INSIGHTS OVERVIEW

Understanding Study Context and Objectives

Context

Between 2019-2020, Sattva conducted in-depth primary interviews across 16 states in India, with leaders of 59 Anti-Human Trafficking (AHT) organisations, 120 institutional stakeholders along with Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with 52 survivor groups and collected 118 EUM O/I responses.

Objectives

- To identify various forms of Human Trafficking (HT) in India, solution models and trends in the ecosystem
- To understand the landscape of AHT solutions in India
- To profile the surveyed AHT organisations in India to assess their competence with regard to their core expertise, their engagement with rights-holders and communities, and their propensity for systems thinking

Frameworks/ Tools

- Key primary interviews with senior leadership, middle management and field staff of the organisations
- FGDs with survivors of human trafficking
- Qualitative interviews with ecosystem stakeholders - lawyers, CPC, CWC members etc.
- Administering Existential Universe Mapping - Individual/ Organisation (EUM I/O) tool

Methodology

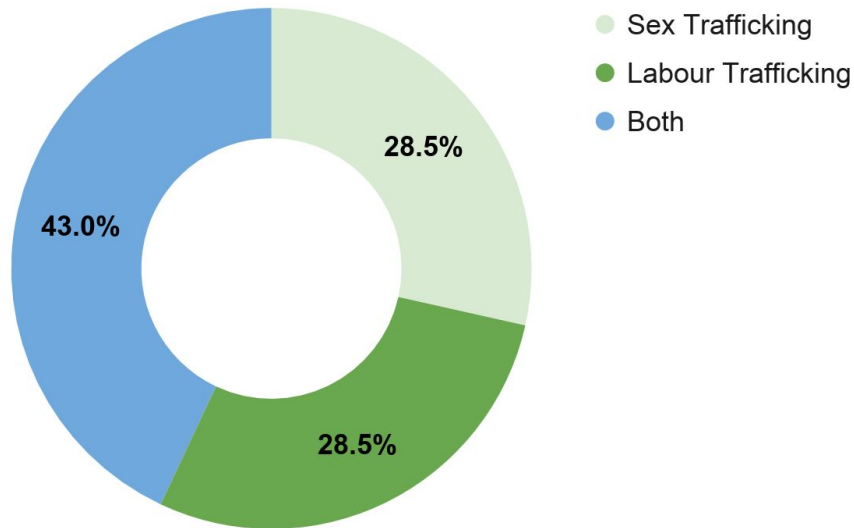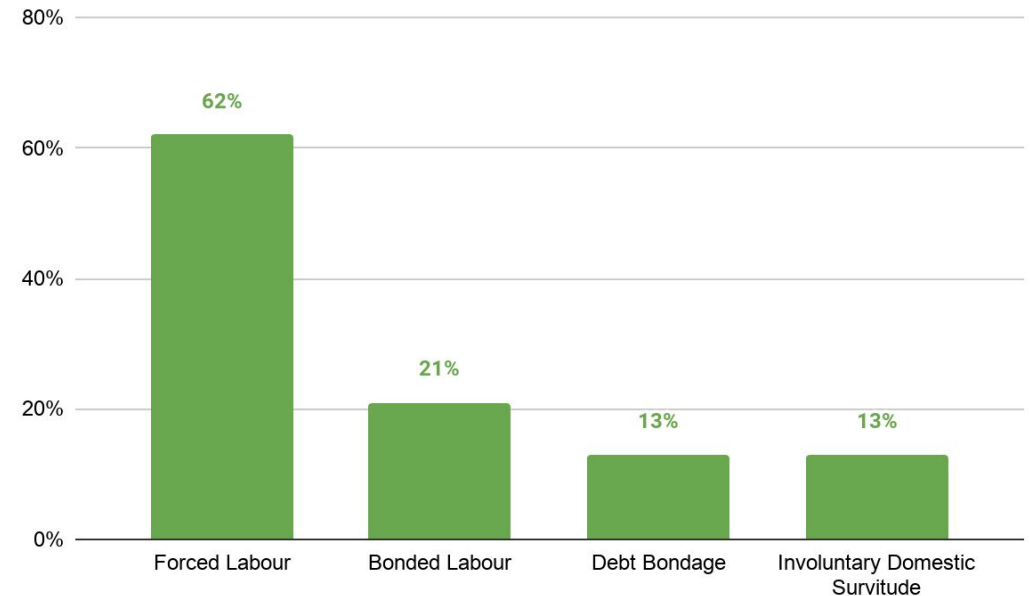| 1 | Literature review and shortlisting organisations |
2	Development of research framework and tools
3	Primary research with 59 organisations
4	Synthesis and analysis

What percentage of organisations work on combatting categories of labour trafficking, sex trafficking or both? What percentage of respondents, if any, address other forms of trafficking?

