

# **SANTAC Rapid Assessment**

**on the possible Abuse & Trafficking of Children for Sexual Exploitation Purposes (Prostitution) in Southern Africa before, during & after the 2010 FIFA World Cup Games**

**The case of Zambia & Namibia  
conducted from July to Sep. 2008**

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Interventions against Child Trafficking:

Sharing Lessons Learned and Developing Ways Forward

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# Background/Introduction

- **This study followed the Maputo Dec. 2007 Referral System mtng which recognized that:**
- Soccer, today, as the World's contemporary Mega sport, stands as the most popular sporting event
- It attracts millions & millions of corporate & individual financiers, players, administrators & fans
- It generates billions upon billions of revenues
- It commands social, economic & political power and influence

# Background: FIFA World Cup, Leisure & Tourism

- Like all other games, soccer games are closely associated with leisure

- So, during these World Cup games, it is not only the players, soccer administrators and national government representatives who travel for the games but thousands upon thousands of soccer fans travel to watch the games too.

- During and after the games, such travelers also take time to rest, see new places and indulge in modern-day pleasures of good food, shopping, site-seeing and learning new things.

- Consequently, by its very nature, soccer is associated with tourism

- Such leisure and indulgence, often times, encompasses sex pleasure

This is why such travels are associated with the contemporary trend of sex tourism otherwise popularly referred to as sex industry.

# Background (*cont*)

- Every 4 years FIFA organizes/hosts World Cup games in a chosen member nation
- The last World Cup games took place in Germany in 2006
- For the first time in the history of FIFA the African Continent, will, in 2010 host the World Cup, together with all its global fraternity, in Johannesburg, South Africa
- Angola will host the African Cup of Nations in which 48 of the 53 African Nations will be participating
- Qualifying games will be played in various South African cities as well as neighbouring countries such as Botswana, Namibia and Mozambique

# **SANTAC Rapid Assessment Question**

- **Is 2010 WC all good news to Southern Africa?**
- **What else could be strapped on FIFA 2010 Games' Shoulders?**

## **Justification of the question: Lessons from the Germany World Cup Games Soccer, Prostitution & Human Trafficking**

- On the eve of the 2006 German World Cup, the President of the German Police Union, Konrad Freiberg observed that the demand for prostitutes and the influx of prostitutes dramatically increased**
- Germany's response was regulation of prostitution prior to the WC games**
- The 4 week Germany WC tournament is believed to have left huge boom on Germany's sex industry with an estimated 40,000 young women/girls mainly from poorer European countries – many of whom were believed under age girls**
- It was an international social catastrophe, especially in terms of women and children's human rights and social, economic and political advancement**

## **Justification (cont):** the link to prostitution & trafficking for sexual exploitation

- Interpol estimates that today, human trafficking is the third largest source of profit for transnational criminal organizations after drug trafficking and weapons smuggling, fetching as much as US\$19 billion-a-year.
- **United States State Department data** indicates that each year 600,000-820,000 persons are trafficked across international borders, while 27 million are held in slavery worldwide
- 80 per cent of the victims are women and girls
- Up to 50 per cent are minors (children)
- UNICEF already estimates that as many as 400,000 children/young women are annually trafficked between/beyond African borders into commercial exploitation (prostitution, labour & crime)

# Justification of the Question: *Human Trafficking in Southern Africa*

- Southern African region is not spared by this new scourge
- SAISS (South Africa's Institute for Security Studies) states that some 500 organized crime gangs, mainly from Nigeria, Malawi, Mozambique and Zambia operate in South Africa alone, and
- That trafficking gangs traffic Mozambican women to South Africa, where they are sold as 'wives' to people who work on the mines near Johannesburg.
- **Macau** -IOM 2004 research showed that South African young women are offered false job offers and then forced into prostitution in Macau, a former Portuguese colony now under Chinese control
- IOM estimates that more than 1,000 Mozambican women & children are each year trafficked into prostitution and/or cheap labour in South Africa
- **200 Mozambicans** - Since the beginning of this year, Mozambican authorities have rescued more than 200 people who were trafficked to South Africa under the pretext of employment
- Previous Molo Songololo (2000), MAPODE (2002/2007), IOM (2004) & SANTAC (2007) studies indicated Zambia & Namibia are already affected
- A report by the regional office of the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime says that '*drug trafficking syndicates are already targeting South Africa in an attempt to cash in on a lucrative market*'
- **All these studies the region lacks** adequate legislation and/or policy frameworks and implementation procedures with which law enforcement agencies could use to prosecute traffickers.

