

## **Counter Trafficking in Persons (CTIP)**

# CTIP-Trained Motor Dop Network Helps Another Victim

T.S., a 39 year-old woman from Koh Kong border province near the South of Thailand, wanted to migrate to earn a decent wage. She decided to go to Thailand and contacted a broker who told her and other migrants that they would work there as cleaners for 350 Baht per day (around USD 10).

However, the broker took her money and forced her to work in an iron manufacturing factory where she worked hard day and night, only to realize that she would not receive any salary after one month. Food was scarce. When she asked the broker to change jobs, he sent her to work in a similar job.

Realizing the false promises of the broker, she escaped and returned to Cambodia. At the border of Koh Kong, a member of the CTIP-trained motor dop network approached her and referred her to CTIP partner Healthcare Center for Children (HCC) for assistance.

HCC has established a provincial network of motorbike taxi drivers in this border area who are regularly trained about victim identification and how to collaborate with NGOs to refer potential victims for support. The drivers also spread information to migrants and community members about safe migration and accessible services where migrants can be protected and claim their rights and justice.

# "Thanks to the support of USAID-funded program CTIP, I now have better perspectives for my future," says T.S.

T.S. stayed at HCC's shelter for two nights to recuperate from her journey before going back to her community. HCC provided her with medical support, psychological counselling and transportation to her community. CTIP also interviewed her to understand her needs and trained her on how to raise chickens and ducks. After returning to her com-



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munity, a USAID-funded business grant allowed her to buy 16 ducks, 16 chickens, and material to produce sugar cane juice. She is now developing her business and all animals are quickly growing.



# **CTIP Facts and Figures (2011-2015)**

## Number of survivors/victims assisted

- 726 survivors of labor trafficking
- 80 survivors of sex trafficking
- 141 survivors of labor exploitation
  Assistance and Services Provided
- 514 survivors were repatriated
- 618 survivors received psychosocial counseling
- 429 survivors received legal counseling
- 91 survivors assisted have filed a complaint against perpetrator
- 51 survivors have received vocational and livelihood training
- 215 survivors were reintegrated
- 114 survivors were provided with business grants and life start-up grants
- \* Figures updated to December 30, 2014

# PeakMi Uses their Artistry to Fight against Human Trafficking

During Anti-Human Trafficking Day celebrated on December 12 in Siem Reap Province, CTIP invited the popular CTN comic show team of PeakMi for a special show on safe migration. The comedians informed the cheerful audience about the risks of illegal migration and the procedure to legally migrate to Thailand, and explained how to take an informed decision about migration.



# CTIP-Trained Commune Police Cooperate with Anti-Human Trafficking Police in Raid against Massage Parlor

Part of CTIP's strategy to increase the prosecution of human trafficking cases is to train commune police about the issue and encourage them to report cases that arise. Last July, a CTIP-trained police officer from the commune of Stoeng Veng Koh Kong province reported a massage parlor that he suspected of facilitating paid sexual services. Thanks to his report, the Office of Anti-Human Trafficking and Juvenile Projection (OAHT&JP) conducted a preliminary investigation which revealed that the massage parlor indeed carried on such activities.

The OAHT&JP consequently worked together with the commune police of Stoeng Veng to conduct a raid on the massage parlor. During the search, the police found evidence that the massage parlor had indeed provided sexual services to clients, including a book recording expenses and revenues of four sex workers. The sex workers, identified as victims of human trafficking, explained to the police that the owners of the parlor kept 50% of the money they received for each sexual service. The two suspects recognized the facts and also admitted running a karaoke. They have now been charged with procuring and pimping under article 288 of the Cambodian Criminal Code and are under pre-trial detention. The chief of administration police stations, the district inspector and the head of the OAHT&JP have all expressed that they have cooperated well while working on the case. The CTIP-trained police officer also confirmed that his subordinates and the chief of the administration police station had properly referred the case to his level for further action. The actions of the police and their strong cooperation indicate that they are applying what they have learned from CTIP training.

