

Anti-Human Trafficking Interventions Morogoro 2025

Coverage Area: Morogoro Municipal

Reporting Period: January 2025 – September 2025

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Between January - September 2025, Zuia Trafficking Tanzania (ZTT) implemented a comprehensive anti-human trafficking program focusing on prevention, survivor protection, rescue operations, rehabilitation, and prosecution support.

This report outlines the activities carried out by Zuia Trafficking Tanzania (ZTT) to combat human trafficking, particularly addressing deceptive recruitment schemes and fraudulent employment networks. The main goal of the program was to rescue victims of human trafficking and provide support to the survivors, including awareness of how such networks operate and their links to trafficking, legal assistance, psychosocial counseling, medical care, and temporary accommodation during ongoing court cases. Additionally, the program strengthened survivors' capacity for self-protection and enhanced awareness among communities and law enforcement agencies.

Key results:

- 36 survivors rescued
- 6 criminal cases prosecuted and convicted
- Survivors reunited with families across 5 regions
- 2,000 educational flyers raising awareness of human trafficking distributed

The interventions significantly improved survivor recovery, community awareness, and law enforcement response capacity.

Beneficiaries:

- The program primarily addressed victims of human trafficking networks operating through deceptive recruitment schemes and fraudulent employment networks targeting youth.

2. PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The program aimed to address human trafficking using a comprehensive prevention, protection, and prosecution approach. It focused on preventing trafficking through community awareness and education so that individuals, families, and institutions could recognize recruitment tactics and warning signs early.

The program also worked to identify and rescue survivors of exploitation through coordinated reporting and response mechanisms. After rescue, beneficiaries received comprehensive support services including counseling, shelter, food assistance, and safe return home. In addition, the initiative strengthened survivor reintegration by supporting family reunification. The program further aimed to improve prosecution and legal accountability by assisting documentation and cooperation with investigators, while also building the capacity of law enforcement officers and communities through collaboration and referral network strengthening.

3. SURVIVOR IDENTIFICATION AND RESCUE

3.1 Rescue Operations

Between January and June 2025, coordinated rescue operations led to the identification and safe removal of 36 survivors from exploitative environments. Among those rescued, 16 were female and 20 were male, aged between 17 and 28 years. The cases involved multiple forms of exploitation including domestic servitude, pyramid scheme or a “multi-level marketing scam” (MLM scam), commercial sexual exploitation forced labor and online fraud.

These operations were carried out through close collaboration with the Police Anti-Trafficking Unit, Social Welfare Officers, and Community Leaders, ensuring that rescues were conducted safely and survivors were immediately referred to protection and support services. The joint approach also improved trust within communities, enabling faster reporting of suspected trafficking situations and reducing delays in response.

3.2 Ambush Operations & Surveillance

During the reporting period, the program strengthened preventive actions by conducting ambush monitoring and surveillance in high-risk locations such as different areas accommodated youth doing pyramid scheme” or a “multi-level marketing scam” (MLM scam). Community members and trained volunteers provided alerts about suspicious movements, enabling rapid intervention before survivors were moved or further harmed.

Through these surveillance activities, trafficking houses were identified, recruitment networks were disrupted, and evidence was gathered to support ongoing investigations. Consequently, the program shifted from a reactive rescue approach to proactive prevention, enabling authorities and community structures to intervene earlier and strengthen protection for potential survivors.

During the reporting period, coordinated operations targeted deceptive recruitment schemes and fraudulent employment networks across several locations within Morogoro Municipal. In Manyuki, 120 victims of human trafficking were rescued. 5 of whom as survivors received assistance from Zuia, and 12 traffickers were arrested, all of whom were later convicted. In Kihonda 63 victims rescued, of which 19 survivors received Zuia’s assistance, 10 traffickers arrested also resulting in convictions. At Modeco, 118 victims rescued, of which 10 survivors received assistance from Zuia, 2 traffickers arrested and subsequently convicted. Similarly, in Azimio, 120 victims rescued, of which 2 survivors received assistance from Zuia, 20 traffickers arrested all of whom faced conviction, fined TZS 500,000 each, and

issued with a court order prohibiting them from falsely presenting themselves as recruitment or employment officers, contrary to Section 369(1) of the Penal Code of Tanzania. These interventions effectively disrupted trafficking networks and reinforced legal accountability.

