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## 1. Introduction

On July 14th 2014 in Dakar, Senegal, a workshop took place between the ECOWAS Commissioner in charge of Social Affairs and Gender, a delegation of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Regional Working Group on Child Protection in West Africa (Groupe Régional pour la Protection de l'Enfance en Afrique de l'Ouest - GRPE).

The meeting consisted in exchanges and discussions among participants with presentations, debates and a multilateral planning session.

After two days of discussions and reflexions between the member of the Regional Working Group on Child Protection and the experts of ECOWAS, an action plan was developed serving as roadmap for two and a half years (mid-2014 until end of 2016) with different actions that could be carried out together.

One of these actions consists in sharing with ECOWAS a list of documents about child mobility in West Africa and the known itineraries (studies, researches, capitalisations and qualitative/quantitative reports). Hence this list with 37 attached documents. For each document in the list, we prepared a description of the document, its content, its specificity and explain how it originated.

The idea is to encourage you to read these studies thoroughly. The objective of this list of documents is to bring information, answers and clarifications that will allow ECOWAS to improve its knowledge and child protection plans, particularly for children on the move. These texts also allow the training and support of member states in their taking of initiatives in order to protect children on the move. Finally, the list supports ECOWAS in the reinforcement of the monitoring and evaluation framework.

The attached documents were gathered by the member agencies of the Regional Working Group on Child Protection in West Africa. However, the list is not exhaustive because we are not sure we could gather all the documents issued in West Africa for this field of study. The following documents are a database that we will update according to our findings or to new documents.

We would be very happy to receive your feedback after you have read the documentation in order to learn about the fields that haven't been researched, that would need further work or that could be integrated in other current researches and studies in order to bring specific responses to the West African region.

We hope you enjoy reading this document and look forward to exchange views thanks to your feedback.

The Regional Working Group on Child Protection in West Africa

## 2. List of documents on child mobility

### I. Child mobility in West Africa: terminology, phenomenon, vulnerabilities

#### 1. A. Diallo et A. Konare, *Rapport d'étude de base du projet « Promotion et protection des droits des filles migrantes dans le cercle de Ségou et le District de Bamako »*, Plan, 2014 (French)

In Mali, the District of Bamako and the city of Ségou keep welcoming thousands of migrating girls since the drought of 1970, as the other regional capital cities do. This motivated the NGO Plan International to conduct this study project that allows to better understand the average age of the migrating girls, their matrimonial status, their origin and their family situation. The study makes us discover the realities of access to healthcare and food but also the main reasons why they flee their villages to go to the city and the types of abuse, violence and exploitation they have to put up with.

#### 2. Save the Children, « *Yaro na kowa ne* », *children belong to everyone: Understanding and improving informal alternative care mechanisms to increase the care and protection of children, with a focus on kinship care in West Central Africa*, 2013 (English)

A regional initiative of participative research was carried out by Save The Children in 2012 and 2013 in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Nigeria and Sierra Leone in order to reinforce the knowledge about locally-developed forms of support among families and communities, particularly informal forms, in order to better understand how practice works and draw up recommendations for programming in order to improve healthcare and protection of children. Despite their prevalence, informal forms of support are neglected in terms of specific policies and programmes that are necessary to better support the healthcare, protection and well-being of the children. The results of the research allowed to identify 12 fields of action:

- 1) Improve the gathering of information about child fostering
- 2) Apply the guidelines for the alternative support of children in order to improve the legislation and the orientation towards all alternative forms of protection, however recognizing the significant importance of child fostering
- 3) Increase social protection of children especially for isolated and vulnerable parents and aged caretakers
- 4) Increase access to free primary education and to secondary education, particularly in rural zones
- 5) Increase budget for social services and social workers and reinforce capacities of social workers
- 6) Guarantee a better understanding of cultural practice to support decision making in the best interest of the child
- 7) Reinforce child protection systems as well as informal mechanisms to increase surveillance of child fostering
- 8) Increase active participation of female and male caretakers, mothers, fathers and children in decision taking related to healthcare
- 9) Increase possibilities for participation of children in families, communities, practices and policies which affect them
- 10) Take into account the question of stigmatisation and discrimination of children living in fostering
- 11) Increase positive parenthood for fathers, mothers and various healthcare providers
- 12) Increase continuous communication towards fathers and mothers about their responsibilities towards the children's education

