

Combating Human Trafficking in the Mekong



UN Inter-Agency Project on Trafficking in Women and Children in the Mekong Sub-region A Concert?



No, no, it is an advocacy campaign in Sayabouly Province, Lao PDR. Mr. Onevong Keobounnavong, National Project Coordinator for Laos and his staff recently started field research to find out patterns of trafficking. The first two provinces for the research were in Saravane and Sayabouly. Onevong and his team took on a daunting challenge to visit almost every household in eight villages to ascertain details of the labor out migration patterns in the two provinces (see photo below for his team members).

The UN Inter-Agency Project aims to reduce trafficking of women and children in the Mekong Sub-region through improving national and regional co-ordination, identifying and filling gaps in programme implementation and adding value to existing programmes. It includes Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, Viet Nam and Yunnan Province of China and is supported by the UN Foundation (Ted Turner Fund) and AusAID.

April 2001, Mouangva village, Paklai District, Sayabouly Province

An initial scoping exercise undertaken by the team prior to this research had moved away from the traditional focus provinces such as Savannakhet and Cham-

passack. The team felt that, although migration from these provinces was extensive, well-established networks and family connections served to reduce the risk of migrants ending up in highly exploitative situations. Instead, the team chose to focus on the less fashionable areas of Sayabouly and Saravane where migrants, particularly those from ethnic minorities, appeared to have much less understanding of the realities of migrating for work.

The research findings suggest that the word trafficking is sensitive, a topic no one talks about in public. It is, however, a topic to which everyone's interest is directed. The destination for migration is Thailand. It is common for many Lao to watch Thai TV, which exposes them to Thai culture and consumer market. A large economic discrepancy that lies between the two countries only contributes to increase the incentives for Lao migrant workers to come to Thailand. Yet, no one talks publicly about this phenomenon.



TWC Lao field research team: from left, Mr. Vongkham, Mr. Nouphone, Mr. Onevong, Ms. Nuansone, Ms. Bouthsaphayvan, Mr. Somesaniith, Ms. Peng, and Mr. Bounsern

Rather than focus solely on research, however, Onevong's team took the opportunity to begin the process of raising awareness. Prior to the field visit, the team had interviewed a group of Lao girls who were repatriated from Thailand. Their interviews, captured on video (with faces blanked out), tell details of how they experienced working in Thailand. Most of girls said the experience was not how they pictured in the beginning. They were engaged in various types of work: massage parlour, bars, beauty salon, garment and food factory, domestic service, and construction work. The interview tape was shown to the 400 people of Sayabouly in an evening. Almost everyone in the village came to watch the tape and learned the girls' experiences. This turned around villagers' usually all positive image of working in Thailand. Onevong and his staff held the microphone to answer questions from the villagers. Many villagers said they have never found out what happens to their friends and families after departing Laos and it was very important to learn the realistic experiences of the girls. Villagers requested the team to come back with more information. The video show was unexpectedly well received marking the beginning of the Lao TWC unit's national advocacy campaign on trafficking. In the meantime, the Lao team is working on compiling all the research data. Their report will be finalized shortly.

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Notice Board

Recent Publications/ Working Papers

HRD-ESCAP

Youth in Thailand: A Review of the Youth Situation and National Programmes

Youth in Viet Nam: A Review of the Youth Situation and National Policies and Programmes

Also available for Philippines and Malaysia

As part of an ESCAP HRD project, entitled "Capacity-building in HRD policy-making for youth in Asia and the Pacific", four monographs on the youth situation in different countries have been produced. The monographs suggest three key issues in providing a voice for youth in society: access and benefit, ability to influence and equity. It is hoped that these monographs will encourage at the local, national, and regional levels the inclusion of young people in decision-making processes and project implementation.

Each monograph has six chapters. The first chapter on Youth and Development provides an overview of youth participation in national development followed by a review of the national youth policy and programmes. Each of the next three chapters on education, health, and employment begin with an analysis of policy and programmes in the concerned area, followed by a quantitative/qualitative analysis on relevant youth issues. The chapter on Youth Participation highlights the various youth organizations operating in the country followed by a section that presents youth issues through their own voice. The final chapter presents conclusions and recommendations for further action.

Phil Marshall's paper on "Globalization, Migration and Trafficking: Some Thoughts from the South-East Asian Region," presented at OHCHR's Globalisation Workshop in Kuala Lumpur recently, can be obtained from IAP Management Office (email: nuankae.wongthawatchai@un.or.th, Tel: 288-2213).