Location	Outcome	Case Status
Manyuki	120 victims rescued of which 5 survivors received assistance, 12 traffickers arrested	Convicted
Kihonda	63 victims rescued of which 19 survivors received assistance, 10 traffickers arrested	Convicted
Modeco	118 victims rescued of which 10 survivors received assistance, 2 traffickers arrested	Convicted
Azimio	120 victims rescued of which 2 survivors received assistance, 20 traffickers arrested	Convicted

4. SURVIVOR SUPPORT SERVICES

4.1 Comprehensive Support

A total of 36 survivors received rehabilitation and recovery support through a structured assistance program designed to address immediate needs as well as long-term wellbeing. Survivors were first provided with emergency assistance such as food, safe shelter, and medical treatment to stabilize their physical condition after removal from exploitation. This initial care ensured safety while individual assessments and case management plans were prepared.

The program also offered legal assistance, including support in reporting cases, preparation for court proceedings, and guidance for survivors serving as witnesses. This helped survivors understand their rights and participate in the justice process with reduced fear and confusion. Alongside legal aid, beneficiaries received psychosocial support through trauma counseling and peer support groups, allowing them to process their experiences, rebuild confidence, and reduce stigma.

To promote durable recovery, the organization facilitated family reunification and reintegration follow-ups, ensuring survivors returned to safe environments and were monitored after reintegration to prevent re-trafficking. A total of 36 survivors were successfully returned home across five regions: Kagera, Dodoma, Tanga, Mwanza, Singida, and Pwani. Out of these cases, three required formal family reunification mediation, where additional social work intervention was necessary due to family conflict,

stigma, or safety concerns. The reintegration process emphasized long-term protection, meaning survivors were not only transported home but also supported through counseling sessions, community awareness engagement, and monitoring to reduce vulnerability to re-exploitation.

Overall, the services combined rescue, protection, healing and justice support to help survivors rebuild stable and dignified lives.

Services Provided

Service	Description
Legal Assistance	Court preparation, reporting support, witness guidance
Emergency Assistance	Food, shelter, medical treatment
Psychosocial Support	Trauma counseling and peer groups
Reintegration	Family reunification & follow-ups

Reintegration Results

Indicator	Number
Survivors returned home	36
Regions covered (Kagera, Dodoma, Tanga, Singida, Pwani, Mwanza)	5
Family reunification	36

5. LEGAL OUTCOMES

The program supported accountability efforts by strengthening coordination between survivors, investigators, and judicial authorities, leading to measurable legal action against traffickers. During the reporting period, six(6) criminal cases were successfully prosecuted and the suspects were taken to court and charged with impersonating recruitment officers, rather than with the offense of human trafficking, and all resulted in convictions, demonstrating effective evidence documentation and witness support.

Each offender was fined TZS 500,000 (\$193 USD), and the court imposed additional restrictions prohibiting them from engaging in recruitment-related activities. The legal support component therefore contributed both to survivor protection and to broader prevention through enforcement of the law.

6. CAPACITY BUILDING AND TRAINING

As part of this project, Zuia Trafficking Tanzania conducted targeted capacity-building and training sessions for rescued survivors of human trafficking, as well as for community members in the areas where the centers are located and where victims were identified. The training focused on awareness, prevention strategies, rights education, and pathways for reporting and protection. To reinforce these efforts and extend outreach, 2,000 educational flyers were distributed within the surrounding communities, strengthening public understanding and promoting collective responsibility in preventing human trafficking.

7. PROGRAM BUDGET & EXPENDITURE

The anti-trafficking intervention was implemented through a combination of operational, protection, prevention, and legal support activities. The budget was allocated to ensure immediate survivor protection, rescue operations, rehabilitation, and justice support. Overall expenditure remained closely aligned with planned priorities.

Budget Category	Planned Budget (USD)	Actual Expenditure (USD)	Remarks
Rescue Operations & Surveillance	250	260	Increased rescues and transport costs
Survivor Shelter & Emergency Support	195	295	Females survivors were provided shelter at a safe house, our focus for shelter was male survivors
Legal Aid & Support	195	200	Higher number of survivors required legal counsel
Capacity Building & Training	350	250	Combined training sessions reduced expenses
Community Awareness & Media Outreach	315	140	Radio stations supplemented costs
Administration & Coordination	80	40	Efficient resource utilization
Monitoring and Follow	195	135	Survivors families within close

Up			proximity
TOTAL	1,580	1,320	Within acceptable variance

Expenditure Analysis

The program maintained strong financial discipline, with overall spending remaining within the approved budget framework. Higher costs were recorded mainly in rescue operations and survivor shelter support, largely due to increased case identification and emergency transportation across multiple regions. Savings were realized in legal aid, training, and awareness activities through collaboration with government institutions and media partners.

