

Protecting and Empowering Victims of Trafficking in Indonesia (EMPOWER)



UN Trust Fund for Human Security



Fast Facts

Country: Indonesia

Duration: September 2011 to August 2013

Implementing UN Agencies: IOM; UNFPA; WHO

Other Implementing Partners: National ministries; provincial authorities; CSOs

Budget: \$2,357,798.30

Key Words: Human trafficking; health; access to justice; capacity-building; improved governance; early warning systems; women; children

BACKGROUND

Trafficking in persons is a critical global human security challenge, directly undermining people's rights, livelihoods and dignity. Indonesia is a major source country for women, children and men who are subjected to sex trafficking and forced labour, with estimates on the number of victims ranging from 100,000 to 1 million persons annually. Over the past decade the Government of Indonesia has demonstrated a clear commitment to address human trafficking. In

2007, the Government adopted an anti-trafficking law, criminalizing both cross-border and domestic trafficking as well as providing comprehensive protection for victims of human trafficking. However, due to lack of awareness within source communities, complex and under-regulated migration procedures, as well as insufficient law enforcement the trafficking of vulnerable people remains a persistent challenge.

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The overall goal of the project is to contribute to Indonesia's efforts to fight trafficking in persons by strengthening the capacity of the Government and civil society to protect and empower victims of trafficking as well as preventing vulnerable persons from being trafficked. Specifically, the project seeks to: (i) strengthen the capacity of key state and non-state actors in Indonesia and main countries of

destination and transit to protect and empower victims of trafficking (VoT); (ii) empower and protect VoTs through provision of victim assistance; (iii) strengthen capacity of key government agencies to address public as well as individual health risks associated with trafficking in persons; and (iv) prevent trafficking in persons in targeted high-risk villages through awareness raising and capacity building.

BENEFICIARIES

The project aims to enhance the capacity of provincial and local authorities, and where appropriate, national authorities as well as non-state actors to combat trafficking in three provinces identified as key source and transit areas: West Java, West Kalimantan, and West Nusa Tenggara. The direct beneficiaries include

500 victims of trafficking (80% women, 20% men, 75% adults, 25% children), 10,000 vulnerable households, 300 law enforcement officers, 300 social service providers, 100 health workers, as well as 15 Government and civil society service providers from different destination countries.



APPLYING THE HUMAN SECURITY APPROACH

By placing people and the conditions in which they live at the centre of analysis, the human security approach not only focuses on the physical safety of the victims, but also addresses the root causes behind human trafficking. Accordingly, the human security approach highlights the interlinkages between migration, poverty, governance and education in the context of an increasingly interconnected world. In doing so, it promotes comprehensive strategies based on partnership and regional cooperation.

In this regard, the project promotes cooperation between policymakers and service providers at the local, national and regional levels. At the local level, a victim assistance fund has been established to facilitate the return, recovery and reintegration of victims of trafficking. This is complimented by initiatives at the national level that strengthen the capacity of State actors to meet the minimum requirements for providing services to victims of trafficking. Furthermore, work is underway to improve the capacity of judicial and law enforcement officers to collect and manage information on trafficking, and to monitor the implementation of the Minimum

Standard Service and Trafficking Bill. Meanwhile, the project brings together actors from across the region to build their capacities, enhance regional coordination, and share best practices and lessons learned on protecting victims of trafficking.

The project's implementation strategy is built around the protection and empowerment framework of the human security approach. This helps identify gaps in the existing infrastructure to combat human trafficking. Through training on victim assistance, Government agencies and service providers can better understand the needs of victims and, as a result, will be able to provide the required context-specific health, rehabilitation and legal protection needed. These top-down protection mechanisms are accompanied by mutually reinforcing bottom-up empowerment measures. Subsequently, working groups are being established in 30 villages to empower at-risk communities with knowledge on human trafficking and safe migration, and to raise awareness among vulnerable women and girls on how to seek support in case of trafficking.