**3. M. Diop, *Migration des enfants non accompagnés de l'Afrique de l'Ouest vers l'Afrique du Nord. Etat des lieux, 2013 (French)***

This report, carried out with the help of a documentary study, tackles the question of child protection for unaccompanied children on the move from West Africa towards North Africa, from a transnational point of view. More than an exhaustive review of the situation, it is photography of a constantly evolving problematic. This document gives an insight of the treatment of these children who seem to be on their way to Europe and are stuck in countries of the Maghreb. It brings information to the protection organisations to take decisions in full knowledge of the cause. The document brings to the surface the influence of the migratory policy of the European Union regarding the legislation of the Maghreb countries concerning unaccompanied children, the principle of free movement in ECOWAS as well as breaches towards international obligations of protection of the rights of children and migrants. Finally, initiatives for a transnational and inter-agency treatment of unaccompanied children, beyond their juridical status, in collaboration with the countries of origin, of transit and of destination, are presented.

**4. M. Dottridge (ed.), *Children on the Move*, International Organization for Migration (IOM), 2013 (English)**

This publication results from the efforts of several specialists and practitioners belonging to the International Working Group for Children on the move (Groupe de travail International sur les Enfants en Mobilité), composed of various UN agencies and international NGOs. It contains six articles about the organisations' role regarding protection of youth against risks and presents measures to allow youth to make the most of the possibilities that come to them.

**Summaries of the articles**

- 1) **M. H. Sambo & F. Terenzio, *Children on the move: A different voice***: This article by the MAEJT and ENDA brings a detailed description of how researches are conducted by children: the information they collect regarding their experience of migration, the actions of protection they carry out, their relevance for the government, the policies and approaches adopted by intergovernmental organisations and NGOs. A demonstration of children's experiences little known or neglected by many governmental specialists or organisations.
- 2) **H. van de Glind & A. Kou, *Migrant children in child labour: A vulnerable group in need of attention*; A. Fonseca, A. Hardy & C. Adam, *Unaccompanied migrant children and legal guardianship in the context of returns: The missing links between host countries and countries of origin***: These two articles, written by ILO and IOM, emphasise the decisions taken regarding children of a country arriving into another. They concentrate on the three phases: before/during/after transit. They propose the best way to prepare the children for the ordeal awaiting them.
- 3) **D. Reale, *Protecting and supporting children on the move: Translating principles into practice***: In this contribution by Save the Children, it is specifically examined how to gather the children's experiences and make decisions with them and on their behalf in their biggest interest, which is essential in the decision making.
- 4) **M. Shuteriqi, *Challenges faced in protecting children on the move : An NGO perspective***: In this contribution, the author explores the factors that prevent an NGO helping and protecting children on the move and explores the encouraging practices developed by several NGOs throughout the world. Thus, the author underlines the importance of changing the paradigm and of enlarging the protection programmes from a focus on a fight against child trafficking to a

focus on protection of children on the move. The article also gives an analysis of the importance as well as the challenges of determining the biggest interest of the child on the move in order to guarantee an appropriate and sustainable answer.

- 5) **S. Thatun & K. Heissler, *Children's migration : towards a multidimensional child protection perspective***: This contribution of UNICEF recommends an approach of the protection of children on the move that focuses on a variety of vulnerabilities but urgently asks for particular attention to children on the move.

**5. Plateforme Mobilités, *Quelle protection pour les enfants concernés par la mobilité en Afrique de l'Ouest? Nos positions et recommandations, 2011 (français) / Mobility Platform, *Protecting children on the move. Our positions and recommendations, 2012 (English)****

This document proposes a summary of the main results of an inter-agency study that took place between 2008 and 2010 in West Africa. It was directed by the "Mobility Platform" that unites the regional offices of eight international organisations for child protection (ILO, IOM, UNICEF, Save the Children, MAEJT, ENDA Jeunesse-Action, Plan International, Terre des hommes). The target of the project was to make the sharing of information, reflexions and strategic orientations easier in order to support the actors questioning themselves about the stakes, challenges and means for a better protection of children on the move in the sub-region. The main objective of the project was double: document the actual practices of mobility of children and elaborate and promote protection strategies founded on the results of research and lessons learned through the experiment. The mobility of youth was addressed in the study but the analysis and recommendations were focused on the protection of children. The seven positions which were adopted by the agencies involved make this publication a document which brings serious answers to all questions regarding children on the move in West Africa.

