

Discussing Challenges, Limitations and Recommendations in Research and M&E around TIP

This resource aims to provide a collection of sources that have addressed and discussed the challenges, or any limitations faced by the M&E practitioners in CTIP. Some resources further provide recommendations in research and M&E programs and inter-agency collaboration mechanisms. These key insights would be very practical to apply during the processes of designing and implementing the research and M&E programs towards a better evidence-based coordination.

1. A Compendium of Monitoring and Evaluation Indicators Trafficking in Persons and Health

This compendium seeks to facilitate sharing of knowledge and information, and guides program managers and decision-makers to plan, monitor, and evaluate their response to trafficking and health. This guide addresses health sector preparedness, post-trafficking assistance programs' response to health, referrals and policies related to health, and the health status and care received by individuals who have been trafficked.

Chapter 4, which could be found from page 48 to 49 highlights systemic and organizational challenges in international research and M&E of TIP that may affect the level of information and knowledge on TIP and health. The compendium reflects on five elements including capacity, funding, competing public health priorities, conflation with sex work, and international cross-border concerns. The following chapter starting from page 50 to 54, further suggests areas of improvement to combat trafficking in persons. The discussion covers the aspects in recruitment, travel and transit, exploitation, integration, re-integration, and special populations or settings.

Cannon, A. C., Arcara, J., Arnoff, E., & Bloom, S. S. (2014). *Trafficking in persons and health: A compendium of monitoring and evaluation indicators*. 1–74. <https://www.measureevaluation.org/resources/publications/ms-14-97>

2. Action for Cooperation against Trafficking in Persons (ACTIPI)

This resource is about the development of ACTIP's strategy to combat trafficking strategically and effectively in persons. It presents the key challenges in the (sub-) regional anti-trafficking sector, and a brief explanation of the issues that will help to justify the approach. In particular, the document will emphasize the gap or limitations of implementing the 4P Framework and M&E program.

UNDP. (2010). *Action for Cooperation against Trafficking in Persons (ACTIPI)*. 1–60.

3. Human Trafficking: Monitoring and Evaluation of International Projects Are Limited, but Experts Suggest Improvements

This paper presents the limitations of monitoring and evaluation projects with recommendations to improve the projects. It discusses two main improvements need to be addressed; firstly, to improve information about project impact on the nature and severity of human trafficking, and secondly, to address monitoring and evaluation weaknesses in the design of anti-trafficking projects.

Melito, T., Goodman, C., Latimer, J., Werth, C., Anderson, T., Danailova-Trainor, G., Richardson, T., & Chung, D. (2007). *Human Trafficking: Monitoring and Evaluation of International Projects Are Limited, but Experts Suggest Improvements*. Gao-07-1034, July.

4. Anti-Trafficking Data Collection and Information Management in the European Union – a Handbook

This handbook is about Trafficking in Human Beings, Data Collection and Harmonized Information Management Systems (DCIM-EU) that aims to support the process of data collection and analysis on human trafficking within the European Union. The resource also provides the guidance on the data collection process for both the victim-centered data set and the trafficker-centered data set, including a discussion of the data type, the national repositories and data sources. Especially, the handbook presents a step-by-step explanation of the data collection process, including data collection, transfer, validation, entry, cleaning and analysis/presentation. In addition, the limitations in data analysis and presentation are being discussed as well.

Surtees, R. (2009). *Anti-Trafficking Data Collection and Information Management in the European Union – a Handbook. The situation in the Czech Republic, Poland, Portugal and the Slovak Republic.* 1–165.

5. Constraints to a Robust Evidence Base for Anti-Trafficking Interventions

This paper presents limitations in the practice of monitoring and evaluation (M&E) that pose the greatest constraint to a robust evidence-base for anti-trafficking interventions. It provides an analysis of nine key reasons for the continuing lack of meaningful results documented in the context of anti-trafficking projects including: (1) absence of definitional clarity, (2) unsubstantiated focus on criminal justice responses, (3) vertical decision-making in defining outcomes, (4) a quantitative bias in methodology applied, (5) veneer of objectivity, (6) capacity limitations, (7) reluctance to be rigorous, (8) insufficient investment, and (9) gender-blind indicators.

Harkins, B. (2017). *Constraints to a Robust Evidence Base for Anti-Trafficking Interventions.* *Anti-Trafficking Review*, 35(8), 1–10. <https://doi.org/10.14197/atr.20121787>

6. Developing Better Indicators of Human Trafficking

This article examines the gap in understanding human trafficking, especially in statistics and data collection because much of the information on the actual number of persons trafficked is unclear and relatively few studies are based on extensive research. This paper has provided an analysis on the limitations of producing reliable data and suggested a few measures, which could be applied to improve a better data collection.

