

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



ENGAGEMENT
COOPERATION
OUTREACH

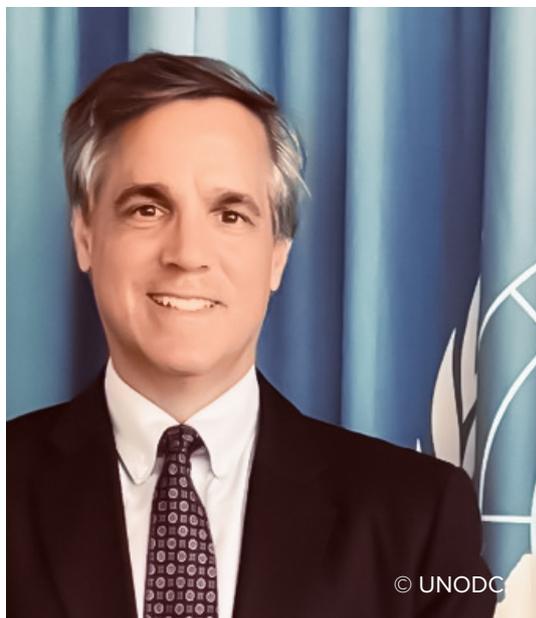


ICAT

The Inter-Agency Coordination Group
against Trafficking in Persons

FOREWORD

from the ICAT Coordinator



John Brandolino

**Director of the Division for Treaty Affairs,
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
(UNODC)**

The year 2022 recorded multiple crises posing significant challenges to humanity globally. They ranged from humanitarian crises, climate change-induced disasters, the lingering COVID-19 pandemic, global economic and food insecurity, forced displacement, and conflicts. When multiple crises overlap, they exacerbate existing vulnerabilities and create new ones. Traffickers and other criminals capitalize on the widespread human, material, social and economic distress to exploit people, preying on their vulnerable situations and marginalization.

This report seeks to detail the related efforts of ICAT entities to coordinate, and bring greater coherence, prioritization and urgency to the UN's response to these issues. In 2022, ICAT placed greater emphasis on addressing vulnerability to trafficking in persons through the Group's continued advocacy for including the voices and perspectives of survivors of human trafficking and by issuing a Call for Action, by the Heads of ICAT entities, to prevent and counter human trafficking in humanitarian crises and conflict situations. ICAT also increased its engagement with actors in Eastern and Western Africa and welcomed the United Nations University as its newest member, bringing the total membership to 31 UN entities and other international organizations.

I wish to thank UNODC's outgoing ICAT co-Chair, the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), for their leadership and extend our gratitude to all entities for their cooperation in delivering on ICAT's mandate. As ICAT Coordinator, UNODC looks forward to working with the incoming co-chairs, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children (OSRSG-VAC), to continue the implementation of the 2020 ICAT [Plan of Action](#) and the 2023 ICAT Annual Work Plan.

01 Building the Evidence Base



02 Addressing the Core Drivers



ICAT PRIORITIES

Foundational Pillars to Improve Global Anti-trafficking Efforts

03 Ensuring A Rights-based Approach



04

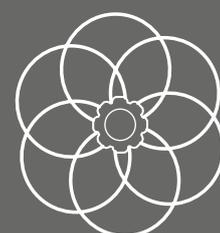
Implementing Existing Measures and Holding Traffickers Accountable



05 Discouraging Demand



06 Systematizing Cooperation and Multi-stakeholder Partnerships



A MESSAGE FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

In Focus:
Addressing Vulnerability
To Trafficking In Persons



In 2022, under the ICMPD-UNODC co-chairpersonship, ICAT made significant progress towards the implementation of its [Plan of Action](#).

The pledges made by the co-chairs were to advance on several priority areas including among others, the inclusion of survivors' voices; multi-stakeholder collaboration; knowledge production and dissemination; preventing trafficking in persons in procurement; reinforcing existing partnerships; closer coordination with and at the field level; and continuing to shape the development of multilateral policy on trafficking in persons.

As 2022 co-chairs, we are proud to have met our pledges and contributed to enhancing ICAT's impact on a global scale during a year marked by multiple crises that had a highly disruptive global impact. It is under these challenging circumstances that ICAT decided to put a resolute focus

on addressing vulnerability to trafficking in persons in humanitarian crises and conflicts without losing sight of the initial commitments detailed at the onset of our tenure as co-chairs. Immediately after the escalation of the conflict in Ukraine and the numerous policy implications that have arisen since then, an ad hoc Policy Support Group was established, allowing all 31 ICAT entities to share and coordinate their policy work in response to humanitarian crises and conflicts. ICAT also put trafficking in persons into perspective during the joint ICMPD-ICAT discussion entitled *Beyond the Short Term: How to address vulnerability to Trafficking in Persons* in the context of lasting crises, organized on the margins of the 2022 [Vienna Migration Conference](#). Furthermore, a [Joint Call to Action](#), endorsed by ICAT Principals in December 2022, called for stronger action and cooperation to counter human trafficking in humanitarian crises and conflicts.

The focus on vulnerability to trafficking in

persons further permeated through all ICAT interventions in 2022 as we endeavored to develop guidance for States and other relevant actors. Our efforts in this regard drew from the diverse mandates, expertise and experience of all ICAT entities, as reflected in the [Issue Brief on Addressing vulnerability to Trafficking in Persons](#) which was launched on the margins of the first quadrennial International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) in May. The Issue Brief unpacks the concept of vulnerability and the different dimensions and factors that make a person vulnerable to trafficking in persons and presents related evidence illustrating the various factors that intersect to enhance the risks of being targeted and recruited by traffickers.

ICAT also stepped-up efforts to set standards and priorities for the anti-trafficking community, notably through its contribution to key policy processes, such as the consultation on the revision of the European Union Anti-Trafficking Directive. The ability of ICAT to speak with one voice on trafficking in persons matters is also evidenced by the other joint statements and calls to action that were issued in 2022, such as the [joint submission](#) to the political declaration of the IMRF and the [joint call](#) to action for States to harness the potential of technology in the fight against trafficking in persons, issued on the World Day against Trafficking in Persons (30 July 2022).

Bringing ICAT closer to the field is also among the key achievements in 2022. In this regard, more targeted and tailored activities were carried out with positive results. Such activities included regional consultations in Africa, an information session on the [United Nations voluntary trust fund for victims of](#)

[trafficking in persons](#), and the organization of a technical workshop to facilitate knowledge exchange on promising practices developed by Africa-based nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) and the private sector in the protection and reintegration of victims of trafficking.

At the institutional level, ICAT expanded its membership with the inclusion of the UN University (UNU) bringing the total membership to 31, broadening ICAT's expertise and convening a complementarity of mandates on trafficking in persons.

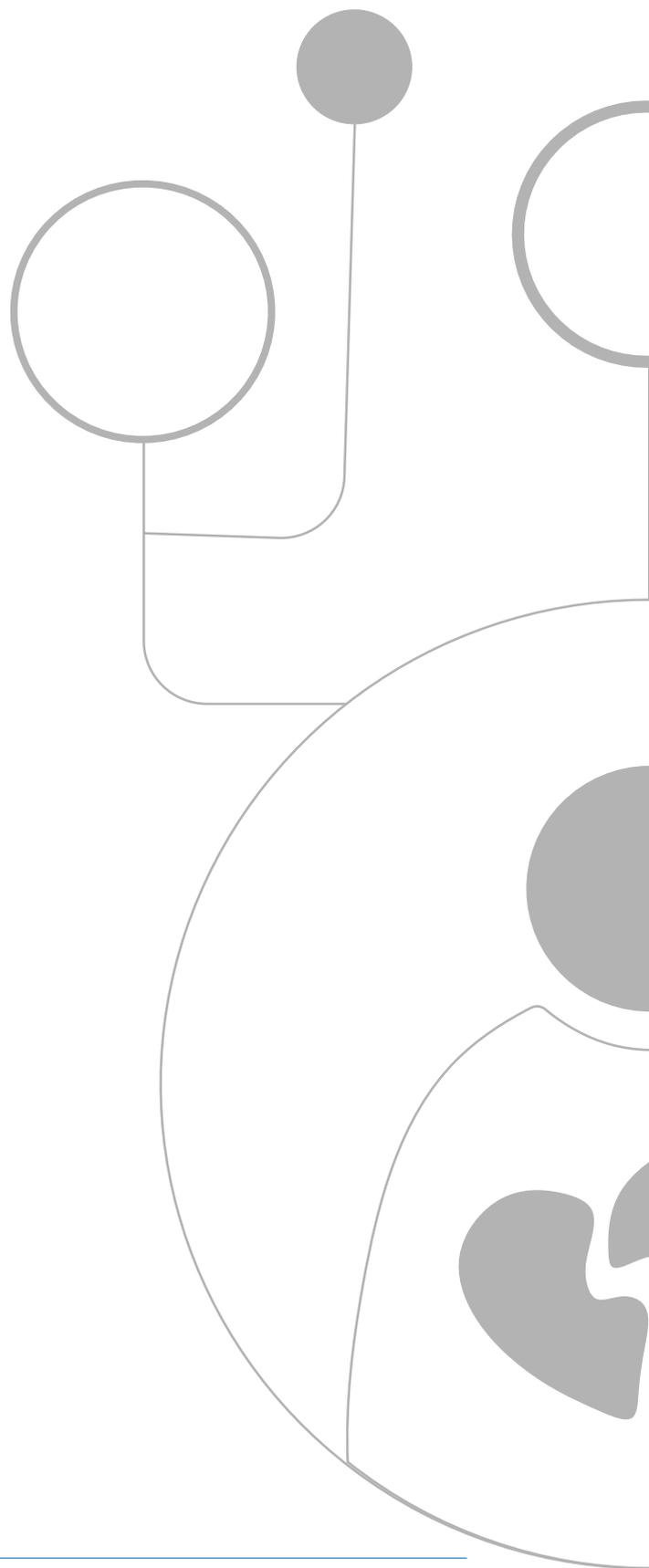
ICAT's partnerships and alliances with key partners such as the Office of the EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator and other coordination mechanisms continued to be nurtured. These alliances were even expanded with the development of new activities with key migration dialogues between Europe and Africa, such as the [Khartoum Process](#), the [Rabat process](#), as well as the Permanent Follow-up Mechanism of the [Niamey Declaration](#).

