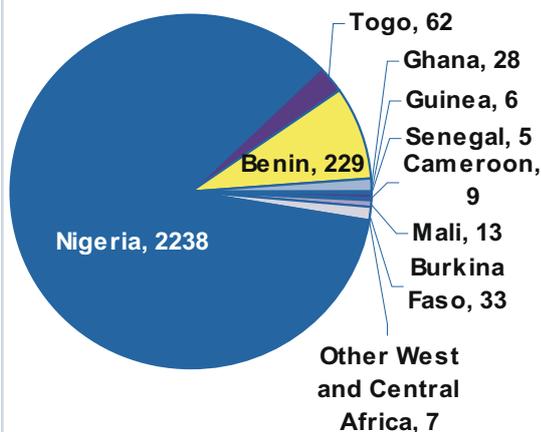
Source: NAPTIP

Fig. 44: Victims of trafficking identified by State authorities in Nigeria, by age and gender (2004-September 2008)



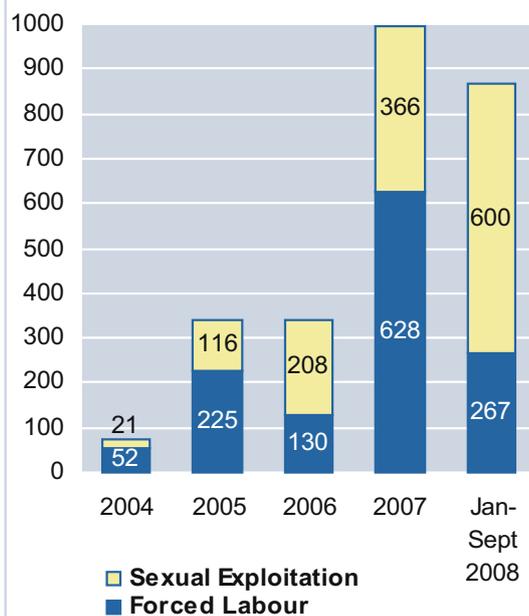
Source: NAPTIP

Fig. 45: Victims of trafficking identified by State authorities in Nigeria, by country of citizenship (2005- September 2008)



Source: NAPTIP

Fig. 46: Victims of trafficking identified by State authorities in Nigeria, by type of exploitation (2004-September 2008)



Source: NAPTIP

Additional information

NAPTIP has a rehabilitation and reintegration department that coordinates all organizations and agencies with respect to support and services for victims. It does this through its headquarters and six zonal offices, each of which has a shelter available to care for victims. NAPTIP supervises other institutions and organizations providing services to victims within its area of jurisdiction. A central database is situated in the NAPTIP Monitoring Centre that stores information on victims and traffickers.

The chart concerning the type of exploitation presents figures that add up to values that are greater than those concerning the profile of the victims. This is due to the fact that one victim suffering mixed forms of exploitation is counted multiple times in the statistics based on the type of exploitation.

Senegal

Institutional framework

The specific offence of trafficking in persons was established in Senegal in 2005. A national action plan on trafficking in persons was adopted in 2004.

Criminal justice response

Senegalese law enforcement includes two police units that address trafficking in persons. The first unit targets sexual exploitation and the second focuses on illegal migration.

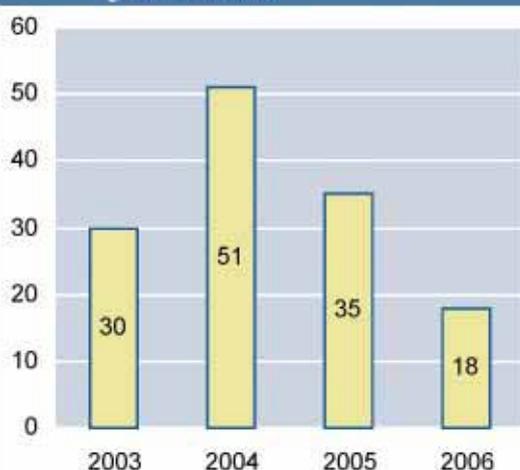
All persons investigated on suspicion of trafficking in 2005 and 2006 were Senegalese with the exception of three citizens from other West African countries.

Services provided to victims

State authorities provide legal protection, temporary stay permits, and medical and psychosocial support for victims. Local NGOs and international organizations offer legal protection, temporary stay permits, medical and psychosocial support, and housing and shelter. Two residential facilities are available for victims.

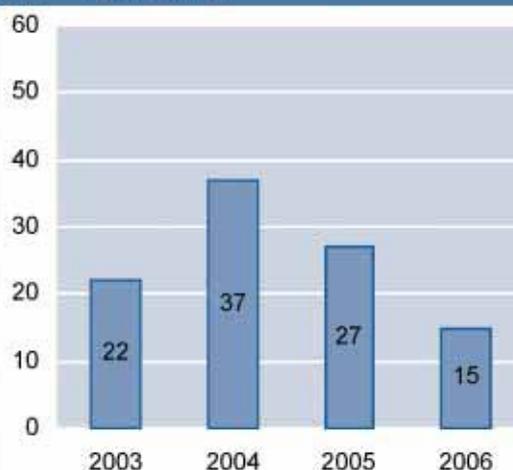


Fig. 47: Persons investigated for trafficking in persons and for related offences in Senegal (2003-2006)



Source: Ministry of Justice, Criminal Affairs and Graes Department

Fig. 48: Persons arrested for trafficking in persons and for related offences in Senegal (2003-2006)



Source: Ministry of Justice, Criminal Affairs and Graes Department

Sierra Leone

Institutional framework

The specific offence of trafficking in persons was established in Sierra Leone in 2005. A national action plan on trafficking in persons was adopted in 2006.

