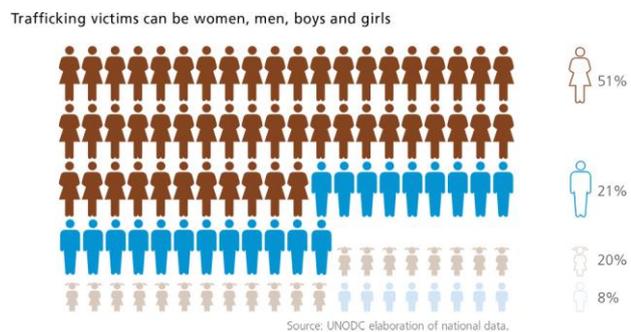


Training Manual on Trafficking in Persons for law enforcement in development stages

17 May, Windhoek: Trafficking in Persons (TiP) is a global phenomenon, manifested throughout the SADC region, including in the Republic of Namibia and its neighbouring countries.

The recent SADC Statistical Report, refers to 82 Victims of Trafficking (VOTs) who were identified in Namibia between 2010 and 2017.

According to the report, 62% of the VOTs were Namibians, i.e. victims of domestic trafficking, and the other 38% were mostly from other SADC countries.



However, Namibia has made significant progress in combating aspects of TIP, including the recently passed bill on **Combating of Trafficking in Persons Act No.1, 2018** and the development of a National Referral Mechanism (NRM) for the identification and protection of VOTs which is in its final stages. In order to further strengthen Namibia's response to TIP, the government expressed the need to develop a TIP Training Manual for police and prosecutors.

On 17 May 2018 at the NamPower Convention Centre, the Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare (MoEAC) with support from the UN Migration Agency (IOM) organised an Inception Workshop to begin a five month process to develop the Namibian Training Manual on Trafficking in Persons (TiP) for police and prosecutors and to produce a Pocket Manual on TiP for frontline police officers.

The Training Manual will be based on well-established international and regional standards and practices. Furthermore, the new TIP Manual will not only introduce police and prosecutors to the newly enacted anti-trafficking legislation but also the upcoming NRM. The training manual will be rolled out at the Police Training College and will help increase knowledge on identifying TIP cases, protecting victims of trafficking and prosecuting perpetrators among police officers and prosecutors respectively.

The Inception Workshop was attended by 20 participants which included representatives from the Ministry of Safety and Security's High Profile Crime Unit, Child Protection Unit and Police Training College, Prosecutors from the Office of the Prosecutor General, the (MoEAC), and the UN System in Namibia.