ICAT continued to promote the prevention of trafficking in persons in procurement and supply chains in line with the efforts to discourage demand. A dedicated [discussion](#) was organized in October, enabling participants to share experiences on preventing trafficking in persons in their procurement procedures and supply chains.

As ICAT co-Chairs, we are particularly proud of having promoted more systematic participation and engagement of survivors of trafficking in ICAT work. In 2022, most of our outputs were drafted in consultation with survivors and survivor-led organizations,

namely members of the International Survivors of Trafficking Advisory Council (ISTAC), to whom we are very grateful.

Anti-trafficking responses demand a comprehensive, multi-disciplinary and holistic approach that is human rights-based and victim-centered. As outgoing co-chairs, we are delighted to have advanced ICAT's anti-trafficking initiatives in full alignment with these standards, and are thankful to the entire membership for the collective efforts to ensure the success of ICAT's work in 2022.



IN THE SPOTLIGHT: UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY



In 2022, the United Nations University (UNU) became the newest member of ICAT, bringing the total membership to 31 UN entities and other international organizations.

Who is the United Nations University?

The UNU is a global think tank and postgraduate teaching organization whose mission is to contribute, through collaborative research and education, to efforts to resolve the pressing global problems of human survival, development, and welfare that are the concern of the UN, its Peoples, and Member States.

In carrying out this mission, the UNU works with leading universities and research institutes in UN Member States, functioning as a bridge between the international academic community and the UN system.

Through postgraduate teaching activities, UNU contributes to capacity building, particularly in developing countries.

Why did UNU join ICAT?

UNU recognizes the importance of improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons, especially within the UN system. The UNU Centre for Policy Research (UNU-CPR), one of the 14 UNU institutes around the world, manages the Finance Against Slavery and Trafficking (FAST) multi-stakeholder initiative that aims to mobilize the financial sector against human trafficking. ICAT's work on global value chains is crucial in the global fight against trafficking in persons and FAST welcomes the opportunity to help expand this work and include a financial sector element.

What expertise and mandate does UNU bring to the ICAT membership?

UNU's mandate includes addressing trafficking in persons, which we seek to achieve through three thematic clusters, namely peace and governance; global development and inclusion; and environment, climate, and energy.

FAST is the only UN project solely dedicated to addressing the role of the financial sector in tackling human trafficking. In this regard, UNU believes FAST will enhance the work of ICAT by adding a financial sector focus that would help address the core drivers of trafficking in persons, discourage demand, and systematize partnerships with financial institutions and civil society organizations that support survivors in gaining access to financial services and improving their financial health.

Which topics and actions will UNU bring forward as an ICAT member?

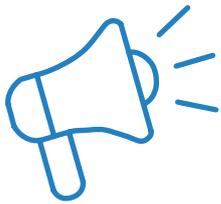
UNU's primary contribution to ICAT will be its expertise on the nexus of finance and human trafficking. Through FAST, UNU will help ensure a financial sector lens is applied to all ICAT publications and actions. In this regard, UNU will co-lead the development of guidance on sustainable finance and trafficking in persons in 2023. Furthermore, UNU will share relevant updates on various aspects of FAST's work, e.g., asset recovery, remedy, investors, financial inclusion, and financial sanctions, and welcomes the opportunity to collaborate with other ICAT members and partners in advancing these areas of work.

What does UNU expect to gain from being an ICAT member?

UNU, and in particular FAST, will benefit from the opportunity to regularly share information with ICAT members and partners on our activities and initiatives relating to human trafficking. Membership in ICAT enables us to strengthen existing relationships with ICAT members and partners and provides opportunities to develop new relationships and activities. Ultimately, UNU expects ICAT membership to help the FAST initiative to achieve our goals and increase the impact of our work on human trafficking.

2022 SNAPSHOT

Mobilising National Action



Calls to Action by Governments on

- Use and Abuse of Technology
- Trafficking in Persons in Humanitarian Crises and Conflict Situations



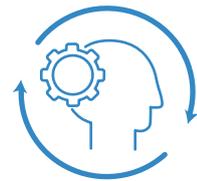
Regional Outreach

3 initiatives with Eastern and West African Actors



New Technical Guidance

Issue Brief on Addressing Vulnerability to Trafficking in Persons



Constant Exchange

Between the Group's 60+ Technical Experts

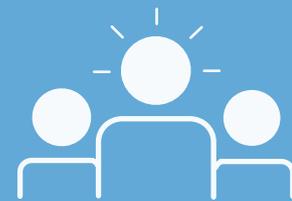


Media Outreach

Trafficking in Persons in the Context of the Conflict in Ukraine



Visibility Events



UN Leadership

Annual Meeting of Principals

31  Members

Our 31st Institutional Member - United Nations University

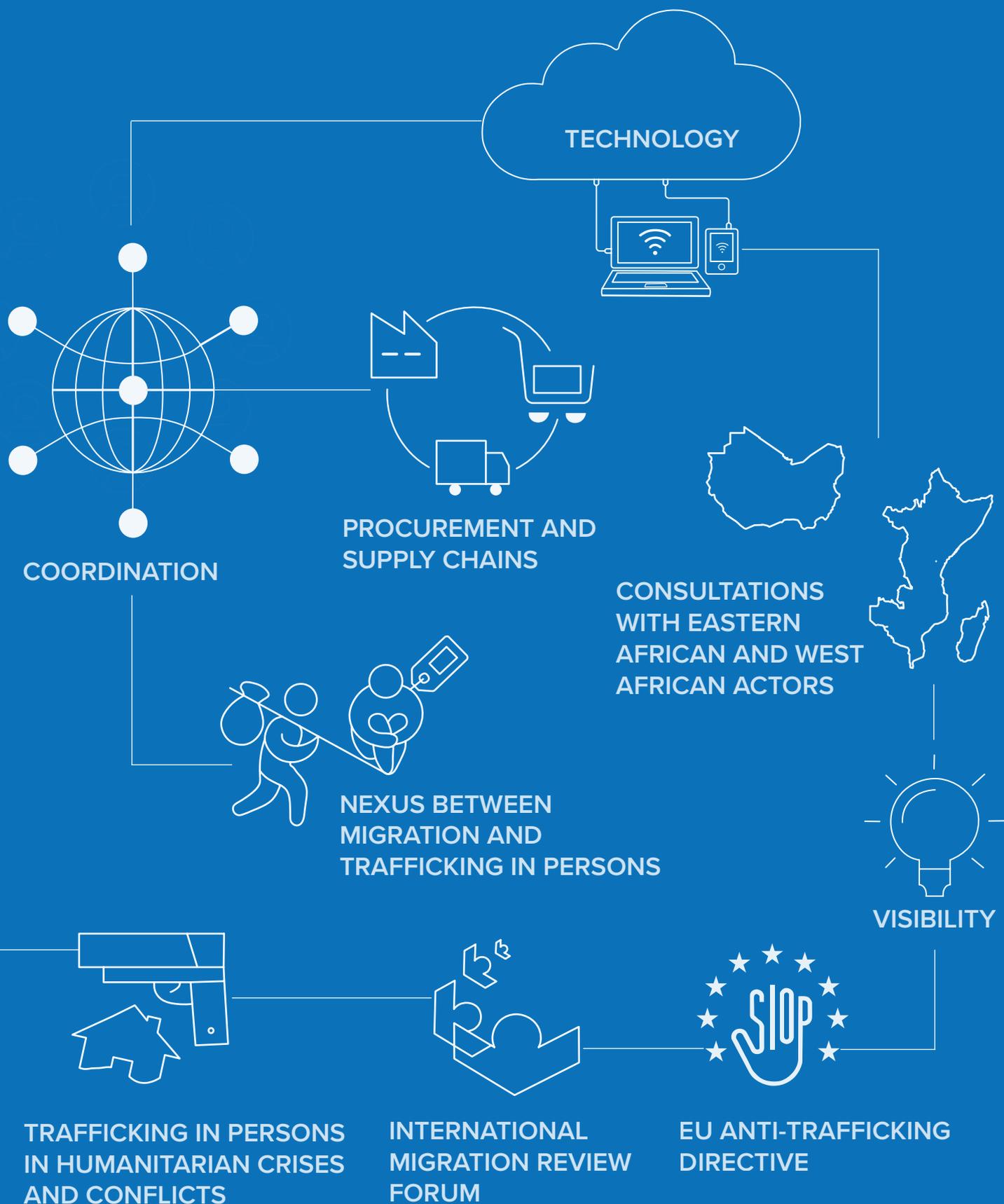


Advancing Multilateral Agreement

Joint Submissions

- To UN Member States for the IMRF Progress Declaration
- To the Review of the EU Anti-Trafficking Directive

2022 IN RETROSPECT: ACHIEVEMENTS & IMPACT



STRENGTHENING COORDINATION

As a group, we fostered continuous coordination amongst our members and partner organizations, mainly through the organization of **three Working Group meetings, one Principals meeting**, as well as other **ad hoc engagements** on matters related to the implementation of the 2022 Annual Work Plan.