Distribution of organisations directly combatting Labour and/or Sexual Trafficking

- Sex Trafficking
- Labour Trafficking
- Both

28.5%

43.0%

28.5%

(n=56, 95% of the 59 surveyed organisations)

Distribution of organisations combating various forms of Labour Trafficking

62% — Forced Labour
21% — Bonded Labour
13% — Debt Bondage
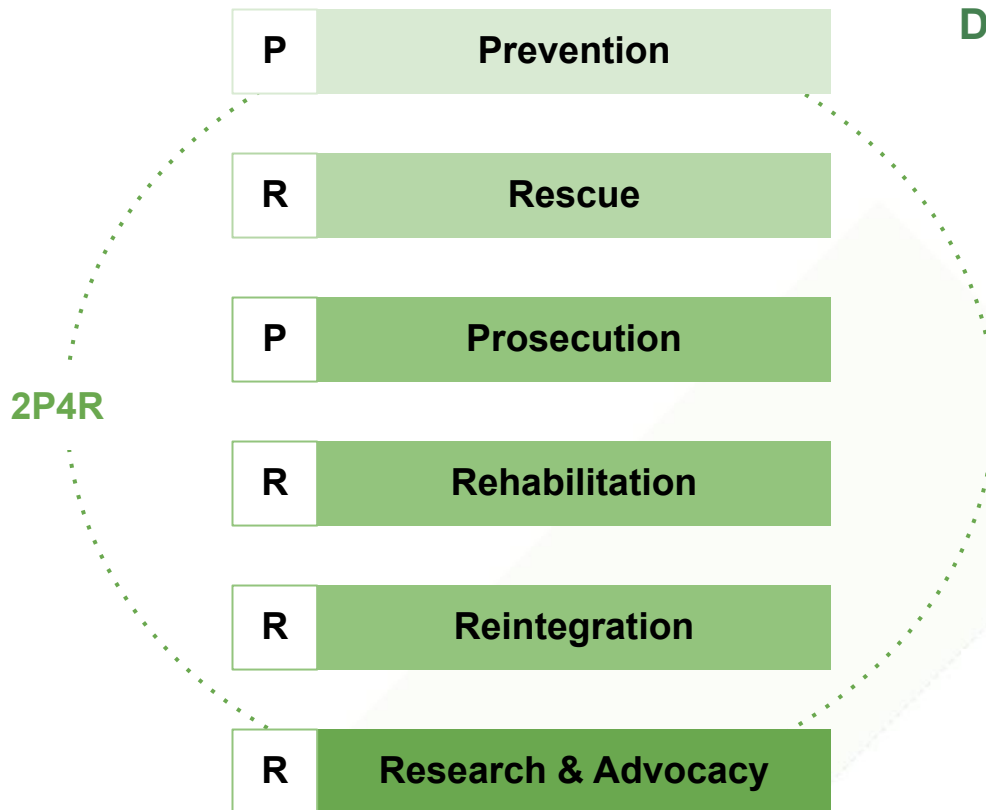13% — Involuntary Domestic Survitude

(n=40, 76.5% of the 56 organisations working directly in the AHT solutions ecosystem)

- **5%** ie: 3 **organisations were working in emerging forms of trafficking** such as forced marriages/ bride trafficking and sex tourism with increased reporting of trafficking in decentrialised locations such as spas, bars, hotels, mobile vans etc.

