



HAWKS

DIRECTORATE FOR PRIORITY CRIME INVESTIGATION



Extent of human trafficking in south Africa

Briefing to the Portfolio Committee
on
Justice and Constitutional Development

“More must be done to reduce the vulnerability of victims, increase the risk to traffickers, and lower demand for the goods and services of modern-day slaves”

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Introduction

- ▶ Over the last decade human trafficking has drawn tremendous attention worldwide.
 - ▶ Hardly any country is untouched by this modern day slave trade.
 - ▶ Due to the under ground nature of this scourge estimates vary widely.
 - ▶ Last year saw more victims identified more services provided and more traffickers convicted than any year in history.
 - ▶ PALERMO Protocol first international instrument calling for criminalising all forms of human trafficking
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- ▶ Big hype during 2010 FIFA World Cup
 - ▶ Tier Two Watch list – improved to Tier Two

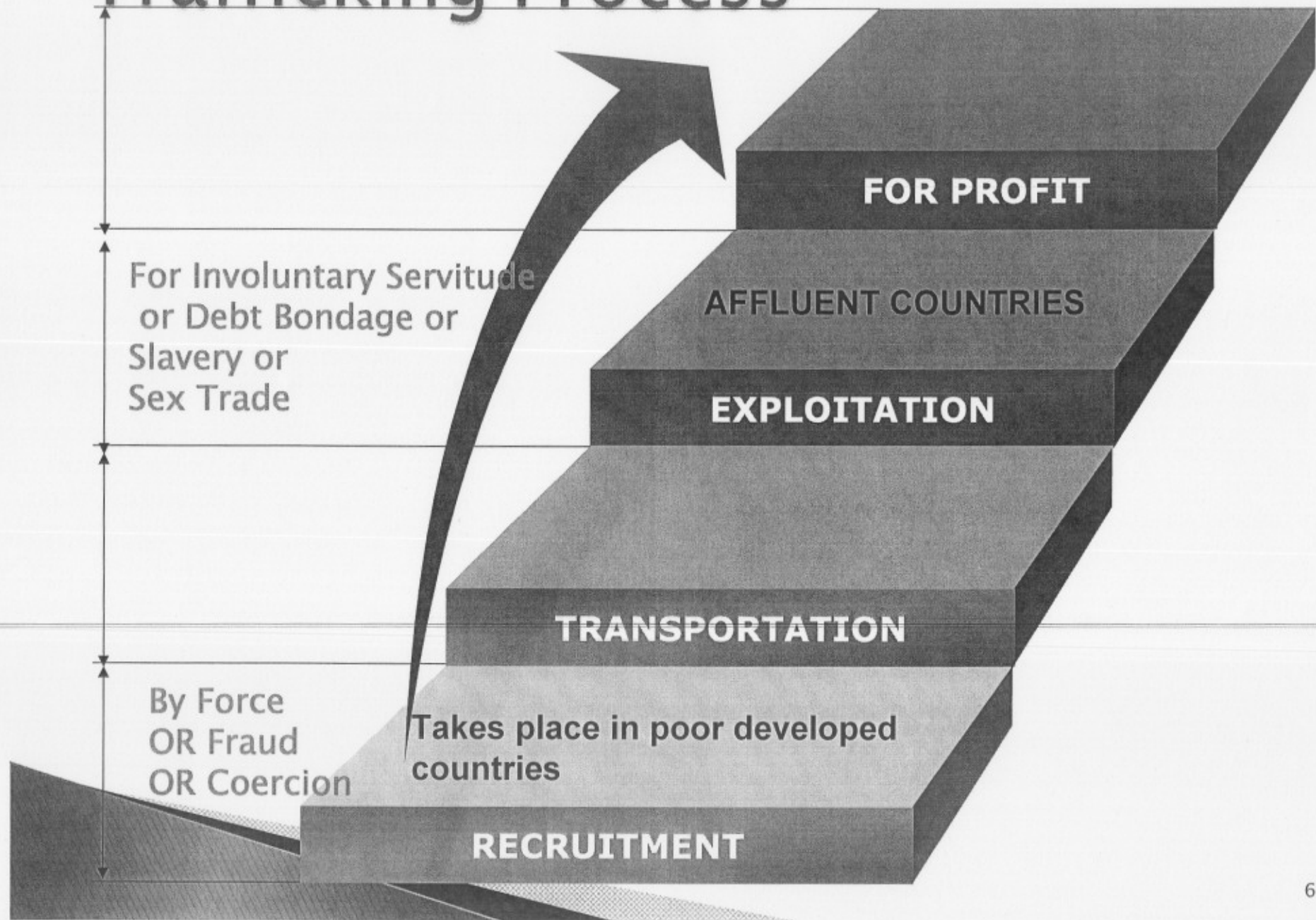
Definition of Human Trafficking



- ▶ The “Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish. Trafficking in Persons especially Women and Children defines the key elements of trafficking in the persons as:
 - The act of recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons;
 - By means of the threat of use of force, coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or vulnerability, or giving payment or benefits to a person in control of the victim;
 - For the purpose of exploitation, which includes, at a minimum, exploiting the prostitution of others, sexual exploitation, forced labour, slavery, or similar practices, and the removal of organs, (Protocol Art. 3(a))



