#### **OFFICIAL**

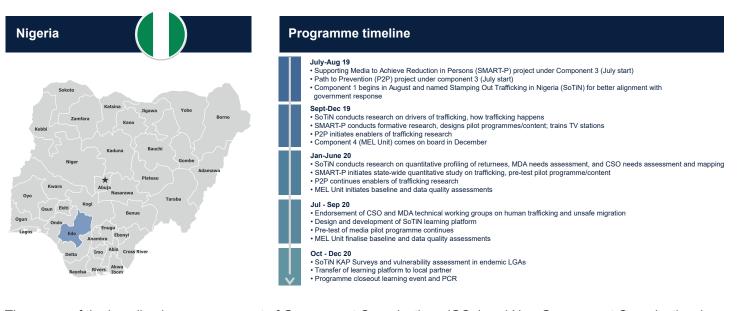
# **SoSiN Programme and Evaluation**

The UK Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)-funded Stamping out Slavery in Nigeria (SoSiN) programme aims to improve the evidence base on modern slavery, and develop and test new and innovative approaches to tackling human trafficking, mainly in Edo State, the epicentre of human trafficking in Nigeria. Programme delivery is structured around 4 components

**Component 1:** Support to Edo State government and civil society response, as well as generating and sharing information on human trafficking and unsafe migration **Component 2:** Support to the UK Home Office to build on existing relations at the federal level **Component 3:** Support testing and developing pilot interventions focused on changing norms and behaviours that drive human trafficking and unsafe migration

#### Component 4:

Independent MEL Unit to contribute to data quality improvements, independent evaluation and sharing of evidence



The scope of the baseline is an assessment of Government Organisations (GOs) and Non-Government Organisations' (NGOs) approach to modern day slavery (MDS); complemented with a community survey to assess the perceptions of citizens to MDS and GO and NGO response. This was meant to set out the basis to demonstrate how the SoSiN components are delivering the observed outcomes. With the early closure of the programme, the baseline assessment will be a useful reference document for FCDO in determining any continuing or potential future support in the sector. It can also be used by other donors in the area.

#### **Baseline study methodology**



The baseline study employed a robust methodology that generated robust evidence on the causal chain connecting the SoSiN interventions and how they collectively contribhow the observed outcomes.



Document reviews including text coding of documented sources. A detailed review of existing programme documents and other relevant literature drew on information already collected by each of the programme components.



In-depth interviews with stakeholders from Ministries, Departments, Agencies as well as Parastatals responsible for human trafficking and unsafe migration in Edo State. Similar interviews with stakeholders from non-government organisations working on the subject matter.



Total of 2,050 randomly sampled respondents as part of a quasi-experimental design carried out in six LGAs with high incidence of unsafe migration. These are Egor, Orhionwon, Esan North East – treatment; and Ovia North East, Uhunwonde and Esan Central – control. Respondents were adult residents, 18 years and above, with an equal (50-50) split across gender.

### OFFICIAL

# Key findings from the baseline assessment

### Socioeconomic characteristics



**22%** of respondents were aged 18-24, **40%** were aged 25-40 and **38%** were aged 41 and above.

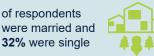


There was an **equal proportion** of male and female respondents



of respondent practice Christianity as a religion

60%



44% came from semi-urban ↓ locations



**41%** had secondary education as their highest qualification

condary their fication

**3%** considered themselves to be disabled

87% of the sample population falling within the lowest wealth quintile, which can be categorised as vulnerable

### Perceptions of migration



0% of r

of respondents from the selected communities confirmed that migration is a common practice in their communities



think more women than men migrate









### Attitudes to migration



Support for migration is high, especially among younger people



of respondents aged **18-24** indicated moderate to high support for migration **68%** 

aged **25-40** indicated moderate to high support for migration



of respondents aged **41-plus** indicated moderate to high support for migration



are willing to build a future in Edo state if opportunities that would enable financial stability are created



This willingness is slightly higher among women at **86%** 

### **Drivers of migration**



All percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number

Poverty, unemployment and pressures from parents and other family members are root causes of human trafficking and unsafe migration. A few "success stories" from migrants was responsible for pressures from families. Returnees came back with flashy cars, built, or completed houses and took up financial responsibility of their families. Other parents then compared their children with these people, and then mounted pressure on them to travel so that they could be "successful" like the returnees.