Guided by the priorities enshrined in our Plan of Action, we **reinforced existing partnerships** and promoted closer coordination at the country level by delivering comprehensive anti-trafficking initiatives.

Examples of such efforts include conducting regional consultations with stakeholders in Africa; and organizing an information session on the UN Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons as a follow-up to the regional consultation with organizations in Eastern Africa.

An important focus was also placed on enhancing the exchange with other regional organizations. In this regard, we held an annual policy exchange with the **EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator**, Ms. Diane Schmitt, focusing on trafficking in persons in conflict situations.

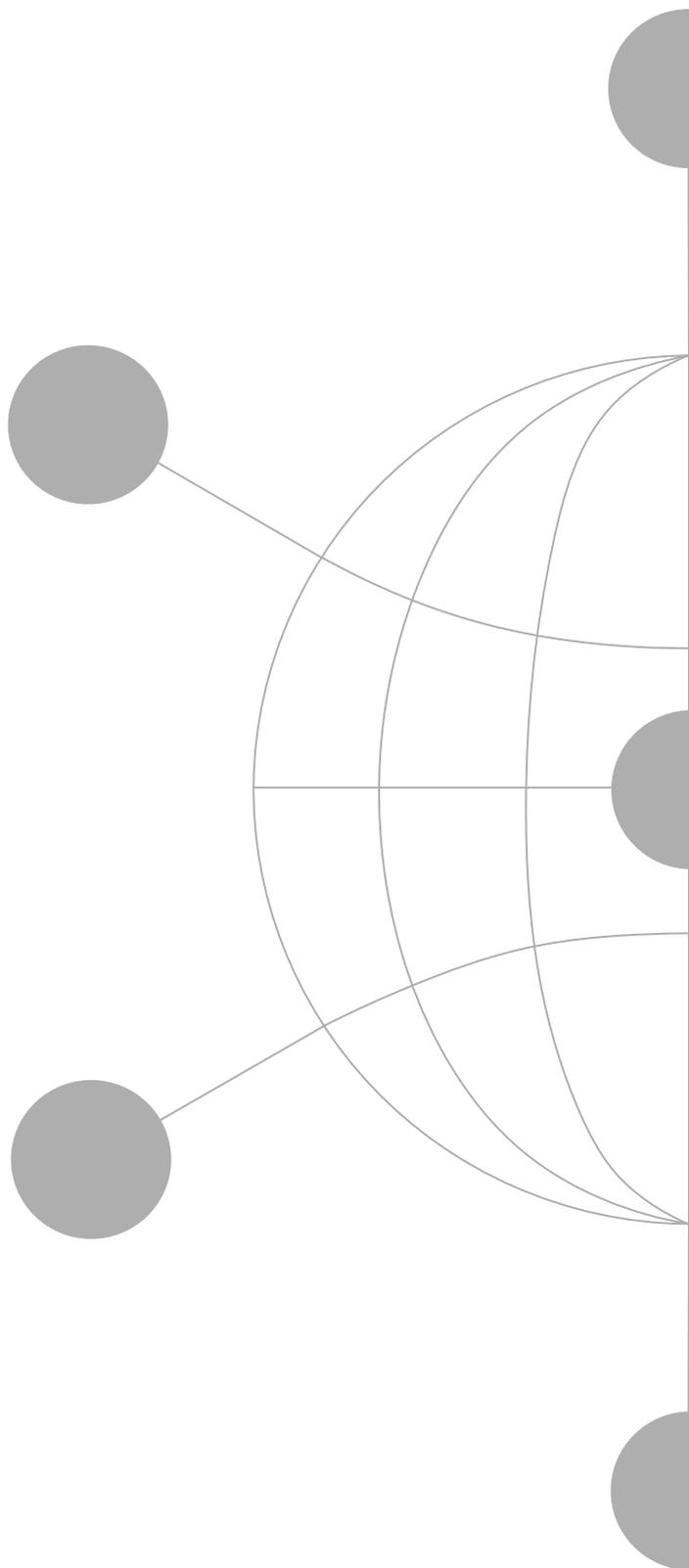
THE EU ANTI-TRAFFICKING DIRECTIVE

One of ICAT's strengths is the ability of the Group to speak with one voice on trafficking in persons matters, ensuring that the collective is heard especially in policy development. In 2022, ICAT entities made a joint submission to the review of the EU Anti-Trafficking Directive.

ICAT considered that the EU Anti-Trafficking Directive has had a positive impact on the ability of the EU and its Member States to fight trafficking in persons and to protect its victims. In the submission, several areas for improvement were highlighted, including, among others, bringing more clarity and policy coherence in both the material (definitional issues) and geographical scope (jurisdiction) of the Directive, as well as on material issues that concerned reducing demand; non-prosecution; enabling effective coordination for an improved provision of assistance and support; and strengthening data collection and reporting.

In addition, efforts were also made to facilitate **exchange and collaboration with the following networks:**

- United Nations Network on Migration (UNNM)
- Alliance 8.7
- OSCE-led Alliance Against Trafficking in Persons
- UNHCR and IOM co-led Global Protection Cluster Task Team on Anti-Trafficking
- Anti-Trafficking Task Force under the UNHCR-led Refugee Response Plan for Ukraine (established in 2022)
- UN Procurement Network Task Force for the establishment of the Human Trafficking and Forced Labour in UN Supply Chains Policy Framework



HARNESSING TECHNOLOGY

Information and communication technologies (ICT) have increasingly been abused to facilitate human trafficking. In 2019, the ICAT [Issue Brief Human Trafficking and Technology: Trends, Challenges and Opportunities](#) highlighted the influence of technology developments on human trafficking, and our [joint statement](#) on the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons in 2022 further noted an increase in the use and abuse of technology following the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. In particular, ICAT noted that adolescents and children have experienced an increased risk of technology-facilitated child sexual exploitation and abuse

as school closures and lockdown measures allowed for extended periods of screentime and unsupervised Internet access.

As such, the 2022 ICAT [Issue Brief Addressing Vulnerabilities to Trafficking in Persons](#), recommended relevant stakeholders to establish high standards of cybersecurity and safety in technological products that children use, including educational programmes, to minimize exposure to the risk of trafficking and improve detection of such cases, and to do so in partnership with technology companies.

Selected recommendations to States:

- Partner with other stakeholders, including the private sector, media and social media companies, academia and civil society, to develop and implement innovative responses to trafficking in persons, including by leveraging technology to support existing responses, and by developing data-sharing procedures and cooperation protocols;
- Use technology to facilitate criminal justice processes and improve access to justice, including through proactively detecting and preventing trafficking in persons, identifying and rescuing victims of trafficking, and protecting their rights, consistent with international law and human rights obligations;
- Actively involve survivors of trafficking in developing responses and solutions reflecting on their expertise in situations of technology-facilitated trafficking in persons, including children and youth;
- Train judiciary and law enforcement personnel in conducting child and victim-friendly online investigations on trafficking in persons and collecting digital evidence admissible in courts while respecting the right to privacy.

Source: [ICAT Joint Statement](#) calling on States to harness the opportunities presented by technology to counter trafficking in persons.

In the context of the war in Ukraine, there have been notable challenges created by the criminal misuse of technology in trafficking and exploitation within the region. Therefore, in May 2022, ICAT issued a joint Press Release urging States to reinforce cooperation between law enforcement, employment and child protection agencies, technology companies, and advertising platforms to identify risks and prevent trafficking and exploitation of Ukrainian refugees in the employment services industry. Furthermore, the [Call to Action](#) highlighted the increased misuse of technology in times of crisis helping traffickers to operate across borders and in multiple locations simultaneously.

While new technologies can enable traffickers and facilitate trafficking and exploitation,

they can also be important tools for States to effectively counter trafficking in persons. On the designated annual World Day against Trafficking in Persons, ICAT released a [joint statement](#) calling on all States, in cooperation with relevant stakeholders, to harness the opportunities presented by technology to strengthen the response to trafficking in persons.