# OBJECTIVE

of the Assessment was to establish

- Where or not the 2010 World Soccer tournament would have any negative social impact on the children of Southern Africa
- If so, how ready the countries of Southern Africa, particularly Zambia & Namibia were ready to counter such social impact in terms of child social, legal & economic protections
- If not, to recommend measures that could be undertaken in terms of prevention, recovery, care/support & reintegration with particular reference to the role of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs)

# Methodology

- This assessment was mainly based on qualitative methods of gathering data comprising
  - - focus group discussions
  - - direct interviews with members of vulnerable groups, mainly street prostitutes
  - - direct and telephonic interviews with assumed key informants, and
  - - Compilation of case studies

## **Findings of the Assessment: The Magnitude & Extent of 2010 Games**

- During June & July 2010, approximately:
- -2.7 million local spectators will view 64 matches in various stadiums in South Africa & its neighbours;
- **525,500 soccer-related international visitors** are expected
- **They comprise:**
- - **1,600 tournament players of 32 teams of some 50 players per team;**
- - **14, 500 VIPs/dignitaries;**
- - **500 soccer officials; and**
- **10,500 media personnel/reporters;**
- **Most of these will arrive 2/3 weeks before the games**

## Findings (cont):

### 2010 Games Investment Costs & Anticipated Economical & Social Benefits to the host country/neighbours

- The Government of South Africa has budgeted SAR19.5billion to construct and refurbish 10 stadiums & other infrastructure in readiness for the 2010 games country-wide
- **US\$ 21.billion GDP** is projected as total direct economic value to the host country, South Africa;
- **159,000 new jobs** (full-time/part time, permanent/temporary);
- Through these games, **South Africa** and **Africa as a continent** will have the opportunity to show-case their diverse/rich cultural heritage.
- The Association of Hotel Schools in ( AHSA ) has already embarked on a massive training, knowledge dissemination & tourism education prgrm
- It will be a grand opportunity to boost/enhance their tourism potential
- **In Namibia**, the country's hospitality industry through it Namibiabn Tourism Board (NTB) and companies such as Castle Brewing Namibia (CBN) are already geared to maximize on this rare opportunity to showcase the country's rich tourism attractions and products.

## **Findings (cont):**

### **Anticipated problem in 2010 - The link to Foreign Investment**

- In Oct 2007, while addressing the first ever United Nations Organization against Drugs & Crimes (UNODC), Cape Town Premier informed the delegates that in anticipation of servicing 2010 FIFA Games patrons, the office of the Registrar of Companies in Cape Town was already swammed by international companies applying to open Massage Parlors in the city at the rate of 3 per week
- He called on the local & international Civil Society Organizations as well as local legislators and law enforcement agencies to be on the alert as the problem of human trafficking might escalate prior and during the Games with possible for reaching negative impact on the region as a whole

# Findings (*cont*): Anticipated problem

- **In April last this year, South African media quoted the South African National Police Commissioner, Jackie Sebebi, in anticipation of thousands of soccer hooligans imbibing the South African public spaces with exotic pastimes, requested the Parliamentary Safety and Security Committee to urgently consider legalizing prostitution prior to the 2010 games**
- **He argued that it would be very difficult for the Police to arrest a soccer-fan who decided to seek pleasure on the streets just because it is illegal**
- **He maintained that SA Police would not have the capacity to police the levels of prostitution and prostitution demands that would characterize the 2010 games**
- **He believed that South Africa would be in a prostitution dilemma**
- **Members of the Committee who included religious leaders were outraged by such a proposal. They immediately dismissed it**

# Findings (cont): In Namibia

- A Conference for the Namibian Police senior Police officers held in Windhoek in Dec 2007 whose main objective was to review strategies to ensure effective law and order in the country, '***noted that the security impact of the 2010 FIFA World cup in South Africa and the African Cup of Nations in Angola would have on the SADC region***'
- The Deputy Minister of Safety and Security, Hon. Gabes Shihepo, was quoted as calling for police preparedness to maintain tight security during these events (*New Era p.3 Wed 12 12 07 Anna Shilongo*)

