

2022 TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS REPORT (TIP REPORT) QUESTIONS

Information provided in response should focus on government efforts for the reporting period between April 1, 2021 and March 31, 2022.

PROSECUTION

1. **LAWS:** Have there been any changes to preexisting anti-trafficking legislation during the reporting period (amendments to laws or penal codes, new laws, presidential decrees, supreme court precedents, etc.)? If yes, please provide a list of changes, attach a copy in original language (and an English copy, if available), and answer the following:

- Does the law require proof of force, fraud, or coercion (the “means”) in the case of sex trafficking of minors? Yes No
- What are the penalties prescribed?

A: TIP has been criminalized in the KR in July 2018, following the enactment of Law No. 6 that ratified the Federal Anti-Trafficking Law of 2012. No amendments have been made to the aforementioned law, or other relevant enactments, in 2021.

The penalties prescribed in the law include temporary, medium and life sentence, fines ranging from five to twenty-five million Iraqi dinar, and death penalty (it is not executed in the KR unless the crime is heinous).

Law No 71 of (1987) is executed to protect migrant workers. KRG added supplementary regulations to the law in 2013 and 2015. The government forbids pre-payment employment, and the licensed companies are forced to abide by the regulations of MOLSA. The only exception is reserved for employment solution companies; they can deduct up to 25% of the employee’s first salary if they pinched in upon a request.

The foreign workers enjoy the same rights of local workers, as long as the worker is registered in the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs. The employers are fully aware of the government’s regulations and instructions with regard to the workers’ safety, security, and medical care. Any employer who violates those rules will be punished according to the amended Law No. 71 of 1987. However, the Ministry is not responsible for the employers whose name and business is not registered; the Ministry of Interior will take the lead in these instances.

An inspection committee frequently visits projects and working sites. In cases where an employer fails to execute its duties as prescribed in the contracts with the workers, they will be warned in the first resort. And if they still fail to comply, they will be referred to the court. The home workers are mostly women, and their conditions are observed by committees administered by three people operating in each governorate.

The Ministry of Interior, in coordination with the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, issued instructions to prohibit private sectors employers from imposing fees, confiscating passports, and exchanging contracts, according to Ministerial Order No. (15240 on 9/21/2016).

- **STATISTICS:** Please list the number of individuals or cases that apply to each law enforcement category and include case details below. If an individual’s investigation, prosecution, or conviction included involvement in both sex and labor trafficking, please clarify that in the description. Include data pertaining to efforts between April 1, 2021 and March 31, 2022. **See the table attached.**

| | Number | Unit (case/individual/etc.) |
|--|---------------|---|
| Law Enforcement Category | | |
| <u>Investigations</u> | | |
| Total # individuals/cases investigated | | |
| # Individuals/cases investigated for sex trafficking (new this reporting period) | | |
| # Individuals/cases investigated for sex trafficking (ongoing from the previous reporting period) | | |
| # Individuals/cases investigated for forced labor (new this reporting period) | | |
| # Individuals/cases investigated for forced labor (ongoing from the previous reporting period) | | |
| # Individuals/cases investigated for unspecified exploitation (new this reporting period) | | |
| # Individuals/cases investigated for unspecified exploitation (ongoing from the previous reporting period) | | |
| <u>Prosecutions</u> | | |
| Total # individuals prosecuted | 12 | |
| # Individuals prosecuted for sex trafficking (new this reporting period) | 10 | |
| # Individuals prosecuted for sex trafficking (ongoing from the previous reporting period) | 12 | Law of Human Trafficking + Prostitution Law |
| # Individuals prosecuted for forced labor (new) | | |
| # Individuals prosecuted for forced labor (ongoing) | | |
| # Individuals/cases prosecuted for unspecified exploitation (new) | | |
| # Individuals/cases prosecuted for unspecified exploitation (ongoing) | | |
| Of the numbers reported above, # individuals prosecuted under TIP laws (+ which laws?) | | |

