



Re-integration experiences of human trafficking returnees in Benin City, Edo State, Nigeria

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Abstract

This study explores the reintegration experiences of human trafficking returnees in Benin City, Edo State, Nigeria, focusing on the social, psychological, and economic dimensions of reintegration, while also assessing the effectiveness of support mechanisms provided by governmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Underpinned by Bronfenbrenner's Ecological Systems Theory, which emphasizes the influence of multiple environmental systems on an individual's development, this study adopts an exploratory sequential mixed-methods design to capture both quantitative and qualitative data. The study's sample comprises 120 female trafficking returnees, with 100 participants surveyed quantitatively and 20 individuals providing qualitative insights through in-depth interviews. The results reveal significant psychological, economic, and social challenges faced by the returnees. Economically, while some returnees benefit from vocational training and small grants, many struggle to achieve lasting financial independence. Social support, primarily provided by NGOs, is critical, but the involvement of the government is inconsistent, creating disparities in the effectiveness of reintegration efforts. The study concludes that while NGOs play a pivotal role in the reintegration process, there is a need for stronger, more consistent government involvement and a more coordinated, holistic approach to reintegration. One major recommendation from the study is to enhance psychological support services by expanding access to trauma-informed counseling, therapy, and peer support groups, which would help facilitate the long-term recovery and adjustment of trafficking survivors, addressing their emotional and psychological challenges more effectively.

Keywords: Human trafficking, Rehabilitation, Re-integration, Returnees, Survivors

Introduction

Human trafficking remains one of the most pressing global challenges, constituting a grave violation of fundamental human rights and dignity. It is a complex and transnational crime that affects millions of individuals across the world, with women and children disproportionately represented among its victims. According to recent estimates, approximately 50 million people are trapped in modern forms of slavery daily, ranging from sexual and labour exploitation to forced begging, organ trafficking, and coerced marriage (ILO et al., 2022; UNODC, 2023). It is widely recognized as the third most lucrative illicit enterprise globally, trailing only drug and arms trafficking (ECPAT, 2018). Among the sectors most impacted by labour trafficking are domestic work, agriculture, construction, manufacturing, and the broader services industry.

The United Nations' Palermo Protocol (2000) offers a widely accepted definition of human trafficking by highlighting three essential components: the *act* (such as recruitment or transportation), the *means* (including coercion, abduction, or deception), and the *purpose*, which is invariably exploitation. These three elements must be simultaneously present to establish the crime of trafficking (IOM, 2020). It is crucial to differentiate human trafficking from people smuggling. While smuggling involves the consent of an individual to be unlawfully transported across borders, trafficking hinges on exploitation, and consent becomes irrelevant when force or deceit is used (UNODC, 2009). Although conceptually distinct, cases of smuggling often evolve into trafficking, and migrants

especially those in vulnerable conditions are particularly susceptible to being trafficked (Ventrella, 2017).

The traumatic effects of trafficking often extend well beyond the period of exploitation, as survivors grapple with a range of physical, emotional, and psychological scars. Scholars have called for a shift away from viewing trafficked persons merely as victims in need of rescue, urging instead a deeper focus on their post-trafficking realities and the challenges of long-term reintegration (Henriksen, 2018). Reintegration encompasses far more than immediate recovery; it involves supporting survivors to rebuild their lives socially, economically, and psychologically (Stephen-Smith, 2007; Besrup, 2016; Idemudia et al., 2021). Services provided during reintegration aim to help returnees attain self-sufficiency and social inclusion. However, despite their importance, the actual outcomes of reintegration support remain under-researched (Dell et al., 2019; Amadasun, 2020). Reintegration programmes have seldom undergone comprehensive evaluation, raising concerns about their long-term effectiveness (Harkins, 2017).

Given the rising number of trafficking returnees in Nigeria particularly in Benin City, this study aims to explore the reintegration experiences of these individuals. It specifically investigates the social, psychological, and economic dimensions of their reintegration journeys, while also assessing the effectiveness of support mechanisms provided by both governmental and non-governmental organizations.

Theoretical Framework

This study is underpinned by Bronfenbrenner's Ecological Systems Theory (1979), which provides a holistic lens for understanding the reintegration experiences of human trafficking returnees within the interconnected layers of their social environments. The theory posits that individual behaviour and development are influenced by multiple environmental systems that interact dynamically: the microsystem, mesosystem, exo-system, macrosystem, and chronosystem. This ecological perspective is particularly relevant for analyzing the complex and multi-layered challenges that trafficking returnees encounter as they reintegrate into society.