Trafficking Process



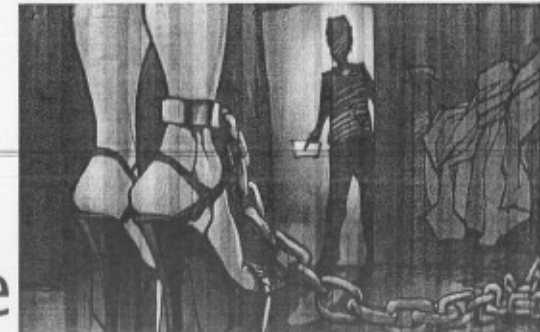
Overview of Global Trafficking Situation

- ▶ Second most lucrative illicit activity after drug trade – Estimated globally at US \$ 32 Billion.
- ▶ 12.3 Million adult and children in forced labour and forced prostitution around the world.
- ▶ 800 000 people trafficked across national borders.
- ▶ 116 Countries have enacted fully fledged human trafficking legislation.
- ▶ International Labour Organisation (ILO) estimates that for every trafficking victim subjected to forced prostitution, 9 people are forced to work.
- ▶ 79% Sexual exploitation.
- ▶ 18% Forced labour.
- ▶ Could be misrepresentation because forced labour is less frequently detected than sex trafficking.
- ▶ Women and girls primary victims of sexual exploitation.
- ▶ In some countries women trafficking women is the norm.
- ▶ Estimated 20 % of all victims are children.
- ▶ Up to 100% child victims in West Africa.
- ▶ UN estimates child trafficking generates 7 – 10 billion US \$ annually



RSA Profile

- ▶ Trafficking in persons growing phenomenon
- ▶ Lack of data on the nature, extent and scale of human trafficking
- ▶ Rapidly growing sex industry
- ▶ Status: South Africa is considered to be
 - Source country
 - Destination
 - Transit country
- ▶ Strong nexus to organised crime enterprises



Types of identified trafficking in South Africa

- ▶ Sexual Exploitation
 - Sex industry – International
 - Marriage – Sub regional mostly to miners
- ▶ Forced Labour
 - Sweat Shops / Illicit mining
- ▶ Trafficking for purpose of Organ theft
- ▶ Illegal Adoption