## Findings (cont)

- Interviews among street prostitutes in South Africa, Zambia, Namibia, Swaziland and Namibia indicated that as long ago as the beginning of 2007, many young girls and women started trekking to Johannesburg in readiness to partake in this prospective lucrative market
- **They claim that if they arrive in Johannesburg too close to the games' period, they would not cope with the competition and aggression that characterizes such events**
- **The Namibia research showed that many children in Shangombo and Sesheke areas in Southern Zambia are being sold for ZK2 million per child and disappearing into Botswana and South Africa, supposedly en-route Cape Town and Johannesburg**
- **In Manzini, Swaziland, one newly established night club is already invaded by foreign teenage girls who entertain high class night life patrons completely nude.**
- **These young girl's revelers are truly international – from Africans, to Japanese, Indians, Europeans and Chinese.**
- **It is believed that this is a satellite of the build up to the 2010 pleasures. The girls tell of their pending transition to South Africa**

## Findings (*cont*): at country levels

- **Namibia** -Most of the 45 prostitutes interviewed in **Walvis Bay, Swakopmund & Oshikango** between July & Sept 2008 were well aware about the 2010 Soccer Games in the region.
- 9 of their friends had already left for South Africa – Kinetic energy case
- 2 prostitutes cited law enforcement agents & truck drivers who are taking girls across Oshikango Border post to Angola
- **Zambia** -Interviews with 60 **Lusaka City**-based street prostitutes in Dec. 2007, & March & August 2008, estimated over 100 girls aged between 15 & 24-years had left for South Africa during this period.
- In **Zimbabwe**, the media has already reported a sex tourism syndicate recruiting high class prostitutes in readiness for 2010; while
- **Kenyan** on-going research in **Mombasa** shows a recruitment drive for young boys en route South Africa in readiness for 2010
- **The link with the Mozambican situaion** -This is evidenced by the region's on-going test-Court case in a Pretoria Court of a Mozambican woman who, in April this year was arrested in Johannesburg in company of 3 adolescent girls she had recruited & trafficked into Johannesburg's prostitution industry.
- These 3 girls would join an estimated 38,000 child prostitutes, most of them from South Africa's neighbouring countries of Mozambique, Malawi, Swaziland, Zimbabwe, & Zambia

# Findings (*cont*): Causes

- Large numbers of African youths are generally socially & economically unviable – which acts as an inevitable push factor into destitution & exploitation
- ILO estimates Africa's youth joblessness is twice that of the rest of the world
- Africa's unemployment rate stands at 10.3% compared to the World average of 6.3%
- Inadequate and/or total lack of social services
- Inadequate and/or total lack of legislation
- Inadequate law enforcement capacity
- Such vulnerability is accentuated by circumstances of individual persons and their family day-to-stories

## **Findings (*cont*): Examples of Causes**

- **Already in South Africa, the poorest people classified by the Johannesburg municipality as ‘unsafe’ are reported to face eviction from inner-city suburbs across the country ahead of the 2010 World Cup football**
- **A battle is currently raging-on between representatives of the municipality, the squatters and the High Court**
- **While the municipality argues that it requires space to construct some 235 viable buildings that include hotels and apartments, the squatters maintain that such evictions will render them homeless since the municipality has not provided them with alternative accommodation**
- **Over 250 evicted shack dwellers are already squashed in makeshift leaking tents**
- **They include thousands upon thousands of young unskilled, unemployed school-drop-outs, who might see 2010 games as a God-send in a different manner – like the 16-year-old girl who, in December, 2007, delivered her baby in one of ‘Johannesburg’s flooded ‘make-shift tents’**
- ***They include an estimated 40,000 street prostitutes in Cape Town & Johannesburg, many of whom are from neighbouring countries & 50% of who are HIV positive.***