Laczko, F., & Gramegna, M. a. (2003). *Developing Better Indicators of Human Trafficking.* *Brown Journal of World Affairs*, X (1), 179–194. <http://www.watsoninstitute.org/bjwa/archive/10.1/SexTrafficking/Laczko.pdf>

7. Monitoring and Evaluation of Human Trafficking Partnerships in England and Wales

This article examines the nature of the evidence collected to monitor and evaluate the activities and outcomes of organizations involved in several human trafficking partnerships through an analysis of the '4 Ps' approach: Prevention, Protection, Prosecution and Partnership. The paper also presents the limitations in combating human trafficking including inadequate data collection, lack of robust methods of data collection, untested assumptions, the complexity of gathering evidence, and the sharing of evidence between partner organizations.

Dyke, R. Van. (2017). *Monitoring and Evaluation of Human Trafficking Partnerships in England and Wales.* *Anti-Trafficking Review*, 8. <https://doi.org/10.14197/atr.20121788>

8. Guidelines for the Collection of Data on Trafficking in Human Beings, Including Comparable Indicators

The paper has identified challenges to adequate, timely and comprehensive data collection. This information would help to monitor progress and identify gaps in the policy and programmes/action against human trafficking. In addition, the guidelines introduced in this report provide measures on how to overcome the challenges in collecting data on trafficking in persons as well.

Aronowitz, A. A. (2009). *GUIDELINES FOR THE COLLECTION OF DATA ON TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS, INCLUDING COMPARABLE INDICATORS.* International Organization for Migration.

9. An Evaluation Framework for USAID-Funded TIP Prevention and Victim Protection Program

This report aims to develop an evaluation framework for USAID prevention and victim protection programs that address trafficking in persons. Besides introducing the practitioners to the guidance on how to evaluate anti-TIP programs, this paper also discusses the challenges to evaluate impact of TIP prevention and VoT protection program and provides recommendations for addressing these challenges.

United States Agency for International Development (USAID). (2009). *An Evaluation Framework for USAID-Funded Tip Prevention and Victim Protection Programs.* December, 1–73. <https://riselearningnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/An-evaluation-framework-for-USAID-funded-TIP-Governance-and-Social-Transition-of-the-USAID-2009.pdf>

10. United Nations Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (UNIAP)

This report discusses the challenges and recommendations to facilitate a better coordination amongst counter-trafficking agencies, supported by improved information on trafficking trends and the efficacy of responses.

Cunnington, P., & Hung, S. (2009). *United Nations Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (UNIAP): Phase III (2007-2010): Mid-Term Evaluation Report*. Personnel, March 2009.

11. International Framework for Action to Implement the Trafficking in Persons Protocol

The Framework for Action provides key challenges in the implementation of the United Nations Trafficking Protocol and proposes general measures that can be taken in order to more effectively address these challenges.

UNODC. (2009). *International Framework for Action: To Implement the Trafficking in Persons Protocol*. 1–70.

12. Research Needs Concerning the Monitoring, Evaluation and Impact Assessment of Both Research about Human Trafficking and Projects and Programmes to Address Human Trafficking

This paper discusses the challenges in implementing the CTIP projects and provides eight points that summarize what needs to be done to ensure better M&E in counter-trafficking initiatives.

Dottridge, M. (2008). *Research needs concerning the monitoring, evaluation and impact assessment of both research about human trafficking and projects and programmes to address human trafficking*. 1–15.

13. Measuring the Success of Counter-Trafficking Interventions in the Criminal Justice Sector: Who decides—and how?

In this article, it addresses several limitations in counter-trafficking interventions in the criminal justice sector; it pinpoints the two main limitations including the focus to the criminal justice side of counter-trafficking responses and the externally supported interventions.

Gallagher, A. T., & Surtees, R. (2012). *Measuring the Success of Counter-Trafficking Interventions in the Criminal Justice Sector: Who decides—and how?* *Anti-Trafficking Review*, 4, 10–30. <https://doi.org/10.14197/atr.201211>

14. HUMAN TRAFFICKING: State and USAID Should Improve Their Monitoring of International Counter-Trafficking Project

In this report, GAO discusses recommendations to State and one recommendation to USAID with the objectives to improve the consistency and completeness of project performance information, maintain monitoring activity documentation, and establish targets for each performance indicator.

GAO. (2018). *State and USAID Should Improve Their Monitoring of International Counter- trafficking Projects*. December, 1–84.

15. Combatting Human Trafficking since Palermo: What Do We Know about What Works?

This article discusses barriers to effective monitoring and evaluation and impact assessments, which might be useful for the practitioners to gain some key insights on how to build a better coordination.

Bryant, K., & Landman, T. (2020). *Combatting Human Trafficking since Palermo: What Do We Know about What Works?* *Journal of Human Trafficking*, 6(2), 1–23. <https://doi.org/10.1080/23322705.2020.1690097>