The related recommendations made by ICAT have triggered policy discussions and actions by a range of actors (**Priority 1** – building the evidence base), and addressing ICT-related challenges and solutions will continue to be high on ICAT’s agenda for 2023.

Key Sources:

- ICAT (2022), [Call to Action](#), A world in crisis, global humanitarian crises and conflicts increase human trafficking concerns
- ICAT (2022), [Joint Statement](#), ICAT calls on States to harness the opportunities presented by technology to counter trafficking in persons, “Use and abuse of technology”, on the occasion of the World Day against Trafficking in Persons
- ICAT (2022), [Issue Brief 12](#), Addressing vulnerability to trafficking in persons
- ICAT (2019), [Issue Brief 7](#), Human Trafficking and Technology: Trends, Challenges and Opportunities
- ICAT (2019), [Statement](#), on the occasion of the World Day against Trafficking in Persons

REGIONAL CONSULTATIONS WITH EASTERN AFRICAN AND WEST AFRICAN ACTORS

Guided by our Action Plan, we have committed to “strengthen partnership with non-governmental actors, including civil society, survivors, the private sector and trade unions to advance coherent and targeted action against trafficking in persons” and systematically integrate their perspectives in policy outputs. In this regard, in 2022, ICAT fostered closer coordination at the regional and country level and raised awareness of our work through field outreach in Africa. For example, in February 2022, ICAT held a regional consultation with Eastern African actors to establish communication channels between ICAT entities and country-level interlocutors in the region. By providing this platform to exchange information on challenges and priority areas of intervention in the region, we will strengthen and provide more coordinated context-specific policy responses and promote our diverse resources and tools relevant to the region.

The regional consultation noted that the crime of trafficking in persons is complex and fluid in Eastern Africa and is often linked to mixed migration flows internally, to Europe, the Arab Peninsula, and Southern Africa. Migrants and refugees in this region often flee conflicts, poverty, instability, and climate change-induced crises and most move and stay within the Horn of Africa region. However, by staying in the region, they are often exposed to the same factors that displaced them in the first place leading to secondary displacement further afield. As migrants may have already moved once, they will have fewer resources

when they have to move again increasing their vulnerability to human trafficking.

Most detected victims in the region are **trafficked for forced labour** in the agricultural and construction sectors. However, it is also common for victims, especially young girls, to be trafficked for **domestic servitude**, **sexual exploitation**, and **forced marriage**. As such, the regional consultation consisted of thematic discussions on these topics. Some of the points raised included the need to:

- Leverage technology in the fight against trafficking in persons, such as by using social media to raise awareness among at-risk groups;
- Afford increased and specialized protection to children in the region as they constitute a large part of detected victims;
- Develop policy guidance on the difference between trafficking for forced marriage, forced marriage and other exploitative practices;
- Invest in data collection on trafficking in persons to understand the extent of the crime in the region;
- Better monitor and enforce regulations placed on recruitment intermediaries; and
- Address root causes of trafficking in persons in the region, such as poverty and discrimination.

TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS IN EASTERN AFRICA



Note: This infographic presents theoretical routes of trafficking in persons and mixed migration flows, based on the discussions during the consultation with stakeholders in Eastern Africa.

Similarly, ICAT also organized, in cooperation with the [Rabat](#), [Khartoum](#) and [Niamey](#) processes and their Secretariats, a regional discussion in November to foster an exchange of good practices between countries in Eastern and West Africa, with a focus put on those practices implemented by civil society organizations (CSOs) and the private sector demonstrating a positive impact on the protection and reintegration of (potential) victims of trafficking in the region. Promising practices included the importance of the participation of persons with 'lived experience' of trafficking in the design and implementation of protection responses, the involvement of the private sector, such as small-to-medium enterprises (SMEs) in the reintegration of victims, and the experience

of transport companies in contributing to the identification and protection of (potential) victims of trafficking.

Following these consultations, ICAT identified the need for follow-up, including capacity-building activities and other policy work. In 2023, ICAT remains committed to sustaining the communication with the actors in Eastern and West Africa and engaging in additional consultations with stakeholders in other regions. Moreover, ICAT will respond to the noted need for policy guidance concerning trafficking for forced marriage and other exploitative practices by launching an Issue Brief on the interlinkages between Trafficking in Persons and Child, Early and Forced Marriage.

Key activities:

- [ICAT Regional Consultation on Trafficking in Persons in Eastern Africa](#) (February 2022)
- [ICAT information sharing session with organizations in Eastern Africa](#) on the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (October 2022)
- Joint ICMPD-ICAT virtual discussion entitled Best Practices in the Protection and (Re) integration of victims of trafficking: Civil Society and Private Sector Perspectives in East and West Africa (November 2022)

Key Sources:

- ICAT (2022), [Issue Brief 12](#), Addressing Vulnerability to Trafficking in Persons
- ICAT (2020), [Issue Brief 9](#), Trafficking in Persons for the Purpose of Forced Labour
- ICAT (2018), [Issue Brief 6](#), Trafficking in Children
- ICAT (2017), [Issue Brief 3](#), Trafficking in Persons and Refugee Status

TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS IN HUMANITARIAN CRISES AND CONFLICTS

The year 2022 was characterised by multiple humanitarian crises, such as armed conflicts, terrorism, climate change-induced disasters, the lingering COVID-19 pandemic, as well as rising economic and food insecurity, all of which have created new risks or exacerbated existing vulnerabilities to trafficking in persons. Thus, in line with its commitment to address core drivers (**Priority 2**), discourage demand (**Priority 5**), and systematize cooperation and multi-stakeholder partnerships (**Priority 6**), addressing the risks of trafficking in persons in the context of conflicts and humanitarian crises remained high on ICAT's list of priorities, and became pronounced when the conflict in Ukraine escalated in February 2022.

According to data from the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR), nearly 8 million refugees from Ukraine were registered across Europe as at 31 December 2022.¹ Of those who have fled, the vast majority are women and children. Members of ICAT were quick to respond and, in monitoring the impacts of the conflict, raised concerns about the potentially growing demand for labour and services. Leveraging our ability to speak with one voice, we issued a [Joint Press Release](#) on human trafficking in the context of the war in Ukraine, published in May 2022, encouraging States to urgently give attention to the identified short-, medium- and long-term risks of increased human trafficking arising from the conflict.

1. [Ukraine Refugee Situation](#) (unhcr.org)

Selected recommendations to States:

- Strengthen identification and registration procedures, especially for children;
- Enhance vetting and registration of volunteers and volunteer organizations as well as their capacity through training on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse;
- Reinforce cooperation between law enforcement, employment and child protection agencies, and advertising platforms to identify and prevent trafficking in the employment services industry; and
- Assess and address the long-term impact of the conflict, which has the potential to exacerbate existing and emerging vulnerabilities that expose people to human trafficking.

Source: ICAT (2022). [Joint Press Release](#): Ukraine war – a looming but preventable human trafficking crisis



© ICMPD
Vienna Migration Conference

ICAT further established an ad hoc **Policy Support Group** to, among others, foster information sharing on the risks of trafficking in persons in conflict situations. The resultant conversations were integral in shaping the focus of a policy exchange with the EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator in October 2022 and the thematic discussion during the ICAT Principals Meeting in December 2022.

Furthermore, an ICAT discussion on addressing vulnerability to trafficking in persons was organized in the margins of ICMPD's flagship annual event, the Vienna

Migration Conference, in October, providing space for policy and decision makers to critically reflect on the impact of current policy measures to prevent trafficking in the context of crises and protect its victims. High-level participants, such as the Minister of Interior of Moldova, as well as survivors of trafficking and torture in the context of conflicts, offered their insights on the challenges they faced and the policy and operational measures most helpful to mitigate vulnerability to trafficking in persons in such contexts.

“

There is a need for education and access to long-term mental health care for migrants, refugees and displaced persons to mitigate the vulnerabilities they face when they stay long-term in host countries. Education opens doors of opportunities for refugees to integrate into a new country. By providing only one-time mental health assessments, you are actually re-traumatizing those individuals.”

Ms. Jeanne Celestine Lakin

Survivor Leader and Award-Winning Author, during the 'Beyond the Short-Term' discussion in the margins of the Vienna Migration Conference.



Through these engagements, ICAT recommended States to prioritize the identification of victims of trafficking among refugee populations; implement the non-punishment principle that recognizes that victims must not be punished for offences that they have committed as a direct consequence of their trafficking; and listen carefully to survivors of human trafficking. Furthermore, ICAT emphasized the need for immediate coordinated efforts to prevent human trafficking in all conflict and crisis situations.

The fourth annual ICAT Principals Meeting in December also held a thematic discussion on human trafficking in the context of

humanitarian crises and conflict situations and agreed on a [Joint Call to Action](#) urging countries, humanitarian actors and other relevant stakeholders to, among others, put in place effective responses and increase cooperation to combat human trafficking in the context of crises.