- NGOs also mentioned of organ trafficking cases in their region, although none reported actively being involved in combating efforts.
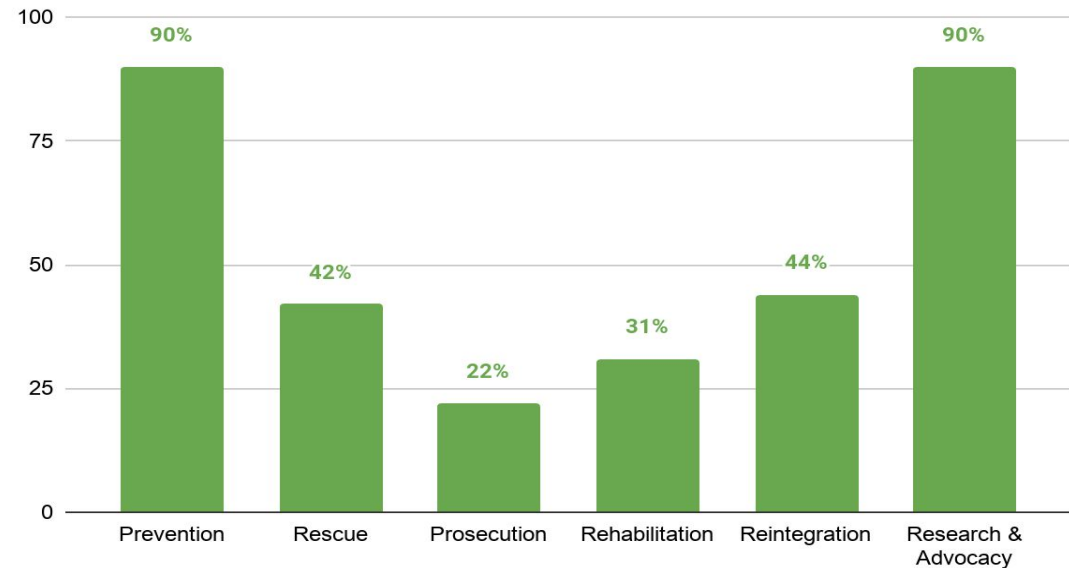
What is the distribution of NGOs by intervention archetypes? Between service delivery and system strengthening approaches, where is it leaning towards?

- **90% organisations** were focusing on **prevention and research and advocacy** interventions
- **Only 22%** of the organisations were found working in the area of **prosecution**

P	Prevention
R	Rescue
P	Prosecution
R	Rehabilitation
R	Reintegration
R	Research & Advocacy

2P4R

Distribution of organisations by type of interventions across the 2P4R

Category	Value
Prevention	90%
Rescue	42%
Prosecution	22%
Rehabilitation	31%
Reintegration	44%
Research & Advocacy	90%

42% organisations reported building, strengthening, actively addressing gaps in AHT systems vs **96%** of the surveyed organisations reported focussing on service delivery to survivors

Prevention- Common and emerging approaches

Activities and sub-activities under prevention

77% Awareness activities	19%	Ensuring re enrolment of children in schools who have dropped out
	55%	Awareness on human rights and trafficking in vulnerable areas
	25%	Awareness programmes on response & reporting mechanisms
	11%	HIV/ AIDS awareness & prevention with sex workers, truck drivers
36% Economic empowerment	28%	Vocational skills and generating alternate livelihood
	13%	Linkages to government schemes
10% Prevention among 2nd gen children of sex workers	10%	Ensuring education for 2nd gen children of sex workers
	6%	Safe housing for 2nd gen children of sex workers
64% Formation/ Strengthening of Prevention systems	32%	Strengthening existing mandated structures
	47%	Formation of local protective structures
	30%	Capability building of key response officials at local/ district level
	11%	Ensuring safe migration by setting tracking systems at local level

Emerging approaches of organisations

- **Leveraging the medium of street theatre and ventriloquism** to fuel sensitising and mobilizing efforts

- **Forming alternate local protection structures such as survivor response groups, and adolescent groups at the community-level,** which serve as reporting structures that identify and report trafficking incidents at source destinations

- **Holistic individual development, including leadership and life skill training** with a focus on reproductive health care, sex education, rights to safeguard against deprivation, gender discrimination, and child trafficking

- Working with response officials to increase their awareness and capacity by **informing them of trafficking in their areas, mapping vulnerable areas and population segments.**