# Tragedy of Human Trafficking Highlighted in New CTIP Film

CTIP has just launched a new film depicting the pain and suffering caused by human trafficking. "Bride with a Price Tag" is the story of a human trafficking survivor who was lured into a marriage with a wealthy man in China and ended up being enslaved. Her story is not an isolated case. In 2014, at least 30 women have returned to Cambodia fleeing abusive marriages in China. CTIP supported 18 of these victims with a variety of services, including repatriation, legal aid, and reintegration assistance.

However, supporting the victims is not always an easy task. More intergovernmental cooperation between China and Cambodia is needed. Indeed, there is no repatriation and support mechanism at the moment for the victims. The consular support they receive is limited. Both governments should sign a bilateral agreement on human trafficking. NGOs of both sides of the border should also work more collaboratively. Finally, strong judiciary processes are needed in order to prosecute the perpetrators.

You can watch the video on https://www.youtube.com

directly download it from CTIP's Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/CTIP2

/watch?v=PNfqa08vYFo. or



# A Young Pillar of Strength Valued by her Peers

Tchouen Phana is just 18 years old, but she is mature beyond her years. Phana is one member of the Siem Reap Community Youth Network (CYN) trained by CTIP's partner Khmer Youth Association (KYA) to promote safe migration and fight against human trafficking in the country. She takes her volunteering work to heart! Her areas of specialization are the small group discussions that she organizes in communities and her participation in commune council meetings. Indeed, CYN members participate in these meetings to advocate putting human trafficking and safe migration on the commune's agenda. The task is not always easy because at first, volunteers are underestimated due to their age. KYA helps them to overcome this obstacle by helping them develop skills to speak publicly and organize and lead during the regular USAID-funded training. Phana now cooperates well with local authorities who consider her as a valuable actor in society – and for good reason.

She has been advising many of her fellow villagers on migration. Any doubt? Just ask her the question. One day, an under-aged girl expressed her will to migrate abroad using the ID card of her sister, who was of age. Phana tried to dissuade her by highlighting the risks she might run in following this quite



well-known and widespread practice in Cambodia. People want to work and they think that they do not have choices at home, and therefore they decide to lie about their age in order to comply with requirements to go abroad, one of which is age (18 or 21 depending on the job).

Still, the girl decided to leave the community for Phnom Penh. Not receiving any news, Phana decided to inform the commune councilor and the girl's family, who referred the case to a local NGO. When they found the girl, she was covered with bruises. Cheated by the broker, she had ended locked up in a room with 20 other migrants. Anyone speaking and shouting for help would be severely beaten.

## Now, the commune councilor and local authorities think, "she might be young, but she is sure able to help the community!"

Thanks to her unshakeable belief and strength to raise the issue to the local authorities, Phana managed to rescue the girl from a miserable life. She is a source of inspiration for young Cambodian women.

# Update on the Procedure to Migrate to Thailand

Applications for registration at OSSCs in Thailand ended in October, 2014. All Cambodian migrants that did not register and do not have valid work permit should return to Cambodia and apply for passport and work permit to One Window Services in Cambodia.

Migrants who registered at OSSCs in Thailand and obtained temporary permits up to March 31, 2015 will go through the National Verification (NV). Thai employers have to submit all their documents for the NV to Local Thai Employment offices. Thai authorities will issue work permit and visa valid till March 2016 (total cost 1,500 THB plus health exam and insurance) and Cambodian authorities in Thailand will issue passport (1,400 THB).

The total cost (2,900 THB plus health exam and insurance) may be deducted from workers' wages by employers, depending on the agreement between workers and employers.

Up to November 29, 2014, 90,757 migrants and dependents have gone through the NV process. The total number of migrants registered at OSSCs are 738,947. The deadline for temporary work permits (pink card) remains March 31, 2015, but considering the high number of applicants there are high chances that it will be extended.

# Welcoming a New Member in CTIP's Self-Help Group Family

CTIP partner Cambodian Center for the Protection of Children's Rights (CCPCR) successfully created its third Self-Help Group (SHG) by selecting 30 members among families of victims supported by CTIP from Kandal village in Svay Rieng province. SHG members are parents of children that are regularly sent to Vietnam to beg and are at high risk of being again victims of labor exploitation and trafficking.