At the microsystem level, returnees interact directly with their immediate environment, including family, peers, and community members. These interactions significantly affect their psychological well-being and social recovery. Stigma, rejection, or acceptance from family and friends can either facilitate or hinder reintegration. For instance, returnees may face shame and blame from relatives, which undermines their self-esteem and stability (Idemudia et al., 2021).

The mesosystem involves the interconnections between microsystems, such as the relationship between the family and social support organizations. A lack of synergy between these support systems can lead to gaps in care and services. The exosystem includes external settings that indirectly affect returnees, such as policies, employment opportunities, and the

availability of reintegration programs. When institutions fail to provide adequate housing, vocational training, or mental health services, returnees are more likely to experience social isolation and re-victimization.

The macrosystem encapsulates broader cultural values, societal norms, and legal structures that shape public perceptions and responses to trafficking survivors. In Nigeria, gender norms, religious beliefs, and socio-economic disparities often influence how returnees are perceived and treated. The chronosystem, which considers the dimension of time, is also critical; it accounts for the timing of return, the duration of trafficking, and the changing socio-political context which can shape reintegration outcomes over time.

The application of Ecological Systems Theory is justified in this study because it recognizes that reintegration is not solely an individual process but one embedded within a network of social, institutional, and cultural systems. It offers a comprehensive framework to examine how these layered systems influence the success or failure of reintegration efforts, providing valuable insights for policy formulation and holistic social work interventions targeted at trafficking returnees in Benin Metropolis.

Reintegration of Trafficked Victims

The reintegration of trafficked victims has evolved over time, reflecting a growing recognition of its complexity, duration, and multidimensional nature. Initially, reintegration was primarily framed around preventing re-trafficking and restoring survivors' psychological, social, and

economic well-being (Gallagher, 2012). However, early discussions often overlooked the deep physical and emotional traumas experienced by victims, such as post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, and sexually transmitted infections (Greer & Scott, 2014). These health challenges were further exacerbated by stigma, rejection, and social exclusion, all of which isolated survivors and undermined their recovery (Brunovskis & Surtees, 2013; McCarthy, 2018). As early as 2006, scholars like Slocomb began to critique reintegration discourses that positioned survivors as passive subjects, raising concerns about how such narratives diminished their agency and reinforced marginalization.

By the mid-2010s, a more nuanced understanding of reintegration began to take shape. Scholars like Besrup (2016) introduced the distinction between procedural reintegration short-term interventions like food, shelter, and medical care and substantive reintegration, which involves rebuilding long-term familial and social relationships. Despite these conceptual advancements, practical implementation remained fraught with limitations. Reintegration programs were often underfunded, lacked individualization, and failed to consider survivors' reluctance to return home, particularly among Nigerian victims trafficked to Europe who feared poverty, insecurity, and social stigma (Skilbrei & Tveit, 2007; Surtees, 2017). As a result, cases of re-trafficking persisted even after victims had received some form of support (Brennan & Plambech, 2018).

In response, Nigeria institutionalized reintegration mechanisms through multi-sectoral collaborations involving NAPTIP, the Ministry of Women Affairs, international organizations like IOM, and several NGOs. These efforts were formalized through key policy documents, including the National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic in Persons (2008; 2014a; 2014b). Programs such as the EU-IOM Joint Initiative further operationalized reintegration by identifying survivors, providing temporary shelter, and referring them for vocational training, healthcare, and psychosocial support. Survivors completing these programs were resettled with business grants, vocational kits, or temporary housing, with third-party vendors managing funds to avoid misappropriation.

Shelters have emerged as crucial elements within these reintegration frameworks, offering a secure environment where survivors can begin their recovery. These facilities provide trauma-informed, victim-sensitive, and culturally appropriate services that may include legal aid, therapy, education, vocational training, and access to economic resources (Kasper & Chiang, 2020; Rousseau, 2019). Shelters vary widely from emergency and short-term accommodations to transitional and long-term reintegration centers but all play pivotal roles in stabilizing survivors and supporting their transition back into society.