Going forward, ICAT remains committed to working alongside States and relevant stakeholders to prevent and combat trafficking in persons and to provide coordinated policy guidance, including in the context of humanitarian crises and conflicts. The work will be informed by the experiences and mandates of the various ICAT entities and outcomes of discussions and engagements held in 2022.

Key activities:

- [ICAT Meeting with the European Union Anti-Trafficking Coordinator](#) (October 2022)
- [ICAT Side Event at the 2022 Vienna Migration Conference, Beyond the short term: How to address vulnerability to trafficking in persons in the context of lasting crises?](#) (October 2022)
- [ICAT Fourth Annual Meeting of Principals](#), with thematic discussion on trafficking in persons in humanitarian crises and conflict situations (December 2022)

Key Sources:

- ICAT (2022), [Call to Action](#), A world in crisis: global humanitarian crises and conflicts increase human trafficking concerns
- ICAT (2022), [Joint Press Release](#), Ukraine war - a looming but preventable human trafficking crisis
- ICAT (2017), [Issue Brief 2](#), Trafficking in Persons in Humanitarian Crises

NEXUS BETWEEN MIGRATION AND TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

Migrants, refugees, and internally displaced persons are vulnerable to trafficking in persons at all stages of the migration process. Due to a lack of regular and safe migration pathways, migrants often seek the services of smugglers making them vulnerable to abuse and exploitation and sometimes blurring any easy distinction between migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons. Understanding the factors that contribute to their vulnerability to trafficking is crucial to ensuring effective responses aimed at preventing trafficking and identifying and protecting its victims.

In line with our strategic approach, we contributed to the first quadrennial International Migration Review Forum (IMRF), which tracks progress in the implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM). In this regard, we submitted recommendations for the effective implementation of the objectives of the GCM relevant to human trafficking.

Selected recommendations to States:

- Expand pathways for safe, orderly and regular migration, including for unaccompanied and separated children on the move;
- Regularize migration status and access to the regular labor market;
- Understand and address the root causes and vulnerabilities that perpetuate trafficking in persons;
- Enhance protocols for early identification of victims of trafficking;
- Support safe return, long-term rehabilitation and reintegration of survivors of trafficking in persons by providing them with real opportunities to build skills and provide their perspectives;
- Ensure the non-punishment of victims for crimes they committed as a consequence of being trafficked; and
- Increase multi-agency cooperation on trafficking in persons.

Source: [ICAT Submission](#) to the Progress Declaration on the IMRF

During the IMRF, in May 2022, ICAT hosted a virtual side event on “Vulnerability to Trafficking in mixed migration contexts” highlighting how a lack of regular and safe migration pathways drives migrants to seek the services of smugglers, making them immediately more vulnerable to abuse and exploitation. In this event and others during 2022, ICAT consistently voiced the need for States to address vulnerability to trafficking, including of migrants, as part of a multi-

pronged response.

In 2023, ICAT will continue to prioritize strengthening multi-stakeholder partnerships and leveraging institutional expertise to address core drivers of trafficking in persons. ICAT will also continue building upon its contribution to the IMRF by looking at the vulnerabilities faced by children and other target demographics in the context of crises and migration.

Key activities:

- [ICAT Side event at the International Migration Review Forum, Vulnerability to Trafficking in mixed migration contexts \(May 2022\)](#)

Key Sources:

- ICAT (2022), [Contribution to the Progress Declaration](#) of the International Migration Review Forum
- ICAT (2022), [Issue Brief 12](#), Addressing Vulnerability to Trafficking in Persons
- ICAT (2017), [Issue Brief 3](#), Trafficking in Persons and Refugee Status

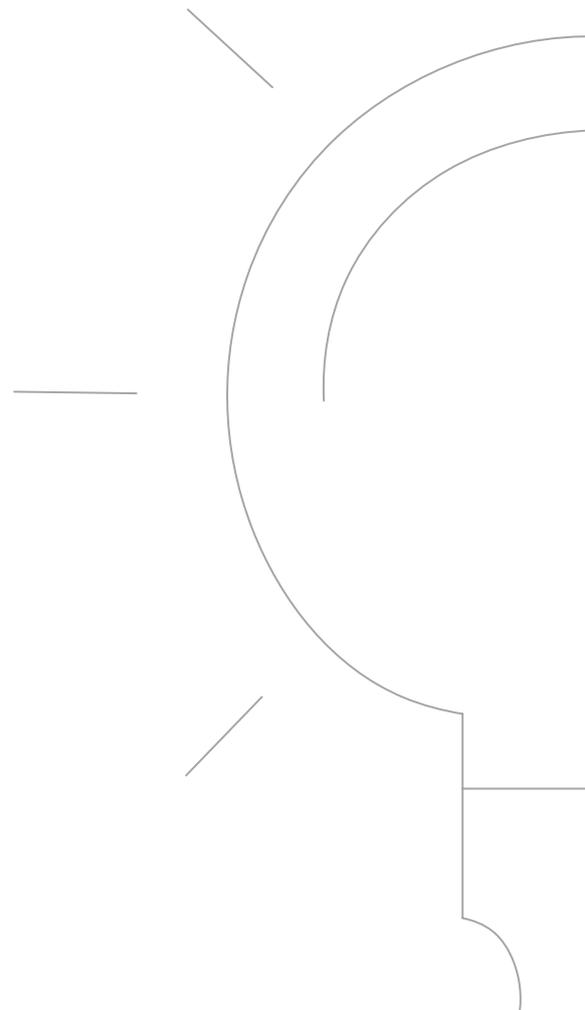
VISIBILITY

The success of ICAT's policy work hinges on increasing visibility of issues related to trafficking in persons. In 2022, ICAT promoted its outputs and joint messaging through its Twitter account ([@ICAT_News](#)) and leveraged its members' broad outreach via their respective social media platforms. Additionally, some outputs, such as the Call to Action on trafficking in persons in humanitarian crises and conflict situations, were also promoted through other platforms with direct access to global media, such as the UN Information Service in Vienna (UNIS Vienna), which circulated a [press release](#) on the ICAT Call to Action.

ICAT's engagement on social media grew exponentially during 2022. Overall, the [@ICAT_News](#) Twitter account gained **approx. 400 new followers**, made **over 70,160 impressions** and had over **34,500 profile visits** cumulatively during the year. The surge in numbers coincided with major events, such as the World Day against Trafficking in Persons (July); side events during the 66th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (March), the International Migration Review Forum (May), Vienna Migration Conference and the 11th Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (both in October); the ICAT engagement with the EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator (October); or the release of new outputs such as the [Issue Brief on Addressing Vulnerability to Trafficking in Persons](#) and [Press Release](#) on trafficking in persons in the context of the Ukraine conflict (both in May) and the ICAT [Call to Action](#) on trafficking in

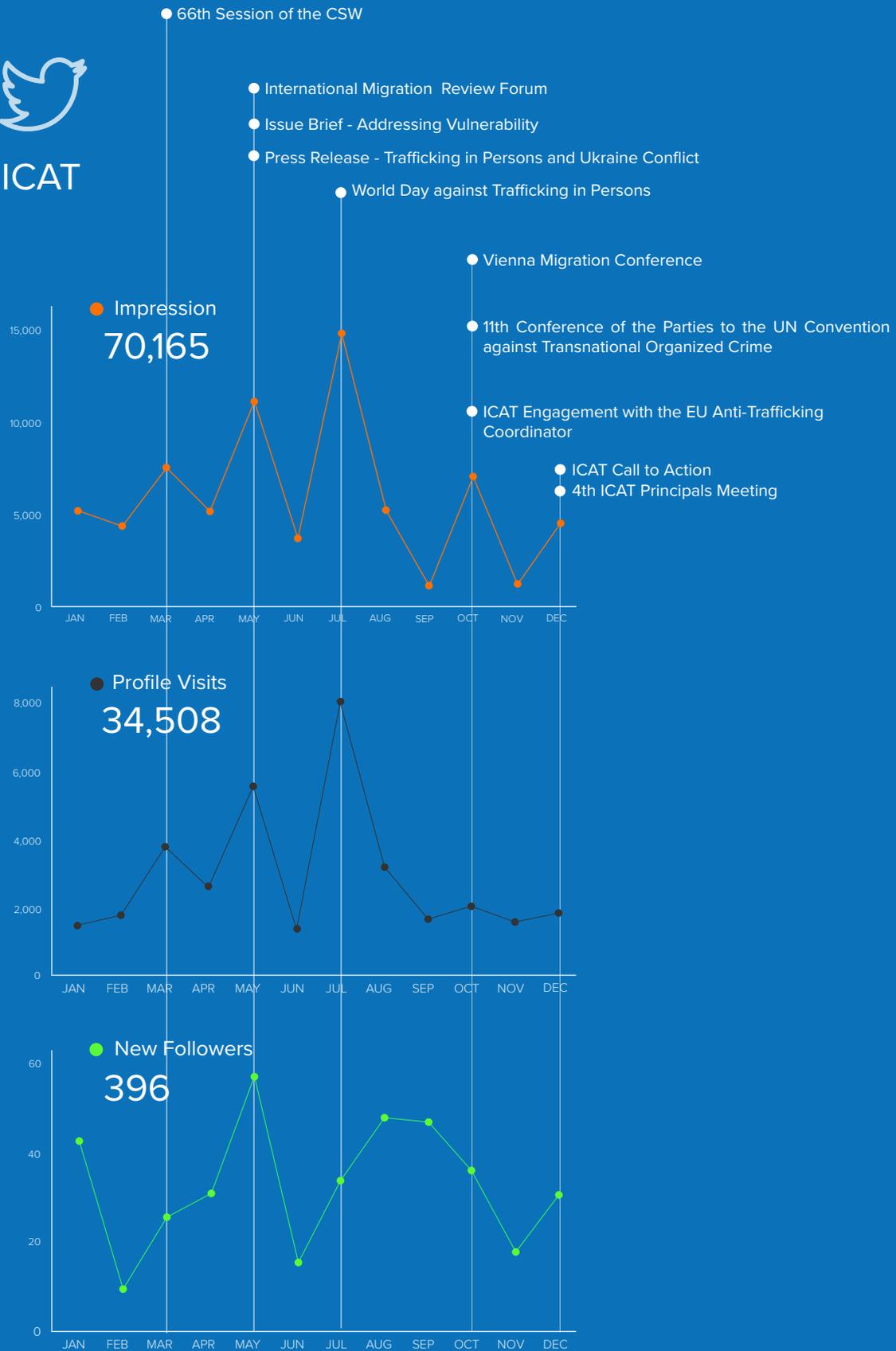
persons in humanitarian crises and conflict situations (December).