CTIP trained this new group about financial management and business planning. The project also gave each member ten heifers and a capital loan of USD 150 according to their business plan.



Things are going well for SHG members supported by CTIP! CCPCR is also in the process of creating a rice bank in Toeng Mao village in Svay Rieng province. A special committee already recruited 60 members and finished building the rice container last December.

#### In brief this quarter

The National Plan of Action to fight against human trafficking is now ready! It will be launched this quarter.

## **CTIP's Editorial**

More than 20 Cambodian women have recently returned from China to flee abusive marriages. Many more are probably still there, trapped in slavery-like situations.

These women left Cambodia lured by the promise of marrying a wealthy foreign man. They accepted what they thought was a lucrative offer because they wanted to support their families.

In fact, the selling of brides is a business that only enriches brokers and not the victims' families who in the end only receive few dollars for the useless and unfair sacrifice of their daughters. Even worse, many families become burdened with a debt in order to buy a return flight ticket to save their daughters.

Some of these young victims manage to escape when they realize they have been cheated by unscrupulous brokers. However, they often have to face public disgrace when they returned: many label them as "bad women" because they did not accept to be humiliated and tortured. It is commonly thought in China and in Cambodia that women have to be submissive and to obey their husband. When choosing a bride, the younger, the shier and the less educated, the better. Qualities such as strength, confidence, intelligence and braveness are still considered by many as inappropriate for women. Brides who decide to rebel against abusive marriages are often condemned by society.

Still, the only way for a society to progress is to give women a more prominent role. Everything should start with a change of mentality, which is currently the root cause of violence against women. All Cambodians, women and men, have to work hand-in-hand to support women to express themselves and to rebel instead of accepting abusive situations.

More brave Cambodian women will return from China or from other countries. Others will pluck up their courage to leave their abusive husbands in Cambodia. All of them deserve our full respect and support.

# Safe Migration Information Number: 095 975 804

This number can be called free of charge for Cellcard clients until 10/07/2015

If you see or fall into human trafficking, you can also try to seek for help through the following numbers:

## 🗹 🛛 In Cambodia

Anti-Human Trafficking and Juvenile Protection (AHTJP) Head Office: 023 99 79 19 or 12 88 (free call)

#### **Other Provincial AHTJP Offices:**

Phnom Penh	017 276 222
Siem Reap	017 258 222
Battambang	017 236 222
Kampomg Thom	017 254 222
Banteay Meanchey	017 260 222
Kampong Chnnang	017 326 222
Sihanouk Ville	017 259 222

## NGO Contact Number In Cambodia

Cambodia Women's Crisis Center (CWCC) 098 360 049 (Poi Pet) 088 695 4178 (Siem Reap) Legal Support for Children and Women (LSCW) 077 455 516 Cambodian Center for the Protection of Children's Right ( CCPCR ) 012 913 138

## 🕑 In China

Cambodian Embassy in Beijing: +86 18 80 14 07 865 Cambodian Consulate in Shanghai: +86 15 60 17 18 777 +86 18 50 16 43 537

## 🗹 🛛 In Thailand

Cambodian Embassy in Thailand: +66 29 575 851 GAATW (NGO): +66 28 641427 LPN (NGO): +66 34 434 267

## 🕑 In Malaysia

Cambodian Embassy in Malaysia: +60 34 257 1150 +60 34 257 3711 TENAGANITA (NGO): +60 37 770 3691

## 🗹 In Singapore

Ministry of Manpower in Singapore: +65 64 385 122 (General enquiries) +65 65 386 930 (Service quality) Transient Workers Count Too (TWC2) (NGO): +65 62 477 001 HOME (NGO): 24-hour helpline for foreign female/male workers +65 63 415 525 (women) +65 63 415 535 (men)

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### Office in Cambodia

WINROCK INTERNATIONAL Putting Ideas to Work

Phnom Penh Center, Building F, Room 787, Sothearos Blvd, Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Tel: 855-23 212334/6, Fax: 855-23 212335 Email: camille.dumont@winrock.org www.facebook.com/CTIP2