The success of reintegration efforts also depends significantly on the skills and sensitivity of shelter staff. Inadequate training among personnel can result in impersonal, inconsistent care that fails to address

survivors' unique needs. Thus, a comprehensive reintegration approach should include medical and psychological support, education and life skills training, economic empowerment, legal and administrative assistance, and family mediation (Surtees & Johnson, 2021). Despite these frameworks, long-term success remains uncertain, particularly in Nigeria, where limited research has explored survivors' post-reintegration experiences (Okoli & Idemudia, 2020; Amadasun, 2020). This underscores the importance of survivor-centered research to better understand the actual outcomes of reintegration programs.

Methodology

The research design for this study was grounded in an exploratory sequential mixed-methods design, which began with the qualitative phase followed by a quantitative phase. This approach was particularly effective for exploring the complex and deeply personal experiences of female trafficking survivors returning to Benin City, Edo State, Nigeria. The qualitative phase, which included in-depth interviews and focus group discussions, provided rich, contextual insights into the psychological, social, and economic dimensions of reintegration. These qualitative findings were instrumental in shaping the structured questionnaire used in the subsequent quantitative phase, allowing the research to capture broader patterns and measure the prevalence of specific reintegration outcomes across a larger sample. The design enhanced the study's depth and breadth, enabling an analysis that was both evidence-based and grounded in lived realities.

The research was conducted in Benin City, a region widely recognized as a trafficking hotspot in Nigeria. As the capital of Edo State, Benin City has been consistently cited in national and international reports, such as those by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), as a significant point of origin for trafficking victims. The choice of study area was thus deliberate, aimed at focusing on a community where the issue of human trafficking is not only prevalent but also deeply rooted in the socio-economic fabric. The population for the study consisted of female returnees of human trafficking residing in or around Benin City. These included individuals who had been trafficked for sexual exploitation, forced labour, and domestic servitude, and who had either returned to their communities or were enrolled in reintegration programs. The study considered both documented returnees connected to rehabilitation centers and shelters, and those who were more informally reintegrated into society.

Sampling was carried out using a combination of probability and non-probability techniques. A total of 120 participants were selected, comprising 100 for the quantitative phase and 20 for the qualitative phase. Simple random sampling was used for the quantitative sample, selecting young women actively participating in reintegration programs. For the qualitative component, convenience sampling facilitated recruitment through NGOs and support services, while snowball sampling helped reach more hidden, unregistered survivors through peer networks. This combination of

methods ensured a diverse and representative sample.

Data collection employed both structured questionnaires for quantitative data and open-ended interviews for qualitative data. The questionnaires were designed to capture measurable trends in reintegration outcomes, while interviews focused on personal narratives detailing experiences of rescue, rehabilitation, and re-entry into society. These instruments provided a comprehensive understanding of both systemic support structures and individual coping strategies.

For analysis, quantitative data were processed using descriptive statistics such as frequencies and percentages to identify key demographic patterns and common reintegration experiences. The qualitative data were analyzed through content analysis, which involved coding and categorizing narrative

responses to extract major themes. These included the nature of support received, emotional and economic recovery, and community acceptance. Findings from both datasets were triangulated to present a holistic account of the reintegration process and its associated challenges.

The study strictly adhered to ethical standards to protect participants' rights and well-being. Informed consent was obtained from all participants, who were also assured of confidentiality and anonymity. Given the sensitive nature of the subject matter, interviews were conducted in supportive, non-threatening environments to prevent traumatization. Ethical clearance was obtained from the relevant institutional review board, and participants showing signs of distress were offered referrals for psychological or social support.

Results and Discussion of Findings

Table 1: Socio-demographic characteristics of the Respondents:

Variable	Category	Frequency (n = 120)	Percentage (%)
Age	18–29 years	78	65.0
	30–39 years	30	25.0
	40 years and above	12	10.0
Educational Background	No formal education	22	18.3
	Primary education	50	41.7
	Secondary education	42	35.0
	Tertiary education	6	5.0
Marital Status	Single	70	58.3
	Married	18	15.0
	Divorced/Separated	32	26.7
Duration of Trafficking	Less than 1 year	48	40.0
	1–3 years	54	45.0
	More than 3 years	18	15.0

CurrentLivingConditions	With family/relatives	58	48.3
	In shelters/rehabilitation homes	38	31.7
	Living independently	24	20.0
Access to Support Services	Received support	84	70.0
	Did not receive support	36	30.0

Source: Field work, 2025

The socio-demographic analysis of the 120 respondents revealed that the majority (65%) were between the ages of 18 and 29 years, reflecting a significant representation of young women who were trafficked in their late teens or early adulthood. Respondents aged 30–39 years accounted for 25%, while those 40 years and above constituted 10%. This age distribution highlights the vulnerability of younger females to trafficking and the challenges they face upon return.