Emergency survivor needs required flexible reallocation of funds toward food, temporary accommodation, and transportation, reflecting the survivor-centered nature of the intervention. Despite these adjustments, the program achieved its targets without major budget overruns.

Overall, the financial performance demonstrates efficient resource utilization while maintaining priority on survivor protection and safety.

8. CHALLENGES

Several factors affected the efficiency and reach of program interventions. Limited understanding of trafficking laws among some law enforcement officers, particularly regarding the Anti-Human Trafficking Act No. 6 of 2008 (as amended in 2023), led to the application of incorrect charges. Cases of trafficking offenses were wrongly filed as impersonation of a public officer, contrary to Sections 102 and 369(1) of the Penal Code, slowing legal processes and weakening prosecutions.

The scarcity of safe houses, especially in Morogoro Region, posed challenges for providing secure, long-term accommodation for survivors, particularly males, during ongoing court proceedings. This often required temporary arrangements in hotels or guesthouses, which were less stable and costly.

Limited financial resources further constrained the program’s capacity, restricting follow-up visits, community outreach, and the number of beneficiaries who could access comprehensive support services.

Additionally, under reporting of cases remained a significant challenge, as survivors feared stigma, retaliation, or social rejection, making identification and timely rescue more difficult. Also, the fact that many seemed to have trauma coerced attachment so returned to the traffickers after being rescued, as they didn’t understand that they had been trafficked.

Together, these challenges underscore the need for continued capacity building for law enforcement, expansion of protection infrastructure, and sustainable financial support to enhance the effectiveness of anti-trafficking interventions.

9. LESSONS LEARNED

The implementation of the program generated important practical insights for improving anti-trafficking interventions. First, community informants proved critical for early detection, as local residents, transport workers, and leaders were often the first to notice suspicious movements and recruitment patterns. Their involvement significantly increased timely reporting and rescue success.

Second, multi-agency cooperation improved operational effectiveness. Close collaboration between law enforcement, social welfare officers, and community structures enabled faster response, better survivor protection, and stronger legal cases compared to working independently.

The program also demonstrated that trauma counseling must be provided immediately after rescue. Early psychosocial support helped stabilize survivors, improved cooperation during investigations, and supported healthier reintegration outcomes.

Finally, awareness activities reduced recruitment fraud. Communities that received education were more capable of identifying false job offers and warning signs, leading to prevention of exploitation before it occurred and increased community responsibility in safeguarding vulnerable individuals.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

To strengthen future anti-trafficking interventions and address the challenges identified, several key actions are recommended. First, there is a need to train law enforcement officers on proper application of trafficking laws, ensuring correct charges are applied and cases proceed efficiently through the justice system. Continuous capacity building will improve investigations, evidence handling, and prosecution outcomes.

Second, the program should establish dedicated safe houses for both male and female survivors to provide secure, stable, and gender-sensitive accommodation during recovery and legal processes. This will reduce reliance on temporary arrangements and enhance protection and psychosocial recovery.

Third, it is important to increase access to legal aid services so that survivors receive consistent legal guidance, witness protection, and representation throughout court proceedings, strengthening accountability and survivor confidence in reporting.

Finally, the program should expand awareness campaigns to reach more communities, schools, transport hubs, and media platforms. Broader coverage will improve prevention by helping the public recognize trafficking indicators, understand reporting mechanisms, and reduce vulnerability to recruitment fraud.

11. CONCLUSION

The 2025 anti-trafficking program significantly enhanced survivor protection, prosecution outcomes, and community awareness in Morogoro Region. Through coordinated enforcement operations, trafficking networks were disrupted.

The program has produced positive results for 36 survivors, enabling their recovery, protection, and reintegration into society. However, achieving sustainable impact will require increased investment, expanded safe shelters, and stronger collaboration among institutions. Continued support will further improve the wellbeing of survivors and strengthen national anti-trafficking efforts.

Zuia Trafficking Tanzania remains committed to protecting vulnerable populations and advancing the fight against human trafficking across Tanzania.