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| Of the numbers reported above, #individuals prosecuted under non-TIP laws (+ which laws?) | | |
| # Individuals in detention during proceedings (if available) | | |
| # Individuals on bail/ judicial supervision during proceedings (if available) | | |
| # Individuals prosecuted in absentia (if available) | | |
| Convictions | | |
| Total # individuals convicted | | |
| # Individuals convicted for sex trafficking | | |
| # Individuals convicted for forced labor | | |
| Of the number reported above, # individuals convicted under TIP laws (+ which laws?) | | |
| Of the number reported above, # individuals convicted under non-TIP laws (+ which laws?) | | |
| # Convictions newly upheld on appeal | | |
| # Convictions newly overturned on appeal | | |
| # Individuals acquitted | | |

For each individual convicted of trafficking, please provide sentencing details including years of imprisonment, fines, and suspended sentences as applicable.

2. **INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION:** With which foreign counterparts or governments did the KRG cooperate with on any law enforcement activities?

Please describe:

- How many new/ongoing investigations, prosecutions, etc., including extraditions? Were these investigations/prosecutions/convictions included in the data chart above?
- Describe any new/ongoing investigations, prosecutions, etc. involving cooperation with foreign counterparts:
- Were there any new bilateral, multilateral, or regional enforcement coordination arrangements with foreign counterparts? Yes No **Describe:**

A: Trainings and capacity-building programs were conducted by Seed Foundation, International Organization of Migration (IOM), and Heartland Alliances. The offices Combating Organized Crimes were present. **See the table for further details.**

3. **TRAINING:** Did the government train officials on anti-trafficking enforcement, policies, and laws?

- Yes No **Describe,** including details on how many and which officials the government trained on what topics, as well as who funded and implemented the training:

A: Trainings and workshops are provided in coordination with IOM, Seed Foundation, UNODC, among others. MOI has provided funds to Seed Foundation for training in victim identification and launching awareness campaigns.

4. **ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

- If applicable, describe briefly how the COVID-19 pandemic or other challenges impacted law enforcement efforts during the reporting period.
 - For example, did law enforcement personnel experience personnel shortages? Were police able to carry out routine operations and conduct investigations in all areas of the country? Were there specific challenges faced in collecting law enforcement data? Did courts remain open and operate at normal capacity? If not, please detail the timeline and regional extent of the disruption.
- Other updates not captured above:

A: The Ministry of Interior changed the title of the High Committee to Combat Human Trafficking to the Directorate of Combating Organized Crimes. The new directorate signals the exertion of more concrete efforts to combat the phenomenon. The six offices in each of the governorates and municipalities (Erbil, Dohuk, Sulaimaniyah, Halabja, with Rania and Garmyan administrations) are still in force, but they are now operating under the aforementioned directorate.

Nevertheless, the Covid-19 pandemic posed dismal challenges to the law-enforcement agencies and the judicial process in the past two years, especially in terms of victim identification. A special court to try human trafficking-related cases has not been established yet.

PROTECTION

1. **VICTIM IDENTIFICATION PROCEDURES:**

- Regarding the 2021 TIP Report country narrative protection section, were there any new (or changes to preexisting) formal/standard procedures for victim identification?
 - Yes No **Describe:**
- How were victim identification procedures implemented? Did such written procedures include screening of members of underserved communities (e.g., those defined in E.O. 13985, adults arrested for prostitution, undocumented migrants, stateless persons, or persons with severe mental illness, asylum seekers, unhoused persons, children in welfare systems or aging out of such systems (if applicable), those previously incarcerated, other minority communities, or individuals or communities living in conflict, crisis, or post-disaster settings)?

A: The implemented proceedings start from victim identification, which will respectively be followed by the engagement of law enforcement agencies and legal authorities. The cases are addressed by camp management offices, hotlines, diplomatic offices, and community members. Afterwards, the statements will be taken from the victims the relevant offices, and the cases will be referred to the investigation courts. From this point, usual court proceedings will be employed:

information gathering, witness testimonies, court hearings, and etc. The cases will be referred to the Criminal Court, Juvenile Court, and Civil Court, on the basis of relevance.

- Were potential trafficking victims (whether or not identified as such by authorities) detained, fined, or jailed for unlawful acts committed as a result of being trafficked (e.g., subject to prostitution, drug-related, or other criminal charges or immigration enforcement penalties)? Were members from certain communities, such as those defined in E.O. 13985 or listed above, more likely to receive punitive action or less likely to be identified as trafficking victims?