### Intention to migrate

of the sampled respondents were returnees

Almost half of these still nurse the intention to travel again, through irregular channels

migrate

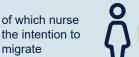


More male returnees nurse the intention (54%) than female returnees (31%)

of the sampled







More male non returnees nurse the intention (23%) than female non returnees (10%)

### Interventions targeted at tackling unsafe migration and human trafficking

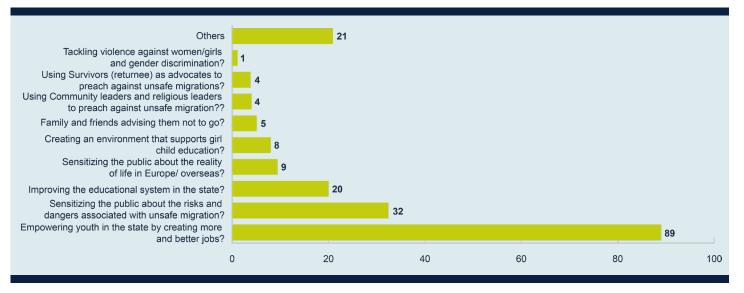
#### Main activities of GO/NGO targeted at tackling human trafficking and unsafe migration include:

- Counselling for potential migrants
- Skills acquisition for returnees and non-returnees, including seed grants for business start-up
- Direct assistance legal aid and health assistance to returnees
- Provision of shelter, feeding and other financial support to victims
- Rehabilitation of victims
- Advocacy and sensitisation.

#### Public perception of programmes to tackle unsafe migration

Overall, government's responses in combating human trafficking and unsafe migration was scored 75%; while nongovernmental organization's responses, was scored 54%. The community assessments however showed that just about 23% and 17% of the respondents were respectively aware of the programmes implemented by GO and NGOs in tackling unsafe migration. Respondents from the community survey suggest ways in which irregular migration can be better tackled where creating job opportunities for young people in the state came tops in their recommendations

#### Public perception on ways to discourage irregular migration



# Conclusions

Returnee economic empowerment needs to be **meaningful**  GO/NGO **collaboration** to combat human trafficking and unsafe migration Limitations in generating evidence for these approaches GO/NGOs face limited funding and capacity gaps

- To a large extent, GOs and NGOs have the capacity to tackle modern day slavery but in slightly different areas. Findings suggest the need for more collaboration between GOs and NGOs so they can draw on their comparative strengths.
- There is a need for GO/NGO efforts to focus the empowerment of returnees in the growing economic sectors such as commerce, IT, mechanical services, furniture, and metal fabrication, with flexible access to microloans (microfinance institutions) while helping to define career development or business plans.
- There is good collaboration between GOs and NGOs but generating evidence for the approaches used in combating human trafficking and unsafe migration is still limited.
- Limited funding and capacity gaps are constant challenges faced by GOs and NGOs in the fight against human trafficking and unsafe migration.
- Modern day slavery as typified by human trafficking and unsafe migration cut across all demographics with younger people both male and female, being the most at-risk. Employment outside the country was identified as the most significant 'pulling' factor for people to engage in unsafe migration or to be trafficked. Individuals with less education and little means of livelihood are more prone to human trafficking and unsafe migration. The findings suggest that large scale job creation, as well as the creation of educational opportunities are required to reduce the risks to modern-day slavery.

## Recommendations

### Consider

**implementing** youth skills acquisition and mentorship programmes Joint partnerships on initiatives **should be deepened** 

Build strong structures to ensure GOs and NGOs engage gate keepers

Build capacity on use of evidence and enhance learning

- Edo government should consider implementing skills acquisition and mentorship programmes for the teeming youths - can adopt the Lagos State model of 'AGRIC Yes' and "Health Volunteer Schemes".
- Deepen joint partnerships between GOs and NGOs on initiatives such as empowerment and sensitisation, as well as platforms and mechanisms used for knowledge sharing.
- Build strong structures that ensures GOs and NGOs engage religious and community leaders, so as to use their influence to discourage unsafe migration and human trafficking.
- Enhance GO and NGO capacity on the use of evidence through robust documentation, so as to enhance learning from previous work.





Briefing paper content and layout by Itad (October 2020)