In addition to its growth in social media engagement, ICAT was mentioned in four **General Assembly resolutions** and one **Conference of the Parties to UNTOC resolution** on matters relating to trafficking in persons. All five resolutions noted appreciation for ICAT's work and contributions, while two of them called for continued and greater cooperation within and with ICAT.





ICAT



THE YEAR AHEAD: IMPLEMENTING THE ICAT ACTION PLAN

On 2 December 2022, the ICAT Principals endorsed IOM and OSRSG-VAC as the co-chairs for 2023, succeeding the chairpersonship of UNODC and ICMPD. In their endorsement of the 2023 chairing arrangements, the Principals also endorsed a set of priorities to guide ICAT's work in 2023, which are in line with the ICAT Plan of Action.

01

Setting standards and providing thematic guidance on research on trafficking in persons (ICAT Priority #1: Building the evidence base) through developing joint outputs promoting data standardization, ethical data collection and reporting, and data protection and security.

02

Strengthening multi-stakeholder partnerships and leveraging institutional expertise to address core drivers of trafficking in persons (ICAT Priority #2: Addressing the core drivers, and Priority #6: Systematizing cooperation and multi-stakeholder partnerships). This will be achieved through continuous engagement with partners, including the private sector, academic communities, and intergovernmental platforms and dialogues, to advocate for and support activities addressing the core drivers of vulnerability.

03

Sustaining survivor engagement and contribution to survivor empowerment (ICAT Priority #3: Ensuring a rights-based approach) by building upon the notable ICAT efforts in previous years to include survivor voices and integrate their perspectives across anti-trafficking policy work. In this regard, ICAT will identify and engage survivors' councils in different regions of the world to ensure a wider global reach.

04

Exploring sustainability options for ICAT's future work-plans (ICAT Priority #6: Systematizing cooperation and multi-stakeholder partnerships) by organizing briefing sessions with donors and examining funding, management, and disbursement arrangements.

05

Exploring interlinkages between sudden- and slow-onset climate change-induced disasters and vulnerability to trafficking and exploitation (ICAT Priority #2: Addressing core drivers) through policy analysis and knowledge production including addressing protection measures for internally displaced persons as well as migrants crossing international boundaries because of climate change.

06

Reinforcing the foundation of human rights and strengthening victim-centered responses integrating national and regional perspectives and realities (ICAT Priority #3: Ensuring a rights-based approach). In this regard, ICAT will consistently promote the rights of victims, the non-punishment principle, and access to justice and services informed by survivor perspectives and experiences from front-line responders, to ensure promising practices rooted in human rights.

07

Strengthening approaches to and understanding of trafficking in persons in crisis contexts (ICAT Priority #5: Discouraging Demand; and Priority #6: Systematizing cooperation and multi-stakeholder partnerships). ICAT will examine situations of armed conflict and the intersection with mandates pertaining to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence, the use of child soldiers, and grave human rights violations against children, and the accessibility of reporting mechanisms as linked to their respective Security Council resolutions and consider conducting a comparative analysis of trafficking in different crisis contexts.

Importantly, ICAT will aim to maintain and promote a child-centered response to trafficking in persons, in the best interest of the child, as a cross-cutting issue throughout the year and consolidate its status as the leading UN forum on trafficking in persons whose voice is well-respected globally.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MEMBERSHIP

In 2022, members and partners individually undertook numerous activities to implement the six priority areas outlined in the Action Plan. Here, we present a snapshot of accomplishments by individual entities under each priority area. The information provided is by no means exhaustive, rather it offers a selection of highlights of work, mostly undertaken at the global level.



Priority 1: Building the evidence base: a shift from awareness towards impact.

CoE collects statistical data, case law, and evidence in order to contribute to a better understanding of trends, gaps, and challenges as well as sharing good practices.

INTERPOL has been working to connect police around the world and enhance their capacity to tackle human trafficking by providing them with high quality databases, investigative support, and criminal intelligence analysis to inform their decision-making.

OSCEODIHR conducted four rapid National Referral Mechanism (NRM) assessments to Romania, Moldova, Slovakia and the Czech Republic to identify the risks, gaps and challenges relating to the risk of trafficking of refugees from Ukraine and provide specific recommendations to strengthen and support NRM frameworks and partnerships.

UN CTED continued to engage with Member States emphasizing the need to further enhance their capacity to collect evidence and conduct proper investigations, including parallel financial investigations, to fully understand and effectively address the human trafficking – terrorism nexus.

Priority 2: Addressing the core drivers: A shift towards vulnerability reduction

CBSS and the Swedish Gender Equality Agency released [Before You Go](#), an awareness campaign that seeks to fight labor exploitation by informing labor migrants and displaced persons from Ukraine, Bulgaria, Poland and Romania about the risks of labor exploitation and the rights that they have as workers.

CoE co-organized a webinar on 25 May 2022 with the Freedom Fund and La Strada International on “Addressing the risks of human trafficking related to the

war in Ukraine—what responses are needed?”. The webinar hosted 130 participants representing public authorities, civil society and international organizations.

OSCE/ODIHR organized a joint side event at CSW66: Addressing vulnerabilities of women and girls to trafficking in persons with Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT) and UN Women, providing a platform for sharing of information and discussion of appropriate measures to comprehensively address vulnerability of women and girls, being at risk of trafficking in persons. In addition, a joint conference on Addressing Human Trafficking and All Forms of Sexual Exploitation: Measures to Strengthen Responses of Destination Countries was organized in co-operation with Gemeinsam gegen Menschenhandel and the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung. Ukraine—what responses are needed?”. The webinar hosted 130 participants representing public authorities, civil society and international organizations.



Priority 3: Ensuring a rights-based approach: A shift towards protection mechanisms tailored to the victims' needs

CoE co-organized a side event with La Strada International, LEFÖ IBF and the Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM) at the 22nd High Level Conference of the Alliance against Trafficking in Persons. The event focused on unconditional support and access to residence on personal grounds for victims of trafficking.

ICMPD has continued its work with the Commission of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) on the development of a regional referral mechanism for victims of trafficking. ICMPD additionally continues to work on the HEROES project, which aims to develop new methods and strategies for assisting victims of trafficking, sexual abuse and exploitation, particularly when those crimes are committed online or with new ICTs. It engages technological innovation to improve the way in which support and assistance can be provided to victims, law enforcement investigations and prevention of future crimes.

OSAPG continues its engagement in Iraq for the protection of vulnerable communities, including displaced people. In May 2022, Alice Wairimu Nderitu, Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, conducted an official visit to Iraq to support ongoing efforts in the country to ensure accountability for allegations of genocide and related international crimes, strengthen the protection of vulnerable communities, including displaced people, and address their long-term concerns, and prevent sectarian violence in the country. During this visit, the Special Adviser advanced the discussion, including with religious leaders and actors, on issues related to the trafficking and sexual enslavement by the so-called Islamic State of women belonging to minority communities, in particular on the stigma afflicting those who returned to their communities and their children.

OSCE organized the 22nd Conference of the Alliance against Trafficking in Persons focused on protection of and assistance to victims of trafficking, specifically highlighting the application of a victim-centered approach to support victims of trafficking and uphold their rights.