In terms of educational background, 42% of the respondents had only completed primary education, while 35% had attained secondary education. A smaller proportion (18%) had no formal education at all, and just 5% had reached the tertiary education level. This pattern underscores the correlation between limited education and susceptibility to trafficking, as lower levels of education often restrict access to safe employment opportunities.

Marital status data showed that 58% of respondents were single, 27% were divorced or separated, and 15% were married. The predominance of single individuals suggests that many were trafficked at a young age or lacked familial support systems, both of which can increase vulnerability to exploitation.

Regarding the duration of trafficking, 40% of respondents had been trafficked for less than

one year, while 45% experienced trafficking for one to three years. Another 15% had been trafficked for more than three years. The longer the duration, the more intense and long-lasting the psychological and economic impact on survivors, often complicating reintegration efforts.

Living conditions after return also varied. Nearly half (48%) of the respondents were living with family or relatives, while 32% resided in shelters or rehabilitation homes. About 20% had managed to live independently. Those in stable environments such as with supportive families or in structured shelters generally reported smoother reintegration processes compared to those living on their own.

Finally, in terms of access to support services, 70% of the respondents reported receiving some form of assistance from government or non-governmental organizations, including psychosocial counseling, vocational training, temporary shelter, and financial support. However, 30% of the participants had received minimal or no support, highlighting existing gaps in reintegration programs and the need for more inclusive and accessible services for all returnees. This socio-demographic profile provides a foundational understanding of the lived realities of trafficking survivors and helps inform targeted, effective interventions.

Reintegration Experiences among Human Trafficking Returnees in Benin City, Edo State, Nigeria.

Table 2: Responses on the Social, Psychological, and Economic Dimensions of Reintegration Experiences among Human Trafficking Returnees in Benin City

S/N	Question	Response Options	Freq	Per. (%)
1	How would you describe your current mental well-being after reintegration?	Very Poor Poor Fair Good Very Good	13 27 31 19 10	13% 27% 31% 19% 10%
2	Do you feel economically empowered since your reintegration?	Yes No Partially	42 33 25	42% 33% 25%
3	Are you satisfied with the support received from NGOs or government agencies during your reintegration?	Very Dissatisfied Dissatisfied Neutral Satisfied Very Satisfied	12 22 29 26 11	12% 22% 29% 26% 11%
	Total		100	100

Source: Field work, 2025

The data presented in the table 2 provides valuable insights into the reintegration experiences of human trafficking returnees in Benin City, Edo State, Nigeria. It highlights the psychological, economic, and social challenges faced by returnees, which were further explored through qualitative data obtained from face to face and in-depth interviews with survivors, social workers, and stakeholders involved in reintegration programs.

Psychologically, the findings suggest that many returnees continue to grapple with mental health issues long after their return. A combined 40% of respondents rated their current mental well-being as either “poor” or “very poor,” while 31% described it as “fair.” This means that more than two-thirds of participants perceive their mental health as less than good, pointing to persistent

emotional trauma. This finding supports previous research by Hossain et al. (2010), who found that post-trafficking survivors commonly experience depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress. An in-depth interview with an 18–29-year-old female returnee echoed this sentiment:

“I feel completely lost sometimes, like I’m trapped in a never-ending cycle of fear. I have vivid nightmares that leave me terrified, and the anxiety consumes me, making it impossible to find peace. I don’t know who to trust anymore, and it feels like I’m constantly searching for something solid to hold onto.” (IDI/Oduwa/Tertiary education/Single/Less than 1 year)

Such reflections demonstrate that reintegration programs need to prioritize mental health services to aid psychological recovery.

However, 19% of respondents rated their mental well-being as “good,” and 10% as

“very good,” suggesting that with adequate support, psychological recovery is possible. A returnee who benefited from psychological intervention shared,

“It’s been incredibly tough, and at times, I felt completely lost. But after receiving therapy from the NGO, I’ve started to feel like myself again. The support has been life-changing, helping me regain confidence and hope for the future. I now feel more empowered to rebuild my life, even though the journey is still challenging.”

