

DATA BRIEF: HUMAN TRAFFICKING TRENDS IN NYARUGENGE

Reporting Period: 2024–2025 | Source: EJO TWIFUZA
Field Operations & Interception Reports



1. THE NYARUGENGE "EPICENTER"

- **Kigali City Overview:** 306 victims were intercepted in Kigali City.
- **Nyarugenge Dominance:** 57% (174 victims) of all Kigali interceptions occurred in Nyarugenge District.
- **National Ranking:** Nyarugenge is the #1 District nationwide for victims' home residency (28 cases), followed by Rubavu (27) and Gasabo (24).

2. VULNERABILITY PROFILE

- **Gender:** 90% of intercepted victims are female.
- **Age:** 85% are youth and children (under age 21).
- **Occupation:** 74% are students recruited through social media or deceptive "job promises."
- **Special Groups:** 5.9% are refugees; 7% are at risk of recruitment by armed groups in the DRC.

3. CRITICAL RISK FACTORS

- **High Seasons:** Trafficking networks peak during January–February and August–December.
- **The Reporting Gap:** Most victims refuse to report to RIB/Police due to:
 - Social stigma (especially in sex trafficking cases).
 - Fear of reprimand for "forced crimes" (illegal migration, theft).
 - Negative past interactions with authorities.
- **Destination Risks:** The **DRC** remains the highest-risk neighboring destination with 24 documented potential cases.

4. SYSTEMIC GAPS & SURVIVOR NEEDS

- **Sidelined Care:** Survivors are often treated only as "evidence" for court. There is an urgent, unmet need for **SRHR services**, including post-rape clinical management and STI services.
- **Post-Transit Vulnerability:** Young girls released from police transit centers are highly susceptible to re-trafficking as they search for immediate work.
- **Legal Gap:** Lack of unified EAC legal responses makes collaborative cross-border investigation difficult.

5. EJO TWIFUZA STRATEGIC RESPONSE

Based on this data, Ejo Twifuza is focusing its **2025/26 Action Plan** on:

1. **Trust-Building:** Acting as a safe bridge between victims and RIB to encourage reporting.
2. **Integrated SRHR:** Providing health-first survivor support alongside legal assistance.
3. **Economic Shielding:** Targeting the 74% student/youth demographic with digital literacy and vocational skills to counter social media recruitment.

6. TRATEGIC JUSTIFICATION OF EJO TWIFUZA INTERVENTIONS

1. Alignment with National Strategy for Transformation (NST2: 2024–2029)

- **Social Transformation Pillar:** By providing Socio-Economic Shielding (vocational training for at-risk youth in Nyamirambo), Ejo Twifuza directly contributes to the goal of "Increasing the share of youth and women gainfully employed."
- **Justice, Peace, and Security Pillar:** Our field data showing that 57% of Kigali's interceptions happen in Nyarugenge makes our "Transit Monitoring" at Nyabugogo a critical security intervention. We support the NST2 goal of "Strengthening the rule of law and ensuring safety and security for all."

2. Support for Nyarugenge District Development Plan (Imihigo)

- **Social Protection Targets:** Our Kitchen Garden project for 250 vulnerable households directly supports the District's target to "Eradicate extreme poverty and stunting among children."
- **Urban Safety:** By identifying "Red Flag" cases in the Muhima and Nyabugogo sectors, we help the District maintain its status as a safe, crime-free commercial hub for the City of Kigali.

3. Realizing President Kagame's Vision (Human Dignity & Self-Reliance)

- **Ndi Umunyarwanda & Dignity (Agaciro):** President Kagame has consistently emphasized that every Rwandan deserves a life of dignity. By rescuing victims from the "stigma of sex trafficking" and providing **SRHR care**, we restore the *Agaciro* of our citizens.
- **Self-Reliance (Kwigira):** Our vocational training moves youth away from dependence on "false job promises" abroad toward **Kwigira**—creating their own opportunities within Rwanda's borders.
- **Accountability:** Our registration as a Data Processor aligns with the President's push for a digital, data-driven, and accountable Rwanda.

4. United Nations Frameworks (UNSDCF 2025–2029)

- **Governance and Peace:** We align with the UN Strategic Priority 1, which focuses on "Strengthening the rule of law and human rights."

- **Refugee Protection:** Our specific tracking of the 5.9% of victims who are **refugees** supports the UN's commitment to "Leave No One Behind."
- **Health & Rights:** By addressing the gap in SRHR and post-rape management, we fulfill the UN's mandate for gender-based violence (GBV) prevention.

5. Contribution to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

- **SDG 5 (Gender Equality):** Addressing the fact that 90% of victims are female through empowerment and protection.
- **SDG 8 (Decent Work):** Eliminating modern slavery, forced labor, and human trafficking (Target 8.7).
- **SDG 16 (Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions):** Building a "trusted bridge" between victims and the Rwanda Investigation Bureau (RIB) to ensure justice

4. EJO TWIFUZA: STRATEGIC POLICY ALIGNMENT (2025–2026)

Global / National Framework	Core Objective	Ejo Twifuza's Direct Intervention
NST2 (2024–2029)	Social Transformation & Security	Securing the Nyabugogo Hub (57% of Kigali interceptions) and restoring victim dignity through SRHR care.
President Kagame's Vision	Agaciro (Dignity) & Kwigira	Moving youth from "false job promises" to Self-Reliance via vocational training in Nyamirambo/Rwezamenyo.
Nyarugenge Imihigo	Social Protection & Urban Safety	Eradicating stunting via Kitchen Gardens (250 HH) and referring "Red Flag" trafficking cases to RIB.
UN Framework (UNSDCF)	Justice, Peace & Human Rights	Bridging the gap for refugees (5.9% of victims) and providing clinical management for GBV survivors.
SDG 5 & SDG 8.7	Gender Equality & Ending Slavery	Targeting the 90% female victim demographic and dismantling trafficking networks in high-risk seasons.
Law No. 058/2021	Data Protection & Privacy	Registered Data Processor with NCSA; ensuring secure, stigma-free management of sensitive victim data.