

Choose the best option for each blank.

Human trafficking is one of the fastest growing illegal (1) _____ in the world, producing over 50 billion dollars of income every year. The UN (2) _____ that 20 million people from over 130 countries are victims of traffickers. They end up as prostitutes, on construction sites or farm workers. (3) _____ labour is hard to detect because enslaved people are among legal workers. Many cases go unreported because it is often difficult to (4) _____ what forced labour is.



Human trafficking is not only a problem of developing countries. Men and women, adults and children around the world are (5) _____ by so-called labour recruiters who promise them employment and a new life. They are tricked into jobs from which it is difficult to escape. In most cases they give up their passports and other documents, making themselves (6) _____ on their traffickers.

In general, people are trafficked from poorer areas to wealthy countries. However, sometimes people become modern-day slaves within their own country. According to a UN report, the countries most (7) _____ by human trafficking are India, Pakistan and China. The US, Japan and European countries are among the main importers of (8) _____ people.

Traffickers focus on the weakest elements in our society. Children are often kidnapped and turned into child (9) _____ in Africa or brought to developed countries where they work in the sex trade. Recently, traffickers have been (10) _____ on refugees in Middle Eastern countries, promising them work and a new life in Europe.

Human trafficking does not (11) _____ in certain structures. Traffickers can be a husband and wife couple or even a large criminal organisation. Two thirds of all criminals are men, but trafficking has become a popular crime for women because they earn the (12) _____ of young girls more easily.

The United States and other countries around the world are working together with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) to combat human trafficking. Non-governmental organisations are also (13) _____ support and hotlines for victims. More and more countries have high (14) _____ on trafficking. Governments are putting more money into the inspection of workplaces and provide legal protection for victims.

While the global community is slowly realising that human trafficking is a (15) _____ problem, there are many challenges that remain. In many countries, members of the police forces are corrupt and (16) _____ in human trafficking operations. Victims often do not come forward and seek help because they are afraid of being deported back to their home country. In many cases they are unaware of their human rights.