UNDP South East Asia HIV and Development

New Challenges and Opportunities? Communication for HIV and Development

This paper challenges the conventional wisdom in sectoral communication strategies by pointing out opportunities for communication experts to collaborate with the development sector and HIV/AIDS experts in devising effective communication that addresses root causes related to HIV epidemics and development.

Our Families, Our Friends: an Action Guide

HIV/AIDS touches all sector of society. To effectively build resilience to withstand the impact of HIV/AIDS, it requires joint efforts by every member of the family and community. Mae Chan, Thailand, is a community that rose to the challenge and demonstrated the power of people who worked together: health care team, monks, teachers, youth and local authorities. UNDP-SEAHIV has the honour of documenting and preparing the Mae Chan community's response as a user-friendly manual to stimulate more communities around the world to accept the challenges of HIV/AIDS by strengthening the community-at-large.

GAATW

Human Rights and Trafficking in Persons: a Handbook

Provides an introduction to the concepts of human rights and trafficking in persons, and a guide to the international human rights instruments relevant to trafficking. The Handbook also shows how to use the human rights framework in developing strategies to address the issue of trafficking.

UNAIDS

Putting Knowledge to Work: Technical Resource Networks for Effective Responses to HIV/AIDS (May 2001)

Caring for Carers: Managing Stress in Those Who Care for People with HIV and AIDS (May 2001)

Migrant's Right to Health (April 2001)

UNAIDS Fact Sheet: Gender and HIV (April 2001)

AIDS, Poverty Reduction and Debt Relief: A Toolkit for Mainstreaming HIV/AIDS Programmes into Development Instruments (March 2001)

AIDS in the Context of Development – Joint UNRISD/UNAIDS paper (February 2001)

Please visit <http://www.unaids.org/whatsnew/newadds/index.html>

ESCAP and Inter-Agency Project Kick Off the “Brown Bag Lunch” Series to Promote Human Security in Asia and the Pacific

The international community is placing increasing importance on the concept of human security, as illustrated by the overwhelming attendance at the first discussion in a series of “Brown Bag Lunches” held early 2001. The event was jointly organized by the ESCAP Human Resources Development (HRD) Section and the United Nations Inter-agency Project on Combating Trafficking in Women and Children in the Mekong Subregion.

A diverse group of seventy-nine people from United Nations agencies, embassies, law enforcement agencies, and non-governmental organizations attended the lunch to hear a presentation by Mr Sandro Calvani, United Nations Representative for Drug Control and Crime Prevention for East Asia and the Pacific, on “The role of law enforcement in combating drug and human trafficking.”

Human security is an issue of the 21st century, reflecting the reality that, as increases in armed conflicts, terrorism, drug trafficking and large-scale refugee exodus continue, individual security has been steadily declining. The concept of human security, as advocated by the Secretary-General in his Report to the Millennium Summit, reflects an increasing shift in the security paradigm of the international system from a focus on the security of the state to the security of the individual human being.

Advancing human security as a policy goal thus entails promotion and protection of two distinct but interwoven dimensions of freedoms: “freedom from want” and “freedom from fear.” Although there are numerous threats to human security, including poverty, hunger, disease, environmental degradation, violence, crime, illicit drugs, etc., their intensity and impact differ from one country to another. Human security can be promoted most effectively in countries where good governance prevails, as collaborative efforts between government, NGOs and civil society are necessary to counter these threats.

It was against this backdrop that Mr Calvani spoke of the scope, intensity, and sophistication of crime as a threat to human security and the very foundation of civil society. “Poverty, displacement of people, internal strife, armed political conflict, and economic marginalization are great enabling environments for drugs and human trafficking to grow stronger,” he said, calling on the international community to mobilize to address these issues that affect people’s rights, safety, and lives.

Mr Calvani noted that civil society actors must be engaged in the protection of human security, not just law enforcement agencies. Thus, although the police are an important element in the fight

against drug and human trafficking, the judiciary is a key component, as well as NGOs and the private sector.

Recognizing that most countries do not have adequate policies and national legal frameworks to deal with trafficking of humans and drugs, Mr Calvani reviewed the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and two of its Protocols (The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air) as a means of balancing the needs of law enforcement and the protection of victims.

The presentation concluded with strong advocacy for strategic and international cooperation efforts to effectively control trafficking of drugs and humans, thereby contributing to the enhancement of human security in the Asia-Pacific region.

