

Best Practices for Prevention of Human Trafficking

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Assessments and Limitations

- USAID funded assessments 2004 and 2008 (see references at the end of the presentation).
- Methodology: Review of research, literature, assessments, evaluations, project documents and limited field research (2004).
- Main finding in both assessments – not enough impact data to draw any firm conclusions about best practices.

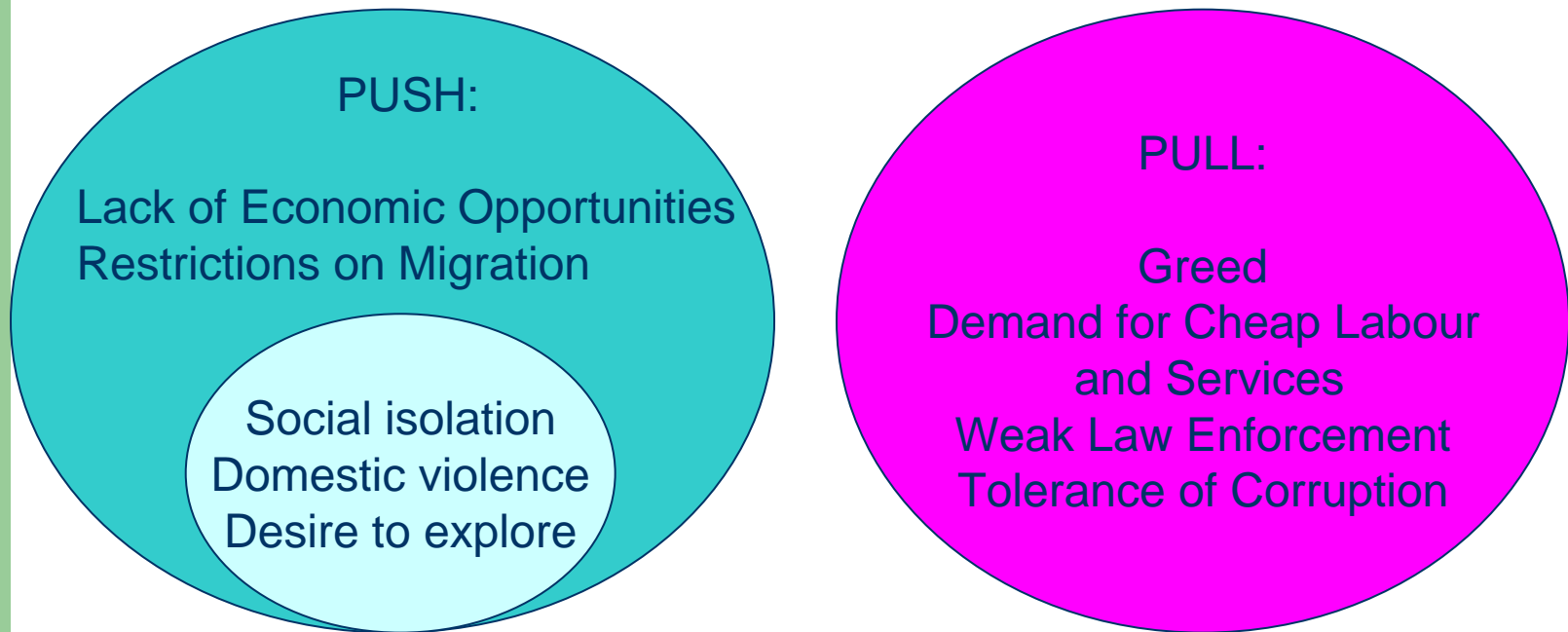
Improving our ability to assess impact

- The purpose of this presentation is to stimulate a discussion about how to improve our ability to assess the impact of prevention programmes in order to improve programming in future.
- This presentation will not describe prevention programming or attempt to assess or describe best practices

Designing Programmes

- Assumptions based on traits gleaned from a narrow pool of identified and assisted victims:
 - Who is trafficked – e.g. young women, children
 - What makes people vulnerable – e.g. poverty, low education
 - For what purposes people are trafficked – e.g. sexual exploitation, begging
- Vicious Cycle – We find what we look for:
 - Assumptions lead to interventions (training, protocols, media campaigns, etc) which focus on a narrow picture of trafficking such that other forms of trafficking are never noticed

Factors leading to environment in which TIP can flourish



These factors are more far-reaching than just TIP and affect huge portions of the population. Therefore TIP prevention programmes tend to target a very broad population, while TIP affects a very small percentage of the general population, making its impact on prevention of TIP very hard to measure.

Measuring Impact – Current Practice

- Awareness Raising → Knowledge of trafficking
- Employment / Income → Number of job placements; Income earned immediately following activity
- Empowerment/Crisis Intervention → Number of hotline calls, number of people seeking services
- Safe Migration → Number of people seeking services or advice, Anecdotes of averted trafficking
- Criminal Enforcement → Convictions and sentencing

What is Missing from Current Practice?

Was Trafficking Prevented?

- Awareness Raising: Does increased knowledge of trafficking lead to changes in behaviour? Many studies say “No”.
- Employment / Income: Does employment diminish a desire to migrate? Many VOTs were employed at the time of their recruitment.
- Empowerment / Crisis Intervention: Do these services lead to a reduction of risk? Some people, if empowered, might feel more confident to migrate.
- Safe Migration: Are migrants who were exposed to safe migration interventions less likely to be trafficked or more likely to be able to seek assistance if trafficked?
- Criminal Enforcement: Do convictions and strong sentences have a preventive affect?

What Next?

- Improve knowledge of trafficking gleaned from identified and assisted victims and share/consolidate this information widely.
- Conduct studies of trafficking which goes collect information and data beyond that obtained from assisted victims in order to target programmes more effectively and to neglected groups (see ILO studies) .
- Conduct long-term longitudinal studies to assess the impact of interventions including comparisons to similar individuals who did not participate in prevention programmes

What Next (continued)

- Conduct studies of identified victims as well as successful migrants to
 - assess the impact of prevention programmes
 - to study differences between trafficked and non-trafficked individuals in order to better understand vulnerability factors.
- Conduct studies to measure incidences / rates of trafficking.

References

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Thank you for your time and attention