OSCE/ODIHR launched a Survey on safety and security of women refugees fleeing Ukraine to collect empirical data to ensure that their voices are reflected in the

development of responses to address their vulnerabilities and risks to trafficking. The survey reached almost 1,000 people providing possibility to ensure that experiences and vulnerabilities of women refugees from Ukraine are reflected in the responses and policy development to prevent and address human trafficking. ODIHR has published the [infographic](#) and [recommendations](#) based on the received data. **OSCE ODIHR** organized the official [Launch Event](#) and the [Eastern and Central Europe Launch Event](#) of the updated [National Referral Mechanisms - Joining Efforts to Protect the Rights of Trafficked Persons: A Practical Handbook – Second Edition](#). The NRM handbook launch events highlighted the importance of establishing and strengthening NRMs with a human rights-based, gender-sensitive, trauma-informed, and survivor and victim-centered approach and provided a dynamic forum of exchanging national promising practices and lessons learned to strengthening the efforts on the implementation of the four NRM's pillars. The events provided unique platforms to present the updated NRM Handbook and showcase the key components and new features to countries in the OSCE region.

OSRSG-CAAC is working on the [Nairobi Process](#), a stakeholder-led initiative “to better the reintegration of children formerly associated with armed forces and armed groups into peaceful life”, in which child survivors will be able to meet and discuss.

UNODC, through its Global Action against Trafficking in Persons and the Smuggling of Migrants (GLO.ACT) initiative, organized two workshops:

- A substantive workshop on Shelter and Sustainable Reintegration for Victims of Trafficking and Vulnerable Migrants: Victim Assistance Through Survivor Empowerment. The workshop was designed to strengthen understanding of the concepts of comprehensive assistance to victims of trafficking and vulnerable migrants and to explore how to put the principles of assistance into action, looking at access to safe shelter, specialized assistance and sustainable reintegration.
- A workshop on the psychosocial needs of children during criminal justice proceedings. This online workshop focused on the psychosocial development of the child and criminal justice proceedings, and the psychosocial considerations for children's participation in criminal justice proceedings.

UNU Finance Against Slavery and Trafficking (FAST) hosted two roundtable discussions with survivors, survivor support organizations, and financial institutions.

- The first discussion focused on credit repair and how interconnected issues could be addressed by financial institutions and other relevant agencies/ organizations working on credit repair. The Insight Briefing produced following the roundtable provides the sector with an understanding as to what survivors' needs are on this specific topic and their recommendations on how they can potentially be addressed.
- The second discussion was a global Survivor Business Roundtable to gain insight into survivors' needs regarding business banking and start-up support. The roundtable focused on how interconnected issues could be addressed, with the intention that the insights and recommendations from participants would be shared with financial institutions and other relevant agencies/ organizations working on survivor economic empowerment. More information on the roundtable can be found in the Insight Briefing.



Priority 4: Holding traffickers accountable: Ending the culture of impunity of trafficker

CoE began working on capacity building activities and an online course on TIP to strengthen the efforts to hold traffickers accountable.

INTERPOL with the support of the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs launched an initiative to provide authorities of Moldova with immediate operational assistance in the fight against organized crime in the context of the conflict in Ukraine. This operational support has already yielded some results, such as the rescuing of two Moldovan trafficking victims who were being sexually exploited and the arrest of nine suspected traffickers in a joint investigation bringing together Moldovan and Greek officers from specialized units. The INTERPOL Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants Unit (HTSM) additionally provided operation support to member countries, and coordinated four and supported one INTERPOL operations to combat human trafficking and migrant smuggling in the Americas, Asia and Africa. In total, during these operations, the participating countries reported 724 arrests and 1,061 victims of trafficking rescued.

OAS has been collaborating in a joint task force that seeks to strengthen the capacity of the seven most affected Member states to prevent and investigate crimes related to the exploitation of Venezuelan migrants. They additionally held the Second Dialogue on Combatting Trafficking in Persons for the Purpose of Sexual Exploitation from the Perspective of Financial Intelligence and the 53rd Meeting Group of Experts of Counter Money Laundering, which included a presentation on a guidance document on anti-money laundering red flags related to trafficking in persons. In partnership with UNODC, they launched and completed MENTHOR, a specialized training and mentoring programme that contributes to strengthening the skills and knowledge of a group of 120 prosecutors, law enforcement officers and government representatives involved in the investigation and prosecution of human trafficking cases in Honduras.

OSCE/ODIHR conducted a two-half-day training session on child protection in the digital environment for police officers, prosecutors and judges, in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. The training session incorporated selected child-appropriate investigation and identification and interview techniques, including forensic interviewing/hearing techniques in a trauma informed and children-centered approach. Practical sessions for law enforcement representatives focused on open-source investigative tools (OSINT) on child trafficking and Child Sexual Abuse Materials (CSAM) and digital evidence collection as it relates to child trafficking and CSAM in cyberspace.

UN CTED continued to engage with Member States on the linkages between crimes under international law and sexual and gender-based violence committed by members of terrorist groups, including in connection with human trafficking, as well as on deterring and detecting linkages between human trafficking and terrorism financing. These issues have notably been addressed in the context of the assessment visits conducted by CTED in 2022 on behalf of the Counter-Terrorism Committee, and respective recommendations developed for the relevant States aimed at enhancing their capacity to identify cases of trafficking in persons that are linked to terrorism and to hold those responsible accountable.

UNODC in cooperation with the Police Cooperation Convention for South-Eastern Europe Secretariat hosted a workshop that trained police officers and criminal investigators from eleven European countries on how to collect, manage, and

analyze evidence from cases of human trafficking that could lead to convictions of the perpetrators. The workshop also aimed to improve cooperation between countries during investigations and criminal proceedings of trafficking cases. Evidence from cases of human trafficking that could lead to convictions of the perpetrators.

Priority 5: Discouraging demand: From recognition to systemic responses

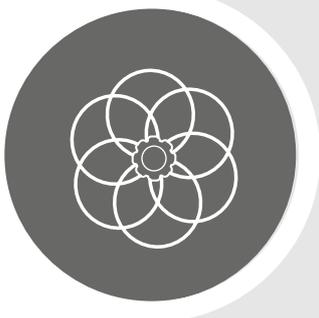


OSCE/ODIHR jointly with Sanctuary for Families, CATW and Apne Aap International organized a side event on the margins of the 77th Session of the UN General Assembly “Addressing sexual violence and human trafficking in armed conflict” in New York. The side event provided an overview of the current challenges in the prevention of trafficking in women and children for the purpose of sexual exploitation fleeing armed conflict and the protection of identified victims of trafficking. OSCE ODIHR continued to promote the inclusion of survivors and victims of trafficking in the efforts to combat and prevent human trafficking. In this respect, members of the International Survivors of Trafficking Advisory Board (ISTAC) have been invited to contribute to policymaking, capacity building and awareness raising activities of governments, civil society and other international organizations, most notably ICAT, UN agencies and OSCE.

OSCE: At the 11th Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, OSCE hosted a side event on “Preventing Trafficking of Women and Girls for Sexual Exploitation: Understanding States’ Obligation to Discourage Demand Under the Palermo Protocol.”

UNODC held a regional conference in cooperation with the Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities of the Government of the Republic of Croatia and the OSCE where over fifty anti-human trafficking experts from around twenty countries and territories met to discuss measures to tackle sex trafficking in South-Eastern Europe by focusing on the demand that fuels sexual exploitation.

Priority 6: Systematizing cooperation and multi-stakeholder partnerships



CBSS has continued working on THALIA, a project created to establish a long-term cooperation with human trafficking stakeholders and universities, including teachers and students of journalism, in order to raise the competence of future journalists in the Baltic Sea Region and Ukraine on the topic of human trafficking.

CoE, throughout the course of 2022:

- Organized round-table meetings in Croatia, Albania, the Republic of Moldova, Austria, the Slovak Republic and Cyprus to discuss progress made by those countries in the implementation of the evaluation reports of the Council of Europe’s Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA).
- Organized a meeting of the network of specialized lawyers and NGOs providing legal assistance to victims of trafficking in persons, which brought together some 40 lawyers from 21 countries to discuss issues related to the role of

lawyers in the identification of victims, the application of the non-punishment provision, and claiming of compensation for victims of human trafficking.

CoE/OSCE co-organized the 5th meeting of National Anti-Trafficking Co-ordinators and Rapporteurs. This meeting brought together representatives from 58 countries to discuss current challenges related to human trafficking and implementing international commitments, policies, and standards set forth by the OSCE and the Council of Europe's Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings.

ICMPD continued to support coordination between governments in 3 sub regions through targeted support:

- **West Africa:** ICMPD is strengthening the structures and capacities of National Referral Mechanisms in all **ECOWAS** Member States (and Mauritania) through a Demand Driven Facility (DDF). The DDF is extending technical assistance to support the national anti-trafficking responses in Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Guinea, Niger, Senegal, and Sierra Leone.
- **West Africa:** ICMPD supports the governments of **Niger and Nigeria** to sign a Memorandum of Understanding which set up a Joint Technical Working Group between key stakeholders in both countries (incl. NAPTIP in Nigeria and ANLTP in Niger; ICMPD acts as secretariat) in order to develop integrated bilateral collaboration tools, including a bilateral referral mechanism for the protection and reintegration of (potential) victims.
- **North Africa:** ICMPD facilitated the bilateral cooperation and administrates working groups between **Tunisia and Ivory Coast and Tunisia and Guinea**, in order to reinforce their cooperation given the high number of vulnerable migrants from Ivory Coast and Guinea in Tunisia
- **Europe:** ICMPD, as Secretariat of the Network of Anti-Trafficking Coordinators in **South-East Europe** (NATC SEE), is cooperating with Slovenia in supporting the NATC SEE to address the vulnerability to human trafficking among the people fleeing the war in Ukraine and those displaced in NATC SEE members.