○ Both sexual & labour trafficking   ○ Sexual trafficking

Calculated as a % of 53 organisations working in prevention

Rescue- Common and emerging approaches

- **100%** of the organisations in rescue have reported cases of re-trafficking
- **8%** of them have ceased rescue activities due to increasing frustration

Activities and sub-activities under rescue		
24% Establishing/ Strengthening rescue system	12%	Establishing rescue helplines
	12%	Formation/ Strengthening crisis response or rescue systems
92% Rescue activities	40%	Rescue operations at destination
	84%	Rescue operations at source/ transit
	4%	Sting operations
16% Post rescue operations	16%	Immediate housing, food, medical aid

Emerging approaches of organisations

- **Development of reporting systems** where anyone can give tip offs on trafficking incidents through text messages.

- **Undertaking sting operations** to share the information with media in absence of response from key police officials in their areas of operation.

- **Leveraging community level groups** such as crisis response teams, survivor groups, and CVCs

Both sexual & labour trafficking

Calculated as a % of 25 organisations working in rescue

Prosecution- Common and emerging approaches

- **54%** of the organisations in prosecution are establishing & strengthening legal and judiciary systems, however all organisations face resource and capacity constraints.
- **Lack of collaboration and exchange** of information between NGOs in interstate cases leads to low success in delivery of justice

Activities and sub-activities under prosecution

54% Establishing/ Strengthening legal systems	46%	Providing training to sensitise law enforcement and legal authorities
	7%	Advocacy for legal reforms
	31%	Gathering evidence and help law enforcement agencies to identify & apprehend traffickers
92% Legal support	38%	Filing FIRs, ensuring rights sections are invoked via survivor/ survivor's family
	46%	Filing PILs/ Procedural Correction (PC)/ Victim compensation (VC) via survivor/ survivor's family
	77%	Access to in house lawyers, facilitating linkages to D/S/NALSA lawyers
	38%	Ensuring protection of survivor and witnesses

Emerging approaches of organisations

- **Realising low awareness levels regarding legal processes among team members,** few organisations have hired in-house lawyers who closely work with the NGO team members on supporting the survivors through the legal process.

- **Central technical resource organisations are actively working with its grassroot organisation network to file for protest petition.** However, a lot of NGOs, DLSA lawyers and private lawyers are not well-versed with protest petitions—hence, the wrong sections filed by police are ordinarily not questioned, limiting the capacity to re-open cases.

- **Established dedicated legal cells** with experienced lawyers, some of whom also work on a voluntary basis to support survivors**.**

⭕ Both sexual & labour trafficking

Calculated as a % of 13 organisations working in prosecution

Rehabilitation- Common and emerging approaches

- There is an increased **need for transit-based rehabilitation followed by community-based rehabilitation for** screening of family/guardian, and to ensure safe and successful rehabilitation and reintegration of survivors to avoid re-trafficking

Activities and sub-activities under rehabilitation			Emerging approaches of organisations

Activities and sub-activities under rehabilitation

100% Provide Rehabilitation	16%	Transit shelter homes
	44%	Short term rehab homes
	50%	Long term rehab homes
	22%	Community based rehabilitation
76% Undertake activities during rehabilitation stage	76%	Education/ Skill development/ vocational training
	82%	Counselling of survivors, i.e.: mental health, addiction counselling

Emerging approaches of organisations

- **Four surveyed organisations reported having adopted community-based rehabilitation model highlighted the unavailability of rehabilitation homes as key factor**. However, this is not always a safe proposition for the survivors according to them. There is need for **transit-based rehabilitation combined with community-based rehabilitation** in which a survivor is placed in a transit- based rehabilitation home until the community/ family is safe enough for a survivor to be reintegrated.

- Realising the **need for targeted mental health interventions**, few organisations have been increasingly focusing on providing holistic mental and medical support to survivors at rehabilitation homes since it's so closely tied to their recovery and well-being.