**6. R. Traore, *Différenciation entre migration et traite des enfants : expériences d'accompagnement protecteur et d'empowerment des enfants en situation de mobilités, Terre des hommes & CNP Burkina Faso, 2010 (French)***

The approach of this study aims to increase the efficiency of interventions while improving the decision mechanisms of the different actors of child protection and of children on the move in general. It shows the difference between migration and child trafficking and clarifies the concepts of protective accompaniment of children, empowerment and structures for child protection. This capitalisation allows us to realise the necessity to clarify the notion of "child on the move", to not consider them as objects but as subjects in every protection undertaking. By having a closer look at some institutional and juridical responses to the migration and trafficking phenomenon, the author was able to show several intervention techniques, strategies or approaches developed with the children. The study gives recommendations such as the reinforcement of existing protection systems, the reinforcement of measures that served the interventions in the former programmes/projects and the reinforcement of the monitoring and evaluation frameworks.

**7. N. A. Anyidoho et P. Ainsworth, *Migration rurale des enfants ruraux, Centre for Migration Studies/University of Ghana & Development Research Centre on Migration, Globalisation and Poverty/University of Sussex, 2009 (French)***

This document focuses on the state of ethnographic research in the field of children mobility in the rural regions of West Africa. It brings answers to different questions: mobility of rural children towards rural zones, migration zones, life conditions and what happens to the children. The goal is to

inform the reader about the existing research and orientate future research towards the questions that need to be answered.

**8. A. Ndao, *Les jeunes et les enfants balisent les voies en Afrique de l'Ouest. Etude ethnographique sur les axes Bénin-Togo-Ghana-Nigeria*, Plan WARO/Tdh, Dakar, 2008 (French)**

At the suggestion of plan WARO and Terre des hommes in 2008, this document makes a contribution about children on the move in order to break the negative image of the concept. The study shows the importance of the children's efforts regarding their mobility. The testimonials of 216 children show various realities and risks regarding their moral and physical integrity.

**9. O. Feneyrol, *Little hands of the stone quarries. Investigation of child trafficking between Benin and Nigeria*, Terre des hommes, 2005 (English)**

<http://www.tdh.ch/en/documents/little-hands-of-the-stone-quarries-investigation-of-child-trafficking-between-benin-and-nigeria>

This publication is an investigation about children trafficking that gives the reader a maximum of information and material for reflection. The results are divided in three sections. The first section describes the events that occurred between September and December 2003 (the "crisis"), child trafficking in the "Zou" province and in the quarries and plantations in Nigeria. It shows on the micro and macro levels the interventions and strategies that lead to this political and mediatised "crisis" and to its resolution. The second section describes and analyses the logic and the mechanisms underlying child trafficking and abuse in Benin in the quarries of Abeokuta. The third section shows the emergency interventions of the local authorities and child protection organisations (including Terre des hommes). Finally, the document gives recommendations for a better response to child trafficking and abuse. The experience of Terre des hommes on this line was the ground for reflections that lead to a change of focus: the focus is no longer on child trafficking but on the need of protection of all children on the move.

**10. MAEJT, *Exode précoce Et traite des enfants en Afrique de l'Ouest : Quelques actions des enfants et jeunes travailleurs de la sous-région*, Enda TM, Dakar, Décembre 2004 (French)**

[http://maejt.org/pdfs/jeuda\\_111\\_112.pdf](http://maejt.org/pdfs/jeuda_111_112.pdf)

After several years of activities carried out by their associations in different cities, the « Enfants et Jeunes Travailleurs » (EJT) from West Africa decide to capitalise their experiences and to publish this document in 2004 in order to define a common understanding of the phenomenon of early exodus and of child trafficking.