- Yes No **How many? Under what charges?**

- Were victims deported or turned away without being screened for trafficking?

- Yes No **How many? Describe these situations:**

- Did law enforcement, immigration, and social services personnel conduct screening for trafficking, including of migrants, other vulnerable groups, and when detaining or arresting individuals in commercial sex?

- Yes No **Did this result in victim identification?**

A: According to the Article 7 of the Human Trafficking Law, if a person headed or established a network to conduct TIP or contracted a deal in this respect, he will be jailed for no less than three year and will be fined for an amount that is no less than 10,000,000 IQD.

Comparing to the legal punishments of sexual harassment and rape, the penalties are jail for no less than one year – with a considerable fine – and life imprisonment or death penalty, respectively. Articles 6 and 9 from the law also stipulate punitive measures in this regard.

The cases are initially investigated in the Investigation Court. If the judge decides that the case is related to TIP, he/she will refer it to the Criminal Court. However, if the victim was a juvenile, the case will be referred to the Juvenile Court; and if compensation was needed, the case goes to the Civil Court.

VICTIM REFERRAL PROCEDURES:

- Regarding the 2021 TIP Report country narrative protection section, were there any new (or changes to preexisting) formal/standard procedures for victim referral to protection services?

- Yes No **Describe:**

- How were victim referral procedures implemented? Was implementation equitable across all affected populations?

A: Specialized judges retain the authority to refer the victims to the shelters.

3. **VICTIM SERVICES:**

- Regarding the 2021 TIP Report narrative protection section, were there any new (or changes to preexisting) procedures or services available for victim care?

- Yes No **Describe:**

- Please describe how victim services were provided:
- Did all communities receive the same quality and level of access to services?
 Yes No **Describe:**
- Were foreign victims legally entitled to the same benefits as host country nationals?
 Yes No **Describe:**
- What mechanisms exist to ensure the victim identification and protection measures are equitable and administered equitably?
- Do government anti-trafficking efforts prioritize funding for legal services for victims and survivors, including legal aid to assist with intersecting matters, such as criminal charges, family law or protective orders?

A: The foreign labors in general and the victims of human-trafficking in particular are treated on the basis of Article 11 from the Iraqi Law No 28 (2012). The aforementioned law lists the obligatory services that should be provided to the victims. Calibers of legal support are also explained in the law. In this respect, local and international NGOs are engaged to provide legal counsel and lawyers to the victims. Furthermore, the local and international agencies have shared their contact details with the foreign labors in order to report any sorts of violations of their rights. Furthermore, medical care, education, rehabilitation, seminars, and space for body exercises are provided for the victims.

4. **HOTLINES:**

- Did the government operate or fund any trafficking-specific hotlines (including those run by NGOs)?
 Yes No
- Did calls on such government hotlines lead to victim identification, victim referral to care, and/or criminal investigations?
 Yes No If yes, how many calls?
- Did NGOs operate any trafficking-specific hotlines?
 Yes No
- Did any NGO-operated hotline calls lead to victim identification, victim referral to care, and/or criminal investigations?
 Yes No If yes, how many calls?

5. **STATISTICS:** Please list the number of individuals that apply to each victim protection category below; include brief case details, if available:

See the table attached.

| Protection Category | Data Point | | |
|---|------------|-------|--------------------------|
| <u>Identification</u> | | | |
| Total # victims identified by government | Sex | Labor | Unspecified Exploitation |
| | TIP | TIP | |