○ Both sexual & labour trafficking

Calculated as a % of 18 organisations working in rehabilitation

Reintegration- Common and emerging approaches

- **96%** of the organisations in reintegration focus on economic reintegration
- **65%** ensure safe reintegration into the community. NGOs continue to look at survivors as "survivors" and not as changemakers

Activities and sub-activities under reintegration		
38% Ensuring Safe reintegration	38%	Counselling of parents/ building resilient community to ensure safe reintegration and acceptance
96% Economic reintegration	31%	Enrolment into school
	61%	Skill development/ vocational training
	74%	Generating alternate livelihood and facilitating market linkages
	27%	Facilitating jobs/ placement post training
	35%	Linkages to government schemes
65% Social reintegration	57%	Facilitating medical support, mental health counselling etc.
	24%	Empowering Survivors to become change makers

Emerging approaches of organisations

- **Leveraging community level groups** such as crisis response teams, survivor groups, and CVCs to track survivors post reintegration.

- **Providing market-aligned skills through partnership with organisations with skilling expertise:** A Karnataka-based organisation, for instance, has been supporting CBOs consisting of sex workers by providing market aligned skills through a partnerships with CSRs and NGOs with skilling expertise.

○ Both sexual & labour trafficking

Calculated as a % of 26 organisations working in reintegration

Research and Advocacy- Common and emerging approaches

- Organisations are increasingly engaging with state statutory bodies by providing data & evidence to them, who go on to influence national policies
- **40%** of the organisations are carrying out advocacy efforts at block/ district/ state-level and national/ international-level by being part of larger networks/ partnerships

Activities and sub-activities under research and advocacy		
36% Research	43%	Action oriented research on trafficking flows, existing support systems and gaps
	86%	Developing data on trafficking flows
	66%	Creation of commons
95% Advocacy	91%	Advocacy on ecosystem stakeholder sensitisation and awareness
	71%	Bolstering existing government systems and initiatives
	25%	Providing advisory to shape future government policies and initiatives
	16%	To strengthen judicial and legal advocacy

○ Both sexual & labour trafficking
n=53; Calculated as a % of 53 organisations

- These collaborative forums are **often forged by either government authorities or funders**

- Implementation organisations are more comfortable interacting and dialoguing under such a macro-system enabled framework.

Examples of few networks:

- The Rajasthan Government initiated cross-state rescue and repatriation collaborations

- Freedom Fund supported interventions in the states of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu (under hotspot intervention projects)

- HLN (Human Liberty Network)

Based on the research, what can be said about an NGO's perception on the effectiveness and ineffectiveness of AHT strategies and approaches?

Effective strategies and approaches:

1 **Cross-state collaborative forums**, often forged by either government authorities or funders is effective in ensuring holistic reintegration of survivors

2 **Providing market-aligned skills** through partnership with organisations with skilling expertise is effective in providing viable livelihood opportunities for survivors

3 **Forming sustainable survivor-led groups that prevent trafficking and empower other survivors** to successfully become changemakers in the community

Ineffective strategies and approaches:

1 **Non-tailored AHT interventions** are ineffective, especially when combined with other sectors- education, health, disaster management and WASH
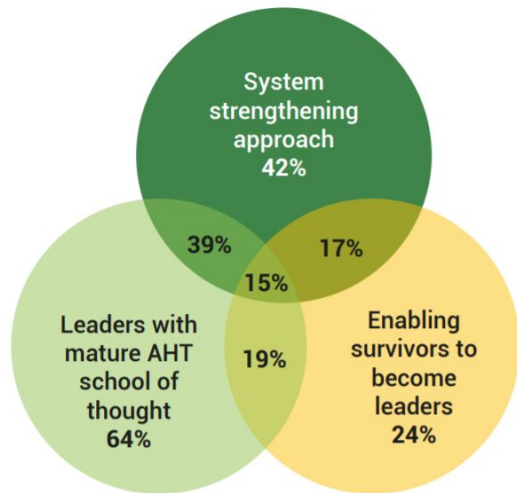
2 **Relying on existing systems and structures** are ineffective- thus organisations have begun strengthening existing structures and systems/ started setting up systems of their own

What are the motivations of NGOs with regard to their vision of change, engagement with the survivors and propensity for systemic change?