This publication brings us the conclusions and the experiences of the EJT. It improves the knowledge and the differentiation between the concepts of early exodus, trafficking, migration and fostering. The intermediaries, traffickers, trafficking types and fields of work of the children as well as the working conditions are described to give a better understanding of the phenomenon.

**11. P. Philippe & C. Ky, *Les filles domestiques au Burkina Faso : traite ou migration ? Analyse de la migration laborieuse des enfants de la province du Sourou au Burkina Faso*, Terre des hommes, 2003 (French)**

<http://www.tdh.ch/fr/documents/les-filles-domestiques-au-burkina-faso-traite-ou-migration-analyse-de-la-migration-laborieuse-des-enfants-de-la-province-du-sourou>

This report is based on a survey made in April 2003 in Burkina Faso. It concerns mainly young girls coming from Sourou to be employed as housemaids in Ouagadougou. In a logic of "action", the

report tries to bring out the main characteristics of the situation of children involved in this migration. The report asks a certain number of questions on the way of defining the problem (trafficking? migration? exploitation?) and is a good reflection base for all questions related to child trafficking.

This situation analysis was carried out in the context of a programme of Terre des hommes to fight against child exploitation and trafficking as well as a national project funded by UNICEF. The study aims at understanding the situation of child trafficking in the province of Sourou, taking for example the stream of young girls moving from the province to Ouagadougou. It is about understanding the strategies and motivations of the children, the parents and the intermediaries as well as their approach of the problem.

**12. *Migrations, confiage et trafic d'enfants en Afrique de l'Ouest*, Jeuda 106, ENDA TM, 2000 (French)**

This document, written at a time when no in-depth study about child trafficking had been carried out, brings clarifications regarding the risk to confuse child trafficking and fostering. It shares experiences of actions carried out by the groups of children and youth of the MAEJT for the realisation of the right to stay in one's village and not having to leave.

## **II. Protection action**

**13. MAEJT, *Child Protection Manual by the AWCY*, Jeuda 126, ENDA TM, 2014 (English and French)**  
[http://www.maejt.org/page%20anglais/pdfs/jeuda\\_126\\_child\\_protection\\_manual\\_AWCY.pdf](http://www.maejt.org/page%20anglais/pdfs/jeuda_126_child_protection_manual_AWCY.pdf)

The "Manuel de protection des enfants" (Handbook for child protection) is a collection of community protection experiences made by the "Mouvement Africain des Enfants et Jeunes Travailleurs" and favouring the participation of children. The various processes in this handbook are pedagogical. Their endorsement by all actors would contribute to a more protective and sustainable environment for vulnerable children and youth.

The handbook shows the strategies and mechanisms the MAEJT uses to ensure community protection of children. It is a tool for associations, NGOs and other agencies to develop their knowledge of complex community mechanisms.

**14. F. Boursin, *The added value of protective accompaniment*, Terre des hommes, 2014 (English and French)**  
<http://www.tdh.ch/en/documents/la-valeur-ajoutee-de-laccompagnement-protecteur-des-enfants>

The relevance of this document lies in the fact that the return of a child on the move is not the only alternative to protect the child. Other solutions can be identified during the journey or at the final destination, based on an evaluation of the resources available in the environment of the child, their accessibility, their quality and of the biggest interest of the child.

L'"accompagnement protecteur des enfants" (APE, i.e. protective accompaniment of children) is an approach that Terre des hommes favours with all children who are victims and/or vulnerable to trafficking, exploitation or abuse. Terre des hommes having mostly experimented this approach to support children on the move, this document focuses on that category of children, numerous in West Africa.

The first part of the document explains the foundations of the approach in West Africa and shows how it was developed based on research conclusions and institutional learning of Terre des hommes as well as other organisations. Thus, this part of the document defines the "APE" and shows how the approach sticks to the framework of child rights and child protection.

In the second part, the author presents the necessary strategies, methods and tools to implement the approach before the child leaves, during the journey and upon arrival.

The last part examines the challenges of the protection of children on the move and the current limits of the “APE”, for example lack of reliable data or the weakness of transnational child protection systems.