| | | | |
|---|----------------|------------------|---------------------------------|
| Overall Total | | | |
| Men | | | |
| Women | | | |
| Boys (under 18) | | | |
| Girls (under 18) | | | |
| LGBTQI+ persons | | | |
| Foreign nationals (if available, from what countries?) | | | |
| Host country nationals (in country) | | | |
| Host country nationals (abroad, e.g., by consular services; if available, in what countries?) | | | |
| Total # victims identified by NGOs/ IOs (if applicable) | Sex TIP | Labor TIP | Unspecified Exploitation |
| Overall Total | | | |
| Men | | | |
| Women | | | |
| Boys (under 18) | | | |
| Girls (under 18) | | | |
| LGBTQI+ persons | | | |
| Foreign nationals | | | |
| Host country nationals (in country) | | | |
| Referral (indicate whether victims were referred to NGOs or government shelters, medical/ psychosocial services etc. if available) | | | |
| Total # victims referred by government | Sex TIP | Labor TIP | Unspecified Exploitation |
| Overall Total | | | |
| Men | | | |
| Women | | | |
| Boys (under 18) | | | |
| Girls (under 18) | | | |
| LGBTQI+ persons | | | |
| Foreign nationals | | | |
| Host country nationals (in country) | | | |
| Host country nationals (abroad, e.g., by consular services) | | | |
| Total # victims referred by NGOs/ IOs | Sex TIP | Labor TIP | Unspecified Exploitation |
| Overall Total | | | |
| Men | | | |
| Women | | | |
| Boys (under 18) | | | |
| Girls (under 18) | | | |

| | | | |
|--|----------------|------------------|---------------------------------|
| LGBTQI+ persons | | | |
| Foreign nationals | | | |
| Host country nationals (in country) | | | |
| Services (indicate whether victims received services from NGOs or the government. if available) | | | |
| Total # victims who received services from the government or government-supported NGOs | Sex TIP | Labor TIP | Unspecified Exploitation |
| Overall Total | | | |
| Men | | | |
| Women | | | |
| Boys (under 18) | | | |
| Girls (under 18) | | | |
| LGBTQI+ persons | | | |
| Foreign Nationals | | | |
| Host country nationals (in country) | | | |
| Host country nationals (abroad, e.g., by consular services) | | | |
| Total # victims who received services from NGOs/IOs, without government support | Sex TIP | Labor TIP | Unspecified Exploitation |
| Overall Total | | | |
| Men | | | |
| Women | | | |
| Boys (under 18) | | | |
| Girls (under 18) | | | |
| LGBTQI+ persons | | | |
| Foreign Nationals | | | |
| Host country nationals (in country) | | | |
| Other Victim Disposition | | | |
| Total # victims repatriated to source country (if applicable) | Sex TIP | Labor TIP | Unspecified Exploitation |
| By host government | | | |
| By foreign government | | | |
| By NGOs/IOs | | | |
| # Individuals receiving residency permits | | | |
| # Individuals receiving work permits | | | |

6. PARTICIPATION IN INVESTIGATIONS AND PROSECUTIONS:

- How did the KRG support victim participation in investigations or prosecutions of their alleged traffickers?

● Yes □ No If yes, how many victims did so? **Describe:**

- Were victims required to participate in order to access protection services?
 Yes No **Describe:**
- Were participating victims provided any forms of witness protection?
 Yes No **Describe:**
- What steps did the government take to avoid retraumatization?
 Yes No **Describe:**
- Were victims presented with alternatives to speaking with law enforcement during investigations?
 - Yes No **Describe:** Were other forms of legal aid offered to assist with intersecting cases on related legal matters, such as criminal charges, family law or protective orders, etc.

A: The victims are present during the investigations. Overwhelmingly, the victims are foreign labors and servants who are hired for cleaning services. Subsequently, the victims are transferred to the shelters to receive care and services.

Majority of the human trafficking victims are detected in the private sector companies, and the underlying reasons are the exploitative behavior of the companies, and the workers' unfamiliarity with the potential risks they encounter and the laws enacted for their sake. For example, an irresponsible company used to obtain visa and residence papers for the migrant workers and subsequently transferred them to illegally work for other companies, thus paving the way for unpaid employment, prostitution, and child labor and begging.

As far as Kurdistan Region is concerned, the migrants from Syria, Somalia, India, Philippines, Indonesia, Nepal, Ghana, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Sudan, have been most susceptible for trafficking in persons (TIP).

TIP practices rang from purchasing and selling workers, unpaid employment, prostitution, child labor, and trafficking.

7. RESTITUTION AND CIVIL SUITS: Could victims obtain restitution from defendants in criminal cases or file civil suits against traffickers for damages, and did they collect funds awarded in practice?