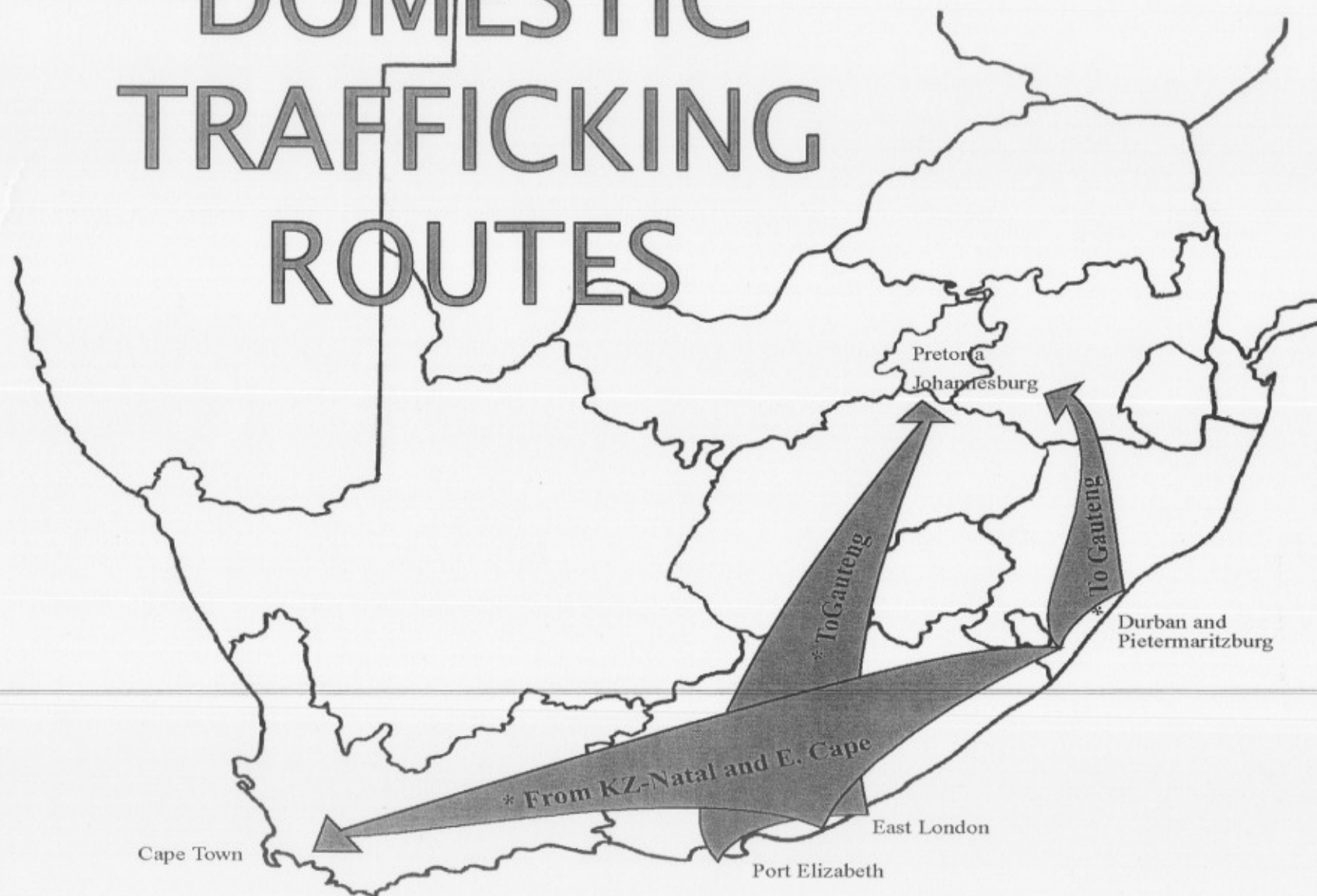
Trafficking flows

- ▶ Intercontinental trafficking (extra-regional)
 - ▶ Trafficking to South Africa from other African countries
 - Sexual and labour exploitation
 - ▶ Domestic trafficking
 - Usually from rural areas to cities
 - ▶ Trafficking of South Africans out of RSA is less of a problem
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- ▶ Women constitute largest group of victims

Major Source Countries



DOMESTIC TRAFFICKING ROUTES



***Traffickers:** Individual brothel owners and escort agencies

Factors Facilitating Trafficking

- ▶ Poverty
 - ▶ Lack of economic opportunities
 - ▶ Political instability
 - ▶ Ignorance
 - ▶ Demand in commercial sexual exploitation
 - ▶ Cultural
 - ▶ Perceived affluence
 - ▶ Low risk – High profit
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RSA Sex Industry

- ▶ Prostitution cannot be seen in isolation
- ▶ Major brothels and strip clubs have women who may be victims of trafficking or sold / rented from organised crime enterprises
- ▶ Foreign women are big attraction to brothel scene and strip clubs (exotic factor)
- ▶ Some brothels have between 2 – 25 foreign women (Conducting disruptive operations)
- ▶ Spreading to outlying areas (Platteland)
- ▶ Debt bondage – R60 000 to R100 000



Locations for Commercial Sexual Exploitation

- ▶ Red lights districts
- ▶ Bars
- ▶ Brothels
- ▶ Hostess clubs
- ▶ Sauna and massage parlors
- ▶ Private houses / hotels
- ▶ Outdoor venues (Street Prostitution)



Forced labour

- ▶ Farms
- ▶ Construction
- ▶ Illicit mining
- ▶ Restaurant
- ▶ Sweat Shop
- ▶ Informal Sector



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- ▶ Limited information available

Summary of Major Cases / Investigations

- ▶ Investigations focussing on Trafficking for Sexual exploitation – 5 Projects
 - Thai 1 – KZN
 - Convicted
 - Awaiting sentencing
 - Thai 2 – KZN
 - Convicted
 - Awaiting sentencing
 - Saartjie – Eastern Cape
 - Targets arrested x 6
 - Hoolahoop – Eastern Cape
 - Under investigation
 - Lookout – Eastern Cape
 - Under investigation

CASE STUDY

- ▶ The first conviction in human trafficking case on charges on Racketeering, Contravention of the Sexual Offences act 23 of 1957 and Money Laundering:
 - State v Basheer Sayed and Another (Project Thai 2)