**15. O. Feneyrol, *Capitalisation des expériences en matière de protection des enfants migrants et/ou travailleurs au Burkina Faso. Qu'avons-nous appris en 10 années d'expérience ? (2002 - 2012)*, Terre des hommes Burkina Faso, 2013 (French)**

Ten years of experience in the field of child protection in Burkina Faso are put together in the document emanating from a capitalisation carried out with children, families and community actors that worked in the field with Terre des hommes. The organisation presents its analysis of child migration, its intervention logic and its action model. Regarding children, the changes observed are that children are taking away from their workplace and given alternative forms of education, training or authorised work. Regarding the families and communities, Terre des hommes explains how it operated to get the acknowledgment of community actors as partners for child protection. On the state level, the changes refer mainly to the reinforcement of the decentralised services in the intervention zones and to the reinforcement of the national child protection system.

**16. MAEJT, *Protection of Mobile Children by Organized Children*, Jeuda 123, ENDA TM, 2011 (English and French)**

<http://www.maejt.org/page%20anglais/pdfs/jeuda123bestexperienceprotectionversionanglaise.pdf>

This document brings answers to the question: « how can children protect other children? ». The many examples of protection gathered in several countries are told in the first person by children and young workers to explain how they acted. They express various actions that they carry out with their “Groupes de base” and testify about changes. The publication also shows the levers that exist between initiatives of the children and youth and the partners and authorities in order to resolve the children’s problems.

**17. WAN, *Support procedure and West African regional Standards for the protection and reintegration of vulnerable children (including « children on the move » and young migrants)*, 2011 (English and French)**

Since its creation in 2002, the West Africa Network for the protection of Children (WAN), composed of child protection NGOs, gave over 5’000 children the opportunity to develop an individual life project. In order to standardise the practices and support professionals who take care of vulnerable children on the move, the WAN created a document showing the different steps and the minimum standards for this kind of action. These standards show eight steps, from the identification of the child to its reintegration at its place of origin, taking into account its needs and desires and helping the family/community to ensure the child will be able to stay in its community of origin. The standards help to act about the vulnerability of the child during transit and upon arrival, and also in its community of origin or new community. Lastly, the standards allow to put the focus on the responsibility and the duty of every actor to ensure the well-being of the children, be it families, communities, teachers, traditional or religious authorities, entrepreneurs, NGOs or the state.

**18. D. Fall, *Leçons et recommandations d'une intervention transfrontalière en faveur d'enfants concernés par la mobilité*, Terre des hommes, 2010 (French)**

This capitalisation document is a testimony about the interventions of Terre des hommes on the mobility line Zakpota (Benin) – Abeokuta (Nigeria). As well as a repertoire of experiences and best practices, it is a chronological analysis that can serve as institutional memory. It shows lessons learned for each step of the intervention process of Terre des hommes. The report, divided in two parts, emphasises the main steps of the process and gives recommendations for the implementation of the process. The first part concentrates on the intervention before the launching of the process and the situation analysis of an unknown problem. It considers the attempts to develop an intervention approach for a new and unknown issue, that of children mobility. The second part shows the strategies and approaches implemented since the beginning of the project in 2007.

**19. M. Dottridge, *Kids Abroad : Ignore them, abuse them or protect them ? Lessons on how to protect children on the move from being exploited*, TDHIF, 2008 (English)**

[http://www.terredeshommes.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/kids\\_abroad.pdf](http://www.terredeshommes.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/kids_abroad.pdf)

This study focuses on the experience of young people who leave home or travel abroad to seek work or a better life and also on children who are sent away from home by their parents. It explores initiatives which have had the effect of reducing the likelihood that such children will be subjected to economic or sexual exploitation. It sets out to go beyond identifying the situations faced by such children by examining what techniques have proved helpful to children who move away from their families. The study concludes with a series of recommendations. The overall conclusion is that bigger efforts should be made to “prevent migration being unsafe” for young people under 18.

### **III. Participation and community**

**20. M. Dottridge, *Locally-developed child protection practices concerning mobile children in West Africa*, Terre des hommes, 2014 (English and French)**

This report gives information and an analysis of locally-developed protection practices of children on the move regarding the different steps of mobility (departure, transit, destination). The study was carried out in West Africa with a focus on Benin, Burkina Faso, Guinea Conakry, Mali and Togo.