Criminal justice response

The Family Support Unit of the Sierra Leone Police along with the Criminal Investigation Division were established in 2005 and have jurisdictional responsibility for trafficking in persons cases.

In 2007, the Sierra Leone Anti-trafficking Task Force reported that nine cases were investigated; three were taken to court; and one was withdrawn or resolved in 2007. No convictions were recorded during the reporting period.

Services provided to victims

State authorities, in cooperation with IOM, provide housing and shelter for victims. International organizations offer legal protection, medical and psychosocial support, housing and shelter, and vocational training for victims. A residential facility for victims is administrated by IOM.

Information concerning victims sheltered prior to 2007 is unavailable, and the data for 2007 only relates to victims of trafficking in persons assisted between March and November of that year. During this period, 37 minors and eight adults (31 females and 14 males) were assisted by IOM. The data indicates that the most prevalent forms of exploitation were domestic servitude (14 victims) and sexual exploitation (21 victims), with the remaining victims (10) suffering other types of trafficking.

The Ministry of Social Welfare reports the repatriation of six victims trafficked into Sierra Leone back to their countries of origin in other parts of West Africa in 2007.



Togo

Institutional framework

The specific offence of child trafficking was established in Togo in 2005, but the law does not cover trafficking in persons for those above the age of 18. Other provisions of the penal code criminalize sexual exploitation, forced labour, child begging and the use of children as soldiers. A national action plan on child trafficking was adopted in 2007.

Criminal justice response

The Brigade de Protection des Mineurs is responsible for cases of child trafficking.

In 2007, six men were convicted of trafficking in persons; one for trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation and five for trafficking for the purpose of servitude. The six convicted received a sentence of less than one year in prison. Information concerning previous years was unavailable.

Services provided to victims

State authorities provide legal protection, temporary stay permits, medical and psychosocial support, and housing and shelter for victims. Local NGOs and international organizations provide medical and psychosocial support and housing and shelter. Two residential facilities administered by NGOs are available for victims.

According to the Ministry of Employment, there were 1,758 victims of trafficking in Togo in 2003 and 1,301 in 2004. Most of the victims were children.

Additional information

The citizenship of many of the victims sheltered in 2005 and 2006 remains unknown, but the above chart represents citizenships when the information is available. Seventy-five per cent of victims sheltered by one of the NGOs were girls, and girls accounted for almost all of the victims sheltered by the second NGO. Many Togolese victims sheltered were repatriated from other countries and many were trafficked internally. It is not possible to have an exact measure of internal trafficking or of the countries to which the victims were trafficked.

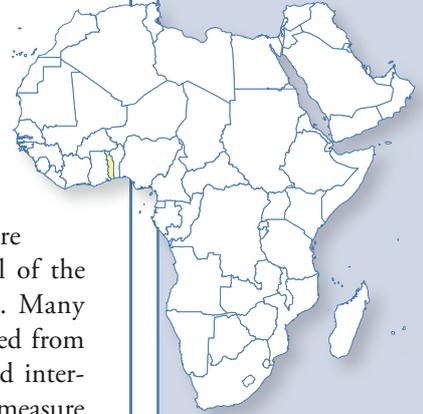
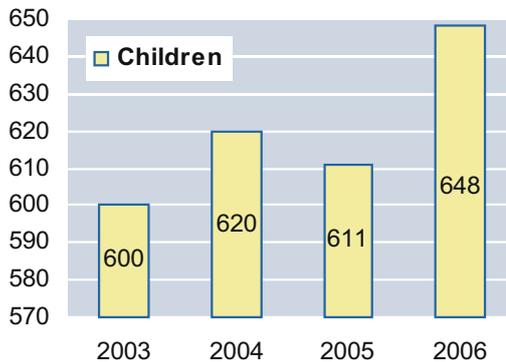
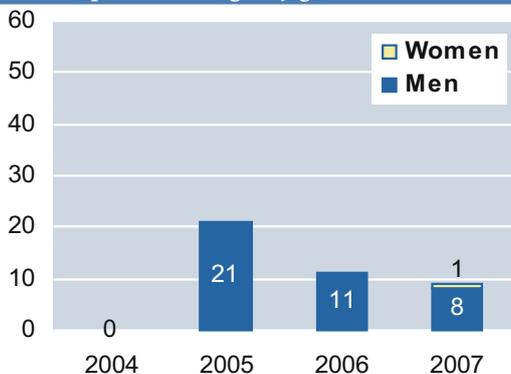


Fig. 50: Victims of child trafficking sheltered by two NGOs in Togo (2003-2006)



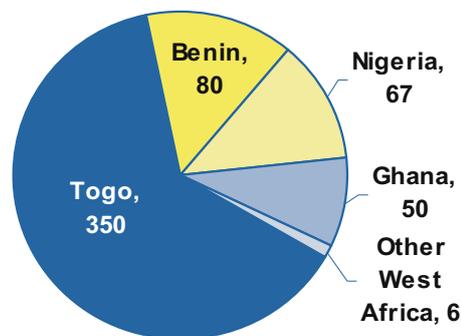
Sources: Esperance Centre (WAO-Afrique) and OASIS (Terre des Hommes)

Fig. 49: Persons investigated for trafficking in persons in Togo, by gender (2004-2007)



Source: Direction Générale de la Police Judiciaire, Tribunaux du Togo

Fig. 51: Victims of child trafficking sheltered by two NGOs in Togo, by country of citizenship (2005-2006)



Sources: Esperance Centre (WAO-Afrique) and OASIS (Terre des Hommes)