Yes No **Describe, including whether these practices were applied equitably across all victims:**

- Did courts order restitution? Yes No **Describe, including any efforts to ensure restitution was awarded in practice:**

A: In Sulaimani, the cases in 2021 have not required restitutions; they were rather minor issued that required to be sorted out merely on the basis of mutual agreement. However, there have been many instances where the judge ruled to compensate the victim. Furthermore, sometimes the flight expenses of the victims are covered by the government.

8. ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS:

- If applicable, describe briefly how the COVID-19 pandemic or other challenges impacted victim protection efforts during the reporting period.
 - For example, was shelter or protection services capacity or activity reduced for social distancing considerations? Were there specific challenges faced in collecting victim services data? Did the government provide personal protective equipment to victims receiving services?
- Other updates not captured above:

A: The Covid-19 pandemic posed dismal challenges to the law-enforcement agencies and the judicial process in the past two years, especially in terms of victim identification.

PREVENTION

1. **GOVERNMENT ANTI-TIP LEADERSHIP AND COORDINATION:** Is there a designated lead anti-trafficking official/agency and/or a national coordinating body?

Yes No **Describe:**

- How often did it convene during the reporting period?
- In what ways was this body effective or ineffective and what results did it produce?
- Did the government seek the input of survivors in crafting its anti-trafficking laws, regulations, policies, programs, or in their implementation? If so, did the government take steps to ensure input was received from a diverse group of survivors?

Yes No **Describe:**

- Did the government enforce any policies that further marginalized communities already overrepresented among trafficking victims, increasing their risk to human trafficking? If so, did it take efforts to address those policies?

Yes No **Describe:**

A: The Directorate of Combating Organized Crimes is established in place of the offices to combat human trafficking which, among other criminal offences, investigates cases that are related to human trafficking. It has convened regularly during the reporting period. They are constantly learning from new cases and incorporate the findings into their instructions in order to have more robust follow-ups. There are 178 companies that import workers: 43 located in Sulaimani, 30 in Duhok, and 105 in Erbil. Currently, only 45 of them are active, while 27 have not their license renewed, 38 are closed, 57 are suspended, and 11 are blacklisted, in 2020. **See the table attached for more details.**

2. **NATIONAL ACTION PLAN:** Did the government update or create a new national action plan to address TIP? If yes, please provide a copy (in English, if available) and note the timeline.

Yes No **Describe:**

- What resources (funding or in-kind) did the government devote towards its implementation?
- What steps did the government take towards implementation?

A: No national plan has been set by the government in 2021.

3. **RESEARCH AND ACCOUNTABILITY:** Did the government undertake or support any new projects to research, assess, and/or publicize its trafficking issues and efforts to combat trafficking?

Yes No **Describe:**

A: MOI has made arrangements with SEED Foundation to enhance awareness in law-enforcement agencies, including the offices of the Directorate of Combating Organized Crimes. Furthermore, this collaboration aims to increase financial, medical and legal support to the victims of human trafficking, especially the foreign workers.

4. **AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS:** Did the government fund and/or conduct awareness activities? Did the government contribute in-kind resources to NGO or IO awareness campaigns?

Yes No **Describe:**

- Did the government carry out any efforts to raise awareness or train foreign governments on trafficking?

Yes No **Describe:**

- Were campaign materials readily available, cost-free, and accessible in various languages, including braille?

- What strategies did the campaigns employ to ensure messaging and images did not legitimize and/or perpetuate harmful or racialized narratives and/or stereotypes about what victims/survivors and perpetrators look like?

A: The Directorate of Combating Organized Crimes has a specialized unit, through which seminars, campaigns, and sessions are provided for community members and foreign workers. The activities of this unit are targeted at raising awareness in order to protect vulnerable groups from being dragged into human trafficking. The offices of HCCHT are engaged in the process and the MOI provides funding to SEED Foundation in order to deliver advanced seminars to the employees of the Directorate of Combating Organized Crimes and HCCHT offices, hence to enhance efforts in combating human trafficking.

5. **LABOR RECRUITMENT REGULATION AND OVERSIGHT:** Were there any changes to how the government regulated and oversaw labor recruitment for licensed and unlicensed recruitment agencies, individual recruiters, and sub-brokers?