The aim of the “Brown Bag Lunch” series is to promote public awareness and advocacy on issues related to human security. The next Brown Bag Lunch featured Mr. Jean-Luc Lemahieu, UNDCP Representative in Myanmar, as speaker. A report will be provided in the next issue.



Dr. Sandro Calvani, UN Representative for Drug Control and Crime Prevention for East Asia and the Pacific, delivering his presentation on 18 January 2001.

ESCAP-HRD

UNDCP reports:

- * Representing 8 per cent of the world trade, the estimated global illicit drug trade is worth US \$ 400 billion and supplies approximately 200 million customers.
- * Approximately 27 million people around the world are subjected to slavery or slave-like conditions. Slaves are readily available for rent, lease or sale by credit card.
- * It is estimated that the human trafficking industry generates US\$ 5-7 billion each year.
- * Organized crime syndicates gross US\$ 1.5 trillion a year and represent a major economic power that rivals multinational corporations.

SURAC - the Two for One Committee

If we are to properly deal with language and cultural barriers, processes need to be more lengthy than currently envisaged - there is a need to work with donors on this issue.

On Saturday 27 January 2001, fifteen persons from across the Mekong sub-Region with a wide range of expertise and experience in combating trafficking in children and women met in the first Sub Regional Advisory Committee (SURAC) meeting. SURAC is a joint effort between the UN Inter-Agency Project and the ILO-IPEC / GENPROM Sub-regional project to combat trafficking in children and women. As both projects are complementary, and as both call for a "think tank"-like body to advise them, it was agreed that a joint body would ensure better use of expertise and inter-agency exchange of information.

The role of SURAC is to provide advice and guidance on main interventions to combat trafficking in children and women, including areas as wide as education and training, awareness raising and mobilization, data collection and information sharing, economic development and employment creation, legislation and law enforcement. It also provides the opportunity for stimulating thinking on sub-regional initiatives, including work with sub-regional bodies such as ASEAN and the ADB.

The subject of trafficking in children and women for labour exploitation is a complex one and a wide range of issues were discussed in this first meeting. These included getting a better understanding of the issue of trafficking itself; looking at the type of interventions, including issues of approach such as participation, community development, and advocacy; identifying gaps in research and information; and looking at how to measure impact and evaluate pilot projects to identify and document lessons learnt and good practices. The meeting was an opportunity to establish the framework for future work of SURAC.

Salient points raised during the meeting included: ¹

In relation to understanding the issue:

- Trafficking involves several typologies so a varied response is required. There's a range of different end uses for trafficking including sexual exploitation, sweatshop labour, begging, domestic and small-scale agricultural

work, adoption, forced brides, drug couriers, etc. Levels of exploitation vary, as well as modes of recruitment and/or transport, and target groups. Causes are multiple and might in some cases be better termed "probabilities" than causes.

- We should beware of a possible gap between understanding on how we define trafficking and how it is understood by communities. "Traffickers" are often seen as friends and go-betweens who help find people employment.
- There should be clarity on addressing the demand-side: addressing sexual exploitation requires different approaches compared to domestic work or other forms of cheap labour.

In relation to Interventions:

- It is good to focus on prevention rather than cure but what does an effective preventive programme look like? Also, what is being prevented? Is it cheap labour which is a comparative advantage of the sub-region.
- Prevention and reintegration sometimes overlap because children in particular are often re-trafficked.

In relation to Impact and Evaluation:

- Good practices are often person dependent and worst practices structurally dependent: Worst cases should also be documented.
- Studies on return and (re) integration should cover a long time-frame.
- We should build impact assessment during the project design phase, including provision for assessment several years after project completion.

In relation to Participation:

- The time frame of many projects does not allow for real participation. If we are to properly deal with language and cultural barriers, processes need to be more lengthy than currently envisaged – there is a need to work with donors on this issue.
- How do we promote participation beyond our projects, in terms of for example, citizenship and land tenure? Both these issues, which have critical implication for trafficking,

remain unresolved after many years.

- There is a need for integrated approaches involving participation of village groups, armed forces, private sector, survivors, children (with sensitivity). This could include running seminars with parallel meetings, and would show that the process was different.
- People along the borders without nationality is a serious concern – ultimately people with citizenship are unable to participate fully in society. Both citizenship and land tenure, which have critical implication for trafficking, remain unresolved after many years.