(IDI/Amenze/30–39years/Tertiary education/Married/1–3 years)

This supports the argument by Surtees (2013) that comprehensive psychosocial support can facilitate healing and long-term adjustment.

Economically, the data shows a mixed picture. While 42% of participants reported feeling economically empowered since reintegration, a significant 33% did not, and 25% said they only felt partially empowered. This indicates that although some returnees benefit from economic empowerment initiatives, a considerable number still struggle with financial independence. This finding aligns with Dell et al. (2019), who argue that while vocational training and microenterprise support can aid reintegration, inconsistent implementation often limits effectiveness. One returnee shared,

“I was trained in hairdressing, and I now have a small salon in my community. It’s not much, but I feel like I’m contributing to my household again.”

(IDI/Eseohen/18–29 years/Secondary education/Single/Less than 1 year).

This sense of empowerment and economic independence reflects how

vocational training can restore dignity, provide sustainable livelihoods, and help reintegrated individuals rebuild their lives with purpose and self-confidence. In contrast, another returnee noted,

“The training I received didn’t help much. There are no customers, and I still depend on family members.”(IDI/Oghenerho/18–29

years/Secondary education/Single/1–3 years).

This response reflects the economic challenges faced by some returnees, highlighting that vocational skills alone may be insufficient without market demand, startup support, or access to capital to ensure sustainable reintegration.

These divergent experiences reflect the importance of tailoring reintegration assistance to the specific economic contexts of returnees.

Social support through NGOs and government agencies also produced mixed outcomes. While 26% of respondents expressed satisfaction and 11% were very satisfied with the support received, a combined 34% reported dissatisfaction or strong dissatisfaction. Furthermore, 29% maintained a neutral stance, possibly indicating limited or inconsistent engagement with support services. These statistics reveal that while support is being provided, its reach and impact may be uneven. This is further supported by qualitative data, such as a returnee who stated,

“The government promised so much, but I never received the full support they talked about. Despite the initial assurances and the programs they presented, the actual assistance was minimal, and

many of the commitments were never fulfilled. This left me feeling abandoned and disillusioned, questioning whether the government was truly interested in our well-being."

(IDI/Benita/40 years and above/Tertiary education/Divorced/1–3 years).

Meanwhile, another returnee credited an NGO for her successful reintegration, saying, *"The NGO played a critical role in my reintegration by helping me secure stable housing and providing essential psychological counseling. Their support went beyond just immediate relief; they truly cared for my well-being and didn't abandon me, offering continuous guidance and*

assistance, which gave me hope and a sense of belonging as I rebuilt my life."

(IDI/Favour/30–39 years/Tertiary education/Separated/1–3 years).

These findings echo the work of Brunovskis and Surtees (2012), who highlighted how inconsistent or inadequate support from reintegration providers often limits returnees' long-term outcomes. The disparity between governmental and NGO efforts is also consistent with Amadasun (2020), who critiques the Nigerian government's sporadic involvement in trafficking rehabilitation, leaving much of the burden to NGOs.

Effectiveness of Reintegration Support Mechanisms Provided by Governmental and Non-Governmental Organisations in Benin City

Table 3: Perceptions of the Effectiveness of Reintegration Support Mechanisms Provided by Governmental and Non-Governmental Organisations

S/N	Question	Response Options	Freq	Per (%)
1	How would you rate the effectiveness of reintegration support services you received?	Very Effective Effective Not Effective No Support Received	15 35 30 20	15% 35% 30% 20%
2	Which organisation provided the most helpful reintegration support?	Government NGO Both None	18 40 25 17	18% 40% 25% 17%
3	Did the support services meet your psychological, economic, and social needs?	Fully Met Partially Met Not Met at All	20 50 30	20% 50% 30%
	Total		100	100%

Source: Field work, 2025

The data presented in Table 3 provides crucial insights into the perceived effectiveness of reintegration support mechanisms offered by governmental and non-governmental organizations to trafficking returnees in Benin City. The responses from the participants

reveal notable disparities in both the accessibility and impact of these interventions, further corroborated by qualitative accounts gathered through in-depth interviews.

Regarding the overall effectiveness of support services, only 15% of respondents rated them as "very effective," while 35% perceived them as "effective," indicating that half of the participants found the services beneficial to some degree. However, 30% described the services as "not effective," and a significant 20% reported receiving "no support" at all. This suggests that while some returnees successfully accessed and benefitted from reintegration programs, a substantial proportion either found them inadequate or were entirely excluded. This finding is in line with Surtees (2008), who emphasizes that inconsistent access and quality of support remain persistent barriers in trafficking survivors' reintegration.