- Did the government prohibit worker-paid recruitment fees?

Yes No If yes, how did it enforce bans on recruitment fees? **Describe:**

- Did the government have agreements, with a transparent oversight mechanism, with sending countries on safe and responsible recruitment that included measures to prevent trafficking vulnerabilities?

Yes No **Describe:**

- Did the government allow migrant workers to change employers in a timely manner without obtaining special permissions?

Yes No **Describe:**

A: Law No 71 of (1987) is executed to protect migrant workers. KRG added supplementary regulations to the law in 2013 and 2015. The government forbids pre-payment employment, and the licensed companies are forced to abide by the regulations of MOLSA. The only exception is reserved for employment solution companies; they can deduct up to 25% of the employee's first salary if they pinched in upon a request.

The foreign workers enjoy the same rights of local workers, as long as the worker is registered in the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs. The employers are fully aware of the government's regulations and instructions with regard to the workers' safety, security, and medical care. Any employer who violates those rules will be punished according to the amended Law No. 71 of 1987. However, the Ministry is not responsible for the employers whose name and business is not registered; the Ministry of Interior will take the lead in these instances.

An inspection committee frequently visits projects and working sites. In cases where an employer fails to execute its duties as prescribed in the contracts with the workers, they will be warned in the first resort. And if they still fail to comply, they will be referred to the court. The home workers are mostly women, and their conditions are observed by committees administered by three people operating in each governorate.

The Ministry of Interior, in coordination with the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, issued instructions to prohibit private sectors employers from imposing fees, confiscating passports, and exchanging contracts, according to Ministerial Order No. (15240 on 9/21/2016).

6. **PREVENTING FORCED LABOR IN SUPPLY CHAINS:** Did the government take tangible action to prevent forced labor in domestic or global supply chains?

Yes No **Describe:**

- Did the government take any new efforts to ensure its trade or migration policies did not facilitate trafficking?

Yes No **Describe:**

- Did the government make any efforts to prohibit and prevent trafficking in the supply chains of its own public procurement?

Yes No **Describe:**

7. **REDUCING DEMAND FOR COMMERCIAL SEX/CHILD SEX TOURISM:**

- What measures not mentioned elsewhere did the government take to reduce the demand for commercial sex acts? [*NOTE: Measures should target consumers – not suppliers or facilitators – of commercial sex. Law enforcement efforts against brothels or individuals in prostitution are **not** considered efforts to reduce the demand for commercial sex. END NOTE.*]

- Did the government make any efforts to reduce its nationals' or foreigners' participation in international and domestic child sex tourism?

Yes No **Describe:**

A: Several laws are in place in the Kurdistan Region to combat this detested practice. Articles 393, 394, and 395 from the Iraqi Penal Code No 111 (1969) impose severe penalties on those who commit

sexual offenses and misconduct against children and women. Additionally, the Prostitution Law No 8 (1988) has banned all forms of illicit sex, and those who trade in victims will be severely punished.

At the same time, in the Law No 6 (2018) of the Kurdistan Parliament, the trafficking of children is enshrined in the same legal framework and heavy punitive measures are set accordingly. In the case of foreign workers, Regulation No 2 (2015) of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs is implemented.

Law No 6 (2018) of the Kurdistan Parliament defines human trafficking in accordance with the international Protocol of Palermo and recognizes it as an international crime.

8. **DIPLOMATS:** Did the government train its diplomats not to engage in or facilitate TIP?
- Yes No **Describe:**
- If there were allegations that a diplomat representing the government abroad engaged in or facilitated trafficking, did the government seek criminal accountability?
- Yes No **Describe:**

A: Regarding official complicity, no such cases has been recorded. According to the available data from 2017 towards 2020, TIP is predominantly attributed to the private sector and no official institutions or figures were detected to indicate official complicity.

Law enforcement departments and officers are impartially discharged to pursue and investigate instances involving TIP, regardless of the political and social status of the perpetrators. The places which are suspicious of practicing TIP, such as massage centers, cafes, bars, and hotels, are consistently monitored by MOI and Asayesh.

There are no laws or regulations that facilitate the occurrence of TIP. In contrary, a special court and concise legislations are in place to address the outcomes of the practice and furnish solutions accordingly.