The concept of locally-developed protection practices brings a rupture with the classical practices which bring to the community methods and tools which have been developed outside of the community. The locally-developed protection practices are the practices that the population invents and develops inside the community without any exterior influence.

The report describes the practices, their origin, their framework, their degree of social acceptance, their legal status, their protective efficiency. It also describes the categories of beneficiary children, the places where the practice is carried out, the abuses that were avoided, the role and the intentions of the main actors. Lastly, the author gives recommendations to continue the research and valorisation of the children’s locally-developed protection practices.

**21. Fondation Terre des hommes, Délégation du Burkina Faso, *Saly, Grande Sœur*, 2010 (French)**

<http://www.tdh.ch/en/documents/sally-the-big-sister>

When talking about the protection of girl domestic workers, a distinction can be made between institutional protection practices and more informal, locally-developed child protection practices developed by community actors.

Published by Terre des homes Burkina Faso, this booklet focuses on the phenomenon of girl domestic workers, whose basic rights are often violated. The booklet tells the story of a girl called

Saly, 17 years old and working as a domestic worker, who has become a “Big Sister” for younger girls joining her in the same work. This role of “Big Sister” is an example of a locally-developed child protection practice created by the girls themselves. As such, in an innovating manner, the “Big Sister” practice is a form of peer approach.

**22. A.-B. Imorou, *La participation des enfants et des familles aux stratégies de protection des enfants en situation ou concernés par la mobilité, 2010 (French)***

This document analyses the participation of children and families in the protection strategies for children on the move and highlights the population’s experiences regarding their participation in the protection of children on the move in Benin. The document identifies the strategies, knowledge and practices developed by local actors (communities, parents and children) as well as the protection mechanisms they use when children are moving. The document also analyses to which degree this knowledge by local actors is recognised and taken into account by structures working on the protection of children on the move. As such, the document is of great value as it shares experiences on the participation and implication of communities.

**23. S. (Maurice) Some & I. J. Hema, *Les pratiques endogènes de protection (PEP) des filles migrantes du Sourou travaillant comme domestiques à Ouagadougou, Bobo Dioulasso et Tougan, Terre des hommes, Délégation du Burkina Faso & UNICEF, non publié, 2010 (French)***

This document is the result of a study conducted by Terre des hommes in Burkina Faso in 2010, based on the conviction of the need to share knowledge and strengthen locally-developed child protection practices for girl migrants. The main objective of this study was to identify in a scientific manner those practices that characterise the populations directly implicated in the migration of girls originating from the Sourou region to work as domestic workers in Ouagadougou, Bobo-Dioulasso and Tougan. The document analyses the existing locally-developed protection practices that were identified through the study.

**24. C. E. Komlan, *La prise en compte de l’intérêt supérieur de l’enfant dans les modes opératoires des projets de protection des enfants concernés par les mobilités, Terre des hommes & CNP Togo, 2010 (French)***

This document is the result of a participative and collective process involving a range of child protection actors in Togo, aimed at getting a better understanding of the implementation of the best interest principle in their interventions. Each actor involved has shared examples of projects on which the best interest principle is at the heart of the project. Practical tools to implement the principle complete this document.

**25. R. Traore, *La question des pratiques endogènes de protection et leurs liens avec les systèmes institutionnels de protection des enfants, Terre des hommes & CNP Burkina Faso, 2010 (French)***

This report relates the results of a study that was conducted to enhance the efficiency of child protection interventions by improving decision taking mechanisms, approaches, strategic orientations and team work. The publication allows readers to understand the clear distinction between migration and trafficking of children through an analysis of experiences on protective accompaniment of children and empowerment of children on the move in Burkina Faso.

Among the solutions proposed in this publication are the creation of a permanent structure that can analyse locally-developed child protection practices and institutional protection systems, a stronger implication and ownership of populations in the protection of children, the realisation of a strong

acceptance and openness to changes, a significant decrease in trafficking and worst forms of child labour and a harmonisation of different interventions.