In relation to Government Policies:

- Government policies are non-unitary and often conflict: It is not uncommon for child protection laws to conflict with anti-prostitution law, immigration laws and criminal laws. A more holistic perspective on trafficking is regarded for instance acknowledging the links between trafficking and minority issues, migration/immigration issues and even fertility rates. As such, TICW concerns need to be mainstreamed/integrated into other government interventions – not just criminal law but also civil, labour, and education related laws.
- Migration policies should aim at regularizing migration, and where possible should be linked to labour market policies. It should be recognized that labour migration will continue in situations of economic disparity and that cheap migrant labour can benefit both sending and receiving countries. Political and social problems in the sub-region contribute to illegal migration for employment.

In relation to Research (gaps) and information:

- Study on the extent of conflicting government policies to identify measures that would increase the cohesion of overall government policy.
- Review of the quality of law enforcement including prosecutions, staff selection prac-

tices, incentives and rewards – it would be very useful, for example, to assess the effects of extremely high number of prosecutions in China.

- As many people migrate first and are trafficked later, there is a need to look at what went into the decisions around leaving villages – such decisions are often rational given the range of choices and information.
- There was inadequate ac-

cess/dissemination of research findings (also in local languages).

In relation to Community Development:

- Community-based interventions should be combined with high level political mobilization.
- There is a need to look at and capitalize on what traditional resources (including self-help mecha-

nisms and functional laws) people have.

- It is sometimes more important to exploited migrants that they get paid rather than that the perpetrators get punished.

Herve Berger
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TICW - Project

¹For a complete record of the meeting outcome read the summary of meeting notes. Copies can be obtained with ILO-IPC TIC/W Project office (email: kwantawan@ilobkk.or.th, tel: 288-2218).

ILO-IPEC Product Lines

Following the SURAC meeting, ILO-IPEC put together a range of product lines. It is envisaged that various product lines will be developed with other UN agencies. Discussions on joint efforts are ongoing with IOM and firm commitment on joint product development has been made with ESCAP-HRD and UNIAP. These are currently in different stages of development and include:

Migration, labour markets and employment

The output will be a policy paper on suggested ways and opportunities to regularize migration flows within the Mekong sub-region, informing at risk communities better pre-departure, and protecting them better at the workplace (sector specific - in particular construction work, domestic work, plantation work, and the entertainment sector). The paper will be used as a basis for discussion in a meeting of experts, and in a political meeting at sub-regional level.

Alternatives to trafficking for labour exploitation

A study is to be prepared on number of sub-fields including education and training, and income generating alternatives. The study will be based on: (1) a desk review of interesting lessons learnt in each of these 'sub' fields; followed (2) by field research in Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Viet Nam, and Yunnan province of China to analyze ongoing or completed projects in the sub-fields; (3) Field findings and desk review will result in a recommended sets of points and/or checklists to consider when combating traffick-

ing through any of these sub-fields (with a particular focus on application in rural source areas of trafficking).

Gender equality promotion

A capacity building training manual for use in 11 Asian countries and training of partners resulting in a lists of concerns, bottle-necks, opportunities and recommendations by country, and a list of good practices to date will be developed.

Networking, co-ordination, and cross-border arrangements

A study in the Mekong sub region on lessons learnt and good practices with regards to horizontal and vertical co-ordination, including case illustrations of good practices, and a check list for action.

Working with and through workers & employers

A study to be undertaken (and co-ordinated by the IPEC -SEA office) on potentials for workers and employers organizations in the combat of trafficking. Issues to be covered include: data collection, awareness raising, monitoring of working conditions, job placement, and good practice promotion. Results to be used during the ILO Asia regional meeting in October 2001.

Legislation

Have national laws and enforcement practices versus international standards documented by country, distribute widely among co-ordinating bodies including National Steering Committees and PM's office, and lobby for follow-up.

Advocacy and the media

Studies (by country) on how to make the media an effective partner in changing policy and attitudes in society - based on successful cases with illustrations of good practices in other fields such as CRC, and AIDS. Part of the study should focus on obtaining the potential of buying services of professional PR companies free of cost. The end result should be used to initiate national level advocacy campaigns.

Psycho-social counseling and trauma treatment

Development of training materials by ESCAP-HRD (including TOT) to build in-country capacity and systems to deal with this issue for victims of trafficking that return 'home'. Trainees will be identified by the national project staff of the ILO-IPEC TICW-project.