9. **ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS:**
- If applicable, describe briefly how the COVID-19 pandemic or other challenges impacted prevention efforts during the reporting period.
 - For example, did the anti-trafficking government stakeholders (TIP Committees, interagency task forces, etc.) continue to meet to implement the government's anti-trafficking policies? Did the government reallocate funding for anti-trafficking efforts to COVID-19 relief efforts? Were there specific challenges faced in collecting data on prevention efforts?
 - Other updates not captured above:

PROFILE

1. **UPDATES:** Were there any changes to TIP trends, drivers, methods, source/destination dynamics, sectors, impacted demographics, etc. during the reporting period? [NOTE: please include new information relevant to the April 1, 2021-March 31, 2022 period. End Note

- Which identified groups are at particular risk of sex trafficking and forced labor (e.g., those defined in E.O. 13985, adults arrested for prostitution, undocumented migrants, stateless persons, or persons with severe mental illness, asylum seekers, unhoused persons, children in welfare systems or aging out of such systems (if applicable), those previously incarcerated, other minority communities, or individuals or communities living in conflict, crisis, or post-disaster settings)?

A: Majority of the human trafficking victims are detected in the private sector companies, and the underlying reasons are the exploitative behavior of the companies, and the workers' unfamiliarity with the potential risks they encounter and the laws enacted for their sake. For example, an irresponsible company used to obtain visa and residence papers for the migrant workers and subsequently transferred them to illegally work for other companies, thus paving the way for unpaid employment, prostitution, and child labor and begging.

As far as Kurdistan Region is concerned, the migrants from Syria, Somalia, India, Philippines, Indonesia, Nepal, Ghana, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Sudan, have been most susceptible for trafficking in persons (TIP).

TIP practices rang from purchasing and selling workers, unpaid employment, prostitution, child labor, and trafficking.

2. **CHINESE/ CUBAN/ NORTH KOREAN WORKERS:** Are any of the following subjected to or at high risk of forced labor in the country as part of government-to-government agreements and/or in foreign government-affiliated projects?

- Chinese Nationals (incl. in Belt and Road Initiative projects) **Describe:**

ANNEX 1: Countries Contributing Troops and Police Personnel to UN Peacekeeping Operations and Special Political Missions

| | | | | | |
|------------|----------------|-----------|------------|---------------------|----------------|
| Albania | Cameroon | France | Liberia | Pakistan | Sweden |
| Algeria | Canada | Gabon | Lithuania | Papua New Guinea | Switzerland |
| Argentina | Chad | Gambia | Luxembourg | Paraguay | Tajikistan |
| Armenia | Chile | Germany | Madagascar | Peru | Thailand |
| Australia | China | Ghana | Malawi | Philippines | Timor-Leste |
| Austria | Colombia | Greece | Malaysia | Poland | Togo |
| Azerbaijan | Congo | Guatemala | Mali | Portugal | Tunisia |
| Bangladesh | Côte d'Ivoire | Guinea | Malta | Qatar | Turkey |
| Belarus | Croatia | Honduras | Mauritania | Republic of Korea | Uganda |
| Belgium | Cyprus | Hungary | Mexico | Republic of Moldova | Ukraine |
| Benin | Czech Republic | India | Mongolia | Romania | United Kingdom |

| | | | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Bhutan | Denmark | Indonesia | Montenegro | Russian Federation | United Republic of Tanzania |
| Bolivia | Djibouti | Iran | Morocco | Rwanda | United States of America |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | Dominican Republic | Ireland | Namibia | Senegal | Uruguay |
| Botswana | Ecuador | Italy | Nepal | Serbia | Viet Nam |
| Brazil | Egypt | Japan | Netherlands | Sierra Leone | Zambia |
| Brunei Darussalam | El Salvador | Jordan | New Zealand | Slovakia | Zimbabwe |
| Bulgaria | Estonia | Kazakhstan | Niger | Slovenia | |
| Burkina Faso | Ethiopia | Kenya | Nigeria | South Africa | |
| Burundi | Fiji | Kyrgyzstan | North Macedonia | Spain | |
| Cambodia | Finland | Latvia | Norway | Sri Lanka | |