

HOW CAN SIERRA LEONE'S PARLIAMENT INTERVENE TO CURB HUMAN TRAFFICKING?



CenHTRO

Enacted in July 2022, Sierra Leone's new Anti-Human Trafficking and Migrants Smuggling Act represents a renewed commitment by the government to respond to the problem of human trafficking in all its forms through the establishment of new institutional, legal and policy frameworks.

Recognizing the impact of potential interventions by the country's parliament, the Center on Human Trafficking Research & Outreach (CenHTRO) launched the Sierra Leone Parliamentary Trafficking in Persons Working Group (PTIPWG) in February 2024.

Poised to reshape how government in Sierra Leone responds to human trafficking, CenHTRO analyzed **EIGHT** entrypoints for intervention that the PTIPWG and parliament can enact in the near, medium and long term.



8

ENTRY POINTS FOR PARLIAMENTARY INTERVENTION TO CURB TIP IN SIERRA LEONE

EDUCATE

LOBBY

PIONEER

OVERSIGHT

COOPERATE

PRIORITISE

AMPLIFY

PROMOTE



1

EDUCATE

Parliamentarians across various political constituencies have the duty to amplify public education programmes on all TIP related matters across national and local platforms.

2

LOBBY

Parliamentarians have the right political capital to lobby MDAs and their related parliamentary committees to include ATIP programmes on various topics.

3

PIONEER

Sierra Leone Parliament and the PTIPWG are well positioned to pioneer the review of legislative codes as a way to combat trafficking. They can also spearhead the process of amending any legislation that may not be aligned with the spirit of ATIP initiatives.

4

OVERSIGHT

The PTIPWG has a duty to monitor and evaluate progress in the implementation of various policy initiatives on TIP including the implementation of the Sierra Leone National Action Plan on TIP, the National Referral Mechanism on TIP and the Trust Fund for Victims of Trafficking.

5

COOPERATE

Through the PTIPWG, Sierra Leone MPs can leverage opportunities for cooperation with civil society structures and non-governmental organisations on measures for protection, prosecution and long-term prevention.

6

PRIORITISE

The PTIPWG must prioritise passage of new regulations to increase funding for ATIP initiatives including advocating for state funding of the trust fund for victims of trafficking through the country's national budget.

7

AMPLIFY

MPs must amplify the voices of their constituencies on TIP related matters, such as community owned and led initiatives to counter human trafficking in provinces, districts, chiefdoms and villages across the country.

8

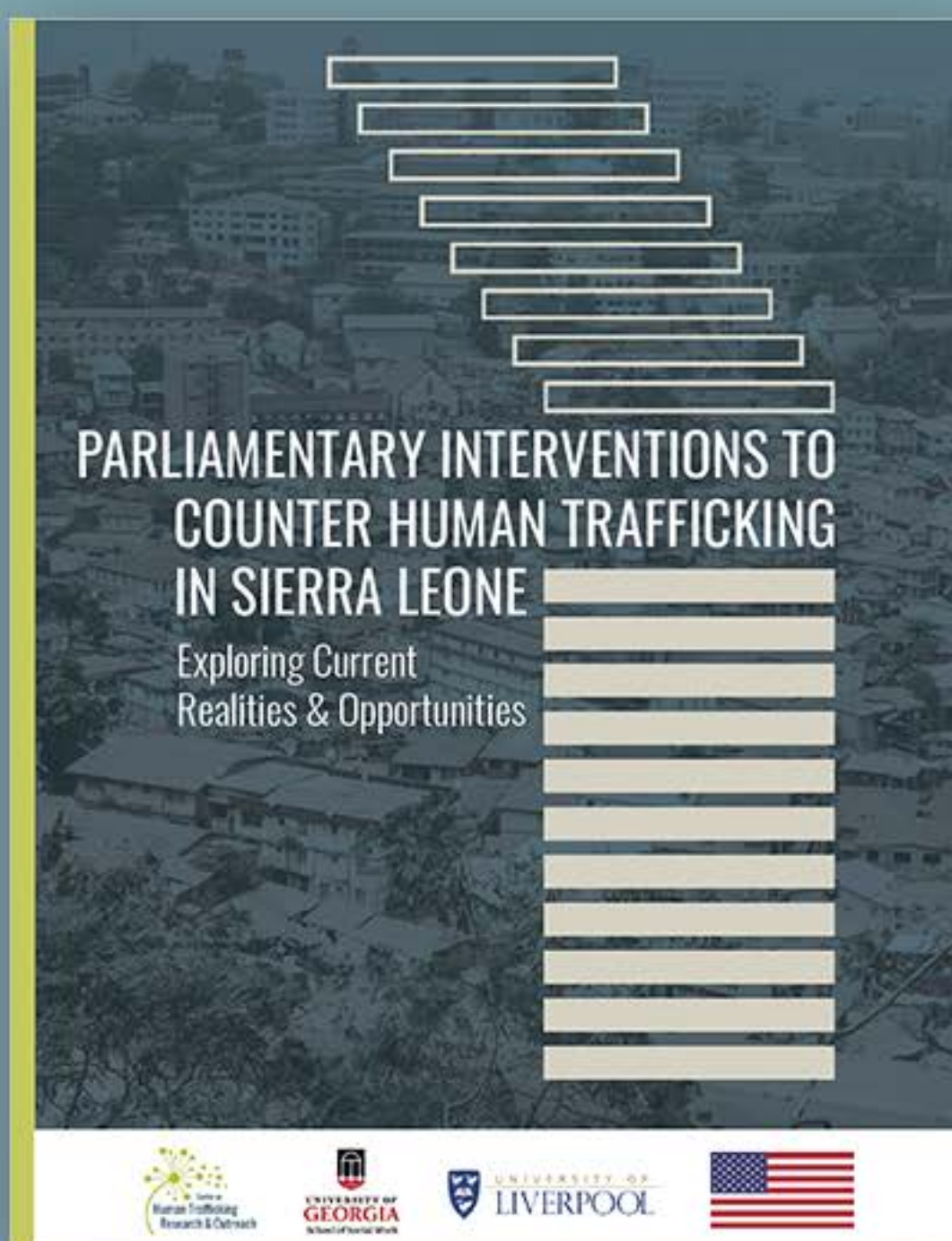
PROMOTE

The PTIPWG must continue to work with MPs across the political divide to promote international cooperation on TIP by taking steps to establish jurisdiction on extraterritorial basis, extradition, mutual legal assistance, law enforcement and information exchange.

This document is adapted from:

Parliamentary Interventions to Counter Human Trafficking in Sierra Leone: Exploring Current Realities and Opportunities

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and Hope Dockweiler.



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