## **Findings (*cont*): Host African Gtvs' ordinary responses/interventions**

- Experience shows that ordinarily, in order for African host governments to rid such undesirable elements, they usually round such elements, haul them in huge trucks, drive them far into the country side and dump them there until the end of the events when the guests and dignitaries leave
- Such was the case during the 1985 Nairobi Women's World Conference when prostitutes and street children and families were dumped in the coastal city of Mombasa,
- the Beijing Women World Conference when prostitutes and poor city shanty dwellers were dumped in rural villages
- The 1999 Lusaka OAU summit & 2007 SADC summit
- The Kampala (Uganda) Commonwealth Summit where Ethics and Integrity minister ordered that sex workers must not operate in the city streets during the summit on the basis that prostitution is a criminal offence that attracts a 7-year unailable imprisonment', and insisted that 'asking him where the prostitutes should go was like asking him where the thieves are taken' and that 'people clamouring for the legalization of prostitution ahead of the summit were wasting their time'.

# **Findings (cont): Indicators of interventions**

- **This assessment did not find any interventions in place in the case study countries of Zambia and Namibia**
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- **However, according to the Star, a South African Newspaper of Saturday 15 Dec 2007, with effect from 21 Dec 2007, when a new South African Sexual Offences Amendment Act came into force, buying sex became an illegal act and sex buyers will be liable to prosecution. Consequently, sex customer-driven prostitution-based violence and injustices will be subject to prosecution too, including HIV transmission**
- **As Germany before it, South Africa plans to use outside police forces to help it maintain security during the tournament**
- **Interpol is expected to coordinate the deployment and presence of police forces from other countries for the 2010 World cup**

# **Findings (*cont*): Africa's New innovations:**

## **The Birth of the Coalition of Supporters Union of Africa(COSUA)**

- **With this in mind, and in readiness for Africa to adequately show case its worth, in 2006, the African soccer fraternity launched its first ever Coalition of Supporters Union of Africa (COSUA) headed by its founding president, a Ghanaian Advocate Sarfo Abebrese**
- **Its main objective was to spearhead an African continental and Diaspora to overwhelming unified support to the 6 African nations that will represent the continent in the FIFA 2010 tournament in Johannesburg will be critical**

# **Recommendations (*cont*): What to do**

- **SADC countries need to ensure they are prepared to counter possible dramatic drift into prostitution and trafficking for sexual exploitation ahead of 2010 WC games**
- **So there is urgent need for government policies that target vulnerable children, youths and families (education, life-saving skills, economic empowerment of women and youths-in-difficult circumstances)**
- **Between now and 2010, the region needs to ensure there are adequate laws to protect children and women against sexual exploitation in accordance with their commitments to the regional and international human rights instruments**
- **Social services (care/support/recovery/reintegration) to protect those who fall victims should be in place**
- **Engage SADC governments, National Football Associations, FIFA, the transport and hospitality industry and other related service organizations into dialogue**
- **Embark on a massive public awareness and sensitization campaign**
- **Develop and implement monitoring mechanisms**

# Recommendations (*cont*): Which countries?

- In 8 Countries of Southern Africa – Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa (Cape Town/Johannesburg), Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe

## Recommendations (*cont*): Target areas

- Governments, Registrar of Companies Soccer fraternity, the transport and hospitality industries, border personnel, cross border traders, CSOs working with children, youths & women, etc
- Laws – what are the current laws like? Are they adequate? Can they be improved?
- How about policy protections – do they exist, are they adequate? Can they be improved?
- What about service delivery? Do adequate shelters and rescue centres to support possible victims exist? What are the capacities?

# Recommendations: The role of Civil Society including FBO Communities & Academia

- So could Civil Society Organizations that include NGOs & CBOs, as structures closest to people in communities could see well ahead;
- As could FBOs as instruments of divine service to humanity, Churches & FB-Communities;
- As well as the African body of Academia, who have the capacity to create **evidence-based information** that could guide and motivate governments to institute forward-looking social/economic policies and laws that protect vulnerable children and women from possible sexual exploitation/trafficking arising out of the 2010 WC games;
- Together, they could prepare and put into place appropriate service-delivery mechanisms for prevention, care & support
- Ensure that those countries, most of which lack adequate policies and laws to counter human social vulnerability, do so before 2010; &
- That those which have not domesticated regional and international human rights instruments meant to protect their victims (CRC, Paremo protocol, CEDAW, ACRC, etc) do so

# Particular challenges

- A recent SA-based study which indicated that prostitutes are not victims of human trafficking is particular concern