These product lines will be developed in the coming four months and are meant to provide useful material not only for National Project Coordinators and implementing agencies, but also for a broader group of organisations taking part in combating trafficking in children and women for labour exploitation. Finally, it is hoped that it will also be a small contribution to the upcoming Second World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children to be held in Yokohama this December.

Herve Berger
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Beyond Trafficking Jams: Creating a Space for Trafficked Women

By Jackie Pollock

“While I was a sex-worker on the street having to resort to drugs to get through another day, sleeping rough and being exposed to all forms of abuse, society pitied me; but as soon as I got control of my life and work and became an escort with a good salary and safe conditions, society despised me.”

Current responses to the trafficking of women include law enforcement measures to stop the traffickers or to rescue the women from their traffickers state; assistance to women who have been rescued; and prevention programs aimed at educating communities and young women about the dangers of trafficking. Unfortunately, they fail to challenge the existence of trafficking or to support a movement of women in occupations associated with trafficking.

Prevention programs by their very name are limiting and narrowly focused. If a program's objective is to prevent girls being trafficked, the success of the program can be measured by the numbers of girls trafficked or not. The fate of those girls who have not been trafficked becomes immaterial. The fact that they are left on the farm with no land rights, or that they are working in factories for less than the minimum wage, often with dangerous chemicals, is not important.

Are we really satisfied with only preventing our daughters from being trafficked? If girls could access education which empowered them, which gave them confidence and understanding, they would not only be less vulnerable to traffickers, but they would also be more able to fulfill their potential and to contribute to the future of their country in a creative, dynamic way.

Women are most commonly trafficked to be housemaids, sex-workers or wives. It is no coincidence that these are all types of work that are rarely recognized as work. They are forms of labor that are not acknowledged in labor laws, have no occupational protection, no job security and no unions.

“In addition,” says Ms. Radical Coomaraswamy, the United Nations' Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women, “the illegal or semi-legal nature of the work form the basis for forced, servile and exploitative working conditions, varying from humiliating treatment, low payment and extreme working hours to bonded labor or forced labor”-an ideal breeding ground for traffickers.

Women who work as domestic workers or as sex-workers are outraged when they discover that a colleague has been trafficked, or when young children are forced to work; but there are no channels open to them to report these abuses. If domestic work were recognized as work and conditions were regulated; if prostitution were decriminalized and the conditions were set, it might be a whole different story. But that would demand supporting a movement of women in jobs considered unworthy of support. It would require negotiations between sex-workers and policymakers, between housemaids and employers. It would require a sense of equality and respect.

There is currently a great demand for the testimonies of trafficked women, and a space is being provided for individual women to stand up and tell their horrendous stories. Everyone who listens knows that the exploitation is wrong, but the strongest emotion that is evoked is pity. And pity for a victim rarely transforms into admiration for an assertive, demanding survivor. As one sex-worker once put it: “While I was a sex-worker on the street having to resort to drugs to get through another day, sleeping rough and being exposed to all forms of abuse, society pitied me; but as soon as I got control of my life and work and became an escort with a good salary and safe conditions, society despised me.”

Individual testimonies may raise the awareness of the unaware, may provide a voice for a few women, but they do little at this time to support women in organizing themselves. The reality of trafficking and responses to it today mean that only a handful of women can possibly give testimonies. Imagine a trafficked Burmese sex-worker trying to leave her host country to give testimony in the United States. Unless either or both countries were willing to provide her travel documents, to guarantee safety and protection and possibly residence, it is impossible, it is not safe, it is not legal.

On the other hand, supporting a space for women to come together locally could be negotiated to ensure safety and legal protection: a space where women could

share their experiences, could explore responses to their situation. If groups of women all around each country were supported for this space, they could lobby the host government for space nationally. Their allies, the non-trafficked sex-workers, proficient already in the use of the Internet, could easily relay their demands to Washington or anywhere else in the world.

Supporting a space may seem abstract. But a space is not a vacuum.

Maids are often isolated, but they also meet, sometimes at the market, sometimes at functions where they are looking after the children of their employers, sometimes at the temple or church. Maids have their networks. Supporting these meeting spaces, these networks could have concrete results. Recognition of their work in labor laws and rights would allow for domestic workers to tackle the injustices they and their trafficked colleagues suffer.

Sex-workers already live in a community of sex-workers. They already meet every day. Supporting their communities and decriminalizing their work so they can legally meet in other spaces and stand up as workers with equal rights would be a positive step to reducing the power of the trafficker.