INTERPOL worked with IMEC and La Strada Moldova to deliver a training on trafficking in persons in the context of the crisis in Ukraine.

OSCE/ODIHR established an effective partnership and created a coordination platform with 102 CSOs and frontline responders from 32 countries around the globe working with refugees, especially women and children from Ukraine and on addressing trafficking in persons. The objective of such partnership is to have connections and communication between the key stakeholders on the ground to foster effective response to the crisis and counter trafficking of women and children fleeing Ukraine.

OSCE/ODIHR also conducted 3 trainings addressing human trafficking risks in light of the military attack on Ukraine for civil society and frontline responders. ODIHR continued to enhance the coordination and exchange of information among survivor leaders from across the OSCE region, thereby promoting the development of national survivor leadership and the recognition thereof. In order to ensure durability of ISTAC, in September 2022, ODIHR launched the second call for application for the

next ISTAC cohort - 2023-2025 and received 39 applications. The selection process will be finalized at the beginning of 2023.

OSRSG-VAC and **OSCE** held a roundtable with national anti-trafficking coordinators and child protection agencies of Ukraine and participating States hosting Ukrainian children to discuss how to improve the information exchange and ensure that every child is accounted for and has full access to protection and services.

UN CTED cooperated with the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), as part of its project team, in the preparation of the FATF report on the Money-Laundering and Terrorism Financing Risks Arising from Migrant Smuggling.

UNICEF, in coordination with Interpol, Europol and CEPOL, trained border police and key stakeholders in order to empower them to identify, prevent and respond to human trafficking with a focus on child safeguarding and child sensitive communication. UNICEF supported the Municipal Police of Bratislava to deliver training on the topics of Human Trafficking and Child-Friendly Communication in Police Work to 57 officers.

UNODC, as Secretariat of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, organized the Constructive Dialogue on Trafficking in Persons for Civil Society Organizations as part of the Review Mechanism of the UN Convention on Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols, as well as the 12th meeting of the Working Group on Trafficking in Persons, which discussed non-punishment of victims of trafficking and best practices in joint investigations and

- The 2022 Stakeholder Conference with the South African Money Laundering Integrated Task Force in November to spotlight some regional financial sector actors' efforts in addressing trafficking and modern slavery, share global examples and emerging best practices, and develop a roadmap on potential partnerships, information networks and resources.
- As a knowledge partner of Investors Against Slavery and Trafficking Asia Pacific, a knowledge event on ESG data providers and how they are responding to investors' needs regarding identification of human trafficking and modern slavery in their investments.

Key Publications and Resources

CBSS

[Human Trafficking - Baltic Sea Region Round-up Report](#), 2022

Council of Europe

[11th General report](#) on the activities of the Council of Europe's Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA), with a focus on online and technology-facilitated human trafficking.

[Guidance Note](#) on addressing the risks of trafficking in human beings related to the war in Ukraine and the ensuing humanitarian crisis, 2022

[Online and technology-facilitated](#) trafficking in human beings, 2022

[The recommendation](#) of the Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers on preventing and combatting trafficking in human beings for the purpose of labour exploitation, 2022

ICMPD

[A Blueprint for Return Counsellors: Counselling Victims of Trafficking and People Vulnerable to Trafficking and Exploitation](#), 2022

[Improving the Communication and Coordination among the NRM Actors in MARRI Participants: Practical Guidance](#), 2022

- [Improving the Participation of Civil Society Organisations in the Referral Mechanisms of MARRI Participants: Practical Guidance](#), 2022

[Inclusion of Survivors](#) in the Policy Development Process and Operational Response to Trafficking in Human Beings, 2022

[What governments need to know about vulnerability to trafficking](#) among the people fleeing the war in Ukraine, 2022

ICAO, OHCHR

[Guidelines](#) for Reporting Trafficking in Persons by Flight and Cabin Crew, 2022

ILO

[Forced Labour Observatory](#), 2022

ILO, IOM

[Global Estimate of Modern Slavery: Forced Labour and Forced Marriage](#), 2022

Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict

[Children and armed conflict](#): Report of the Secretary-General, 2022

[Guidance Note on Abduction](#), 2022

OSCE

[BeSafe Campaign](#), 2022

[Policy responses to technology-facilitated trafficking in human beings](#): Analysis of current approaches and considerations for moving forward

[Recommendations](#) of the OSCE Special Representative and Coordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings (SR/CTHB) on the need to enhance anti-trafficking prevention amid mass migration flows, 2022 and [recommendations](#) on enhancing efforts to identify and mitigate risks of trafficking in human beings online as a result of the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine

[Survey Report](#) of Efforts to Implement OSCE Commitments and Recommended Actions to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings

[OSCE ODIHR National Referral Mechanisms - Joining Efforts to Protect the Rights of Trafficked Persons: A Practical Handbook – Second Edition](#)

OSCE ODIHR [Infographic](#) based on the results of the Survey on the Safety and Security of Women Refugees from Ukraine

OSCE ODIHR [Recommendations](#) based on the results of the Survey on the Safety and Security of Women Refugees from Ukraine

UNICEF

[Practical Guidance](#) for Frontline Responders: Identification of Victims/ Persons 'At-Risk' of Trafficking in Human Beings, 2022

UNODC

[Human Trafficking and Migration Smuggling Section Annual Report: 2021 A Year in Review](#), 2022

[Conflict in Ukraine: Key Evidence on Risks of Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants](#), 2022

[Exploitation and Abuse: The Scale and Scope of Human Trafficking in South Eastern Europe](#), 2022

[Policy Brief on Climate, Crime and Exploitation: the gendered links between climate-related risk, trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants](#), 2022

[Toolkit](#) on the Investigation and Prosecution of Trafficking in Persons for Organ Removal, 2022

[UNODC Contribution](#) to the Progress Declaration of the International Migration Review Forum, 2022

UN Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children

[A/HRC/50/33](#) Trafficking in persons in the agriculture sector: human rights due diligence and sustainable development, 2022

[A/77/170](#) Addressing the gender dimensions of trafficking in persons in the context of climate change, displacement and disaster risk reduction, 2022

UNU

[Earth Shattering: Opportunities for Financial Sector Engagement at the Nexus of Modern Slavery and Natural Resources in Ghana](#), 2022

[Insight Briefing: Business Banking and Start-Up Support for Survivors of Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking](#), 2022

[Insight Briefing: Credit Repair for Survivors of Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking](#), 2022

[Insight Briefing: Lessons from the Survivor Inclusion Initiative \(SII\) in the UK, US, and Canada](#), 2022

[What is the Role of Financial Sanctions in Tackling Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking?](#) 2022

UN Women

[Lila.help](#), a global directory of services on gender-based violence, including trafficking in persons (<https://lila.help/about/>)

[Trafficking in women and girls: crises as a risk multiplier](#), 2022

WHO ARE WE

The **Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT)** is a UN policy forum mandated by the UN General Assembly [resolution 61/180](#), to improve coordination and cooperation among UN agencies and other relevant international organizations in order to facilitate a holistic and comprehensive approach to preventing and combating trafficking in persons, including protection and support for victims and survivors of trafficking. ICAT functions include:



To provide a platform for exchange of information, experiences and good practices on anti-trafficking activities;



To support the activities of the UN and other international organizations with the aim of ensuring a full and comprehensive implementation of all international instruments and standards of relevance for the prevention and combating of trafficking in persons and protection of and support for victims and survivors of trafficking;



To work towards a comprehensive, coordinated and holistic approach to human trafficking, which is gender and age-sensitive and grounded in a human rights-based approach; and



To promote effective and efficient use of existing resources, using, to the extent possible, mechanisms already in place at the regional and national level.

Through the same resolution, the General Assembly mandated UNODC with coordinating the activities of ICAT. In this regard, UNODC hosts ICAT's Secretariat.

The implementation of ICAT's annual Work Plan is led by a chair or co-chairs endorsed on an annually rotating basis and leverages the diverse mandates and expertise of its members. In 2022, ICAT was co-chaired by UNODC and ICMPD.

MEMBERS

- Council of the Baltic Sea States (CBSS)
- International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD)
- International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
- International Criminal Police Organization (ICPO-Interpol)
- International Labour Organization (ILO)
- International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
- Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
- Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict (OSRSG-CAAC)
- Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Sexual Violence in Conflict (OSRSG-SVC)
- Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children (OSRSG-VAC)
- Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)
- Organization of American States (OAS)
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- UN Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED)
- UN Department of Peace Operations (DPO)
- UN Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI)
- United Nations Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
- United Nations Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect (OSAPG)
- United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- United Nations University (UNU)
- UN Women
- The World Bank

PARTNERS

- Council of Europe
- UN Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children
- UN Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, Including Its Causes and Consequences



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