**26. Fondation Terre des hommes, Délégation du Togo, *Les pratiques endogènes de protection et les axes de leur renforcement/valorisation à Terre des hommes Togo, 2009 (French)***

This document presents a summary of locally-developed child protection practices, allowing to put forward this specific type of community-based protection mechanisms. Presented in a table are several locally-developed practices existing or integrated in specific contexts or social groups (families, clans, territorial groups, children's groups, traditional leadership structures, etc.), oriented towards the protection of children according to these actors' values and perceptions. For each practice, the table details activities that can be undertaken to strengthen the practice, indicators, risks, etc.

**27. MAEJT : *Transformer les victimes en acteurs, Jeuda 119, ENDA TM, Dakar, 2008 (English and French)***

French: [http://maejt.org/pdfs/jeuda119\\_2francais.pdf](http://maejt.org/pdfs/jeuda119_2francais.pdf)

English: *From Victims to Actors, Jeuda 119, ENDA Third World, Dakar, 2008*  
[http://maejt.org/page%20anglais/pdfs/jeuda119\\_2english.pdf](http://maejt.org/page%20anglais/pdfs/jeuda119_2english.pdf)

This publication presents the results of a research carried out by the MAEJT (Mouvement Africain des Enfants et Jeunes Travailleurs) in 2007 in five west African countries. It is the result of a dialogue with its partners of the Regional Working Group Against Trafficking (RWOGAT) : Enda Tiers Monde, Save the Children Sweden, Plan, BIT, OIM, Terre des hommes, UNDC and UNICEF.

The first part allows the communities to speak about their perception of several concepts: trafficking, exodus, abuse, exploitation, etc. About a hundred testimonies, told by the children and the communities, illustrate their reasoning about the decision to leave or not, their positions regarding mobility, the reasons to leave, what they gain and the difficulties or consequences. The second part shows the results of the capitalisation/evaluation of the actions against early exodus and trafficking carried out by the MAEJT.

**28. Fondation Terre des hommes, Délégation du Burkina Faso, *Les logeurs: trafiquants ou protecteurs ?*, 2007 (French)**

Through little stories, told by the persons concerned, this booklet tells us about landlords and the situation of girl domestic workers. Landlords are small informal structures that host migrant girls. They respond to the need of accommodation of the girls and help them find a job. The landlord is supposed to protect the girls but the protection is very limited since the girls frequent many places without the landlord being there. Some landlords are also a source of insecurity for the girls.

The booklet has two objectives:

- Create a debate about good and bad practices of landlords, mostly regarding protection of young girls from the Sourou region
- Make the collective reflection progress about roles and responsibilities of landlords regarding child protection or, on the contrary, trafficking, exploitation or abuse of girl domestic workers.

29. M. Dottridge & O. Feneyrol, *Action to strengthen indigenous child protection mechanisms in West Africa to prevent migrant children from being subjected to abuse*, Terre des hommes, 2007 (English)

<http://www.tdh.ch/en/documents/action-to-strengthen-indigenous-child-protection-mechanisms-in-west-africa-to-prevent-migrant-children-from-being-subjected-to-abuse>

Over the past years, countless programmes and projects have been initiated in West Africa to put an end to child trafficking and the various forms of exploitation associated with trafficking to which children are subjected. The authors argue that many of these initiatives have been unsuccessful (or even harmful for children). This article describes a set of activities organised by Terre des hommes and assesses whether they are likely to be more fruitful.

#### IV. Mobility itineraries in West Africa

30. A.-B. Imorou, *Etude sur les itinéraires de migration des enfants en situation de mobilité entre Lomé (Togo) et Cotonou (Bénin)*, Terre des hommes, 2013 (French)

This study report on the itinerary of children on the move between Lomé and Cotonou allows readers to get a better insight in the profile of these children along the Lomé-Cotonou line (their level of education, gender, age, family situation, etc.), the transit areas, the children's reasons to migrate, the risks to which these children are exposed along the way, the specific dynamics of the migratory stream between the two countries, the protection challenges on this stream between the southeast of Togo and Cotonou as well as the existing child protection actors and types of actions conducive to a better protection of children on the move. A specific mapping helps the reader to learn about the itineraries used by children along this stream.