Where there is space, there is movement; and movement allows women to work together to go far beyond their individual stories and to tackle the political, economic and social issues that they face. If trafficking is a modern form of slavery, the answer does not lie in occasional rescues or testimonies; it lies in a movement of labor rights and human rights. We do not want responses that merely jam the traffic temporarily: we want to response that put the women in the driver's seat.

Jackie Pollock has worked for many years with the Empower Foundation, a non-governmental organization.

From THE IRRAWADDY, Vol.9.No.2, February 2001

ESCAP and ILO Sign Cooperation Framework

On 23 January 2001, the executive heads of ESCAP and the ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific signed a Cooperation Framework, marking a turning point in their collaboration, and signaling the commitment of both agencies to a closer working relationship in the field of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of women, children and youth.

The Framework will bring together the ESCAP project to combat sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children and youth in the Greater Mekong Subregion through HRD and the ILO-IPEC project to combat trafficking in children and women in the Greater Mekong Sub-region.

Mr Kim Hak-Su, Under Secre-

tary-General and Executive Secretary, ESCAP, noted that this Cooperation Framework was in keeping with the Secretary General's reform programme, which calls upon members of the United Nations system to work together to achieve greater impact in promoting United Nations' policies and programmes.

Mr Yasuyuki Nodera, ILO Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific, echoed Mr Kim's support for the Framework, noting that each agency's area of expertise would be brought together for the common goals of combating trafficking in the Subregion. In particular, the Framework aims to combine ESCAP's comparative advantage in the provision of training on psychosocial and medical services for health and social

service personnel with ILO-IPEC's strong strategic alliances and national-level networks of key partners.

Both Mr Kim and Mr Nodera noted the value of cooperation in enhancing each agency's on-going work in the field of trafficking in, and sexual exploitation of, children, youth and women. They also noted the strong working relationship that has been developed between the ILO-IPEC Trafficking Project and the ESCAP HRD project, through bilateral consultations as well as through the United Nations Inter-agency Working Group on Trafficking in Women and Children.



Mr Kim Hak-Su, Executive Secretary of ESCAP and Mr Yasuyuki Nodera, Regional Director, Asia Pacific Region, ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific after signing the Cooperation Framework.

ESCAP-HRD

Useful Links



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| Development and Peace | http://www.devp.org |
| Human Rights Watch | http://www.hrw.org |
| Migration Forum in Asia | http://migrantnet.pair.com/index.html |
| Oxfam | http://www.oxfam.org.uk |
| World Vision International | http://www.wvi.org |
| Save the Children UK | http://www.savethechildren.net |
| The Protection Project | http://www.protectionproject.org |

Asia Regional Resource Center for Human Rights Education
<http://www.hr-alliance.org>

European Research Centre on Migration & Ethnic Relations
<http://www.ercomer.org>

International Law Enforcement Academy-Bangkok
<http://www.ileabangkok.com>

International Movement Against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism
<http://www.imadr.org>

International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women
<http://un-instraw.org>

UN Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/21sess.htm>

The Delegation of the European Commission
<http://www.deltha.cec.eu.int>



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Editor's Notes

The Newsletter is published four times a year by the UN Inter-Agency Project on Trafficking in Women and Children in the Mekong Sub-region. The views expressed in the Newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or the Project.

WE ARE ON THE WEB!
WWW.UN.OR.TH

What's coming Up?

| Date and Venue | Title/Activity | Organization |
|---|--|---|
| Mid-June 2001 | Regional Juvenile Justice Conference and Meeting of Child Protection Office | UNICEF, Bangkok EAPRO |
| 19-21 June 2001 Vientiane | 10th Conference on the Forum on Cambodia, Laos and Viet Nam: Improving Partnership for Poverty Alleviation and Sustainable Development | Fund for Reconciliation and Development |
| 16-17 July 2001 Thailand | Gender and Reproductive Health (RH) Counseling | Khon Kaen University |
| 20-31 August 2001 Thailand | Training on Quality of Care (QOC) in Reproductive Health (RH) | Ministry of Public Health, Nonthaburi |
| September 2001 New York | UN Special Session on Children | World Conference Secretariat, OHCHR |
| 5-10 October 2001 Melbourne, Australia | 6th International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific | UNAIDS |
| 16-18 October 2001 Bangkok | East Asia and Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Second World Congress Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children | ESCAP-HRD |
| 17-20 December 2001 Yokohama | A Second World Congress Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children | The Japanese Government ECPAT International UNICEF The NGO Group for the Convention on the rights of the child |



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