These quantitative results are reflected in the narratives shared during interviews. A female returnee recounted,

"When I came back, the NGO was a lifeline. They provided me with essential counseling to help me process my trauma and a small grant to start my tailoring business. Without their support, I would have felt lost and helpless, unsure of how to rebuild my life. They gave me the strength and guidance I desperately needed."

(IDI/Anita/30–39years/Tertiary education/Single/1–3 years).

Her testimony highlights how targeted and timely support, particularly from NGOs, can be life-altering. Conversely, another returnee shared a contrasting experience:

"Nobody came to assist me. I went back to the village and struggled on my own, trying to make ends meet. The government people only made promises, but none of them were ever fulfilled. I felt abandoned and hopeless, as I had no support or

guidance, just empty words from those who should have helped."

(IDI/Princess/30–39years/Secondary education/Separated/1–3 years).

This account resonates with the 20% who indicated they received no support and the 30% who deemed the services ineffective, underscoring the uneven distribution of reintegration assistance.

When asked which organisation provided the most helpful support, 40% of respondents credited NGOs, followed by 25% who stated both NGOs and government contributed. Only 18% identified the government as the primary provider of support, while 17% said they received help from neither. These figures demonstrate a clear preference for NGO-led support systems, echoing previous findings by Adepoju (2005), who notes that NGOs in Nigeria have played a central role in rehabilitation and reintegration due to their grassroots reach and flexibility in service delivery. One respondent affirmed,

"It was an NGO that not only trained me in hairdressing but also provided me with a starter kit to begin my own business. Without their assistance, I would have been lost, as I never encountered any support from government officials. The NGO's intervention truly changed my life and gave me hope for the future."

(IDI/Jenifer/30–39years/Tertiary education/Single/Less than 1 year).

This experience points to the more proactive role that NGOs are perceived to play, especially in filling the gap left by inadequate government response.

Lastly, participants were asked whether the support services met their psychological, economic, and social needs. Only 20%

affirmed that their needs were "fully met," while 50% said they were "partially met," and 30% claimed their needs were "not met at all." These results expose a gap between the availability of services and their capacity to holistically address the complex realities of reintegration. A returnee shared,

"They gave me a small amount of money to start a business, but there was no follow-up or further support. I feel abandoned and unsure of how to move forward. Despite my efforts, I still struggle with feelings of being lost and depressed, unable to fully rebuild my life or achieve stability."

(IDI/Isabel/30–39years/Tertiary education/Single/Less than 1 year).

Another echoed,

"They helped me learn tailoring, which was a valuable skill, but I faced significant financial challenges as there was no money provided to purchase the necessary equipment and materials to start my own business. Without the proper tools, I couldn't continue practicing what I had learned, which hindered my progress and independence."

(IDI/Tosin/18–29years/Tertiary education/Single/Less than 1 year).

These insights align with Brunovskis and Surtees (2012), who argue that fragmented or short-term reintegration efforts are rarely sufficient to achieve sustainable outcomes.

Conclusion

This study highlights the significant social, psychological, and economic challenges faced by human trafficking returnees in Benin City, Edo State, Nigeria. Over 40% of returnees report poor mental well-being, underscoring the need for comprehensive psychological support. While some returnees benefit from

economic empowerment through vocational training and grants, many still struggle with financial independence, emphasizing the need for sustainable economic support. Although NGOs play a critical role, inconsistent government involvement leads to disparities in reintegration outcomes.

Recommendations

Based on the findings of the study, the following recommendations were made.

- 1) Enhance Psychological Support Services: Expand access to trauma-informed counseling, therapy, and peer support to address emotional challenges and facilitate long-term recovery for trafficking survivors.
- 2) Increase Economic Empowerment Initiatives with Follow-up: Provide sustainable business development support, including capital, mentorship, and market linkages, with continuous follow-up to ensure financial independence.
- 3) Strengthen Governmental Involvement: Ensure consistent government funding, timely service delivery, and collaboration with NGOs to provide comprehensive reintegration support.
- 4) Ensure Coordinated Support Systems: Develop standardized guidelines and clear pathways for reintegration programs to address the diverse needs of returnees effectively.

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