- **Only 15%** of the organisations were found at the intersection of mature AHT school of thought, relationship with survivors and focus on service delivery plus system strengthening approach

System strengthening approach 42%

39% — 17%

15%

Leaders with mature AHT school of thought 64%

19%

Enabling survivors to become leaders 24%

24% survivors lead and initiate action and part of decision making with organisation

41% survivors are just assigned, consulted and informed. Typically, this survivor group includes those survivors who are engaged as field staff

35% survivors were tokenized/ decorated and are not holistically engaged by the implementation organisations

- **42%** of the organisations have system strengthening approach
- **64%** of the leaders have mature AHT school of thought
- In **24%** of the organisations, survivors were undertaking leadership roles/ part of survivor leadership groups

AHT School of thought

10%
- Organisation leaders are not able to clearly articulate HT, causes of HT in their geographical area.
- Perceives human trafficking as sex/ labour trafficking only

26%
- Organisation leaders are clearly able to articulate HT definition, causes of HT in their geographical areas. Perceives HT as sex trafficking and labour trafficking only, without the context of allied HT areas and vulnerable factors

64%
- Organisation leaders are clearly able to articulate HT definition, causes of HT in the geographical area. Demonstrates understanding of other forms allied of trafficking in addition to vulnerable factors that push people into trafficking

What are the most significant observations the research makes about the leadership in the anti-trafficking sector?

1

Dealing with uncertainties, dilemmas, and ambiguities: The meeting of multiple dilemmas for AHT leadership results in a need for an approach that is structurally validated by macro-systems, like governments and funders. However, this need runs parallel with an intense concern for the rescued survivor as well as a deeply-rooted passion to eradicate HT—the balancing of the interface of these two needs results in heavy frustration among leaders.

2

Core sources of energy: Ideology is a key energy driver in the AHT leaders. They demonstrate a high degree of commitment towards the survivors and often go above and beyond their project role to ensure rescue and safety of the survivor. However, organisation leaders are unable to actively engage with the staff motivations and converge them to meet the organisation's vision.

3

Engagement with systems: Leaders face difficulty in negotiating with the systems and empathising with its constraints, which limits the dynamic nature of the implemented solutions.

4

Satisfaction/ dissatisfaction with self and systems: There's an overall sense of reluctance to collaborate across the ecosystem. A dual system can be seen at play— the leaders feels helpless in terms of holistically supporting survivors needs and tends to externalise the cause of the inefficiencies to the larger macro-systems, which runs in parallel with a reluctance to collaborate and execute holistic solutions.

According to survivors, what services/ support have they received?

The survivors reported receiving following support during FGDs:

Socio- economic status of survivors		
65%	survivors have received skill building training like tailoring, threadwork, beauty parlor etc.	
50%	survivors have resumed school education	
40%	survivors have opened their own enterprises or gained employment in small enterprises in their region	
15%	survivors have access to bank accounts	

Social status of survivors		
46%	survivors have access to social entitlements and benefits	
12%	survivors were part of survivor leadership groups	
8%	survivors confidently engage with government officials and local stakeholders	
5%	survivors have taken legal measures against traffickers	

> " After I left sex work I faced a lot of social stigma in the society. The support from organisation has helped me start our own CBO and today I am helping many other survivors. I feel very confident and empowered now.
>
> - Survivor

Before	Change in self-perception	**After**

| Fear Shame | Mistrust Low self esteem | | Empowered Confident | Resilient Independent |

What were the major challenges reported by survivors across various stakeholder groups they engage with?

Major challenges faced by survivors across various stakeholder groups:

Challenges with family and community members	- Negligence of panchayat members in admitting the problem of HT and rescue of trafficked victims - Discriminatory attitude and behaviour of panchayat members towards survivors and their families - e.g. not allowing survivors in schools, taking bribe from survivors etc.. - Family members often force survivors to re-trafficking
Challenges with local administration and policies	- Behaviour and attitude of local police towards survivors- rude and disrespectful attitude, asking for bribe, forcing survivor to not register a complaint - Police unwillingness to register trafficking complaints, and if filed the cases are often filed incorrectly leading to extortion of the trafficker - Challenges in availing benefits of government schemes – victim compensation, insurance, pension etc.
Challenges with Organisation	- Lack of monetary support to continue education - Lack of monetary support to start their own enterprise - Unable to get jobs despite having undergone skill trainings - Willingness to work in the AHT space but no support from the organisation

Thank you!

Please reach out to us for suggestions, queries and/or networking at:

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