31. MAEJT, *Itinéraires de la réussite ? Mobilité des enfants et jeunes au Bénin, Burkina Faso et Togo*, Jeuda 121, ENDA TM, 2011 (French)

[http://maejt.org/pdfs/jeuda\\_121\\_itineraires.pdf](http://maejt.org/pdfs/jeuda_121_itineraires.pdf)

This publication is a compilation of reports about the itineraries of children on the move. The content gives a better knowledge of mobility, of the communities' dynamics, of the reasons to leave, of the obstacles and of all the protection measures put in place by the communities.

The communities answer three important questions:

- How are the decisions taken regarding migration of the children?
- What is the criteria to choose the routes, what are the risks and forms of security during transit?
- What are the motivations that determine the destination, how do the children perceive their situation?

The cartography show the itineraries of the children between Benin, Burkina Faso and Togo and towards neighbouring countries. It is a tool for the actors in child protection in West Africa.

32. A.-B. Imorou, *Synthèse des résultats des études sur les itinéraires de la mobilité des enfants et des jeunes en Afrique de l'Ouest (Bénin, Burkina Faso et Togo)*, MAEJT, 2010 (French)

This summary report shows the existing links between the three countries regarding mobility, similar practices, the way of thinking of the children and the way their mobility can be supported. The document analyses the different problems encountered by the children. It explains the mobility routes in a regional dimension to show the exchanges between countries, the destinations, the transit routes and the stops during the journey to the country of destination.

**33. C. Nansounon, *Rapport de l'étude sur les itinéraires de la mobilité des enfants/jeunes en Afrique de l'Ouest (cas du Bénin)*, MAEJT, 2010 (French)**

This study has allowed to gain a better view on the migratory routes of children, their destinations and how both itineraries and destinations are chosen by the children. As such, the report offers information on the different stages of the migratory process, the motivations that make children chose or avoid certain transit zones and the motivations behind the decision of children to migrate. The testimonies of children give an insight in the initial migratory project and the way in which the project or the destination sometimes changes along the way.

**34. R. K. Outcha, *Recherche sur les itinéraires de mobilité des enfants et jeunes en Afrique de l'Ouest (Togo)*, MAEJT, 2010 (French)**

In this report, the author identifies the problems encountered by children on the move as expressed by themselves, their itineraries and the reasons why these routes were chosen by the children, as well as the transit and destination areas. The numerous testimonies of children and their communities offer the reader an insight in the people that are involved in child mobility, their role and the importance of mobility in children's lives.

**35. L. Hien, *Etude sur les itinéraires de mobilité des enfants et jeunes au Burkina Faso. Projet régional commun d'étude sur les mobilités des enfants et des jeunes en Afrique de l'Ouest et du centre, Volet capitalisation des expériences*, MAEJT, 2010 (French)**

This document shows information and analyses made by the children themselves concerning their mobility. It shows the most chosen destinations of the children according to their town of origin, the criteria according to which they choose their destination and the persons who play an important role in the financing or preparation of the departure. The protection or violation of the children's rights is also addressed. These elements allow us to understand the pull and push factors of the children's migration.

**36. Terre des hommes, *Rêves et réalités des filles Akébous à Accra*, 2008 (French)**

Akébous is a region of Togo where many children from various places used to travel to. Meanwhile, the stream has inversed itself and the children of Akébous leave, mainly girls. In order to better understand why and how this change of direction took place, Terre des hommes issued this document to show this unknown phenomenon. It gives the reader an opportunity to understand the migration of Akébous girls and to identify true situations in which they are victims. The context in which Akébous girls are brought to leave their families and villages, the journey, life and work conditions are exposed in the first part. The second part of the document shows the possible interventions to diminish the risks leading to trafficking and abusing of young Akébous girls.

**37. Terre des hommes, Délégation du Togo, *Analyse contextuelle du flux Vogan, Lomé*, 2007 (French)**

This document proposes a list of places registered as zones of origin near Vogan (Togo) as well as precise information concerning the role of children in their families and the vulnerability factors. The document exposes the reasons that push the children to leave, what attracts them or what keeps them back and helps to better understand the organisation of the departures, the ways of travel, if they are accompanied or alone. The document describes the lives of the children at destination, the various forms of placement, how they organise themselves, how they get familiar with their new environment, what they learn or which problems they have to face.