

COUNTERING TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS (TIP)



Winrock counters the global scourge and crime of Trafficking in Persons (TIP) by undercutting the systems and people responsible for it, and providing hope and practical solutions to those affected by it.





Winrock's approach is grounded in 30 years of experience working with governments, civil society and businesses to achieve inclusive agricultural and economic development and environmental and social sustainability. We work at a systemic level to strengthen regulations, establish common standards, and promote shared accountability to address TIP — a human rights violation, a crime and an extremely complex challenge.

At the individual level, Winrock provides essential services and practical help for people who lack opportunities, power or resources. For corporations seeking to meet increasingly stringent anti-trafficking requirements, Winrock goes beyond compliance and remediation to facilitate proactive, business-led strategies to tackle this challenging issue.

Human trafficking is a profitable criminal activity that includes the recruitment, transportation and transfer, and exploitation of individuals for the purposes of financial or other gain. Force, fraud, psychological coercion, debt bondage, threats and abuse of power are used to control victims and prevent them from leaving an abusive situation. Increasingly, companies sourcing agricultural products, fish and other consumer goods must ensure their supply chains and operations are protected from trafficked or other exploitative labor.

Winrock's counter-TIP work contributes to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals directed at poverty reduction, rule of law, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all. It reduces the circumstances of vulnerability that

push people into risky migration that can result in exploitative work, enslavement, deplorable working conditions and even death. It also helps victims return home to their families and their communities where they can succeed. Winrock's systemic approach addresses both the supply and demand side of the TIP equation.

Winrock's anti-trafficking efforts emerged from gender work in agriculture and the realization that discrimination and family violence often push women to take vast risks in hopes of a better future. In the 1990s, in the former Soviet Union countries, Winrock mobilized stakeholders and society around the issues of gender violence and sex trafficking to create economic opportunities for the most vulnerable women. Winrock has since expanded its work to combat all forms of modern slavery, including forced labor and child labor/exploitation. Our success is based on deep expertise in promoting responsible, sustainable agricultural supply chains, and experience mobilizing diverse stakeholders to tackle related and complex challenges, such as TIP and climate change, together.

Methodology

In its **Counter-Trafficking in Persons** programming, Winrock follows the framework set out by the UN Palermo Protocol¹: prevention, protection, re-integration and partnerships. We supplement this approach with emphasis on policy and systems strengthening.

Winrock partners with communities, governments, NGOs and businesses to reduce the incidence of labor, sex and other forms of human trafficking. Our counter-trafficking practice relies on wide-ranging technical expertise spanning policy analysis and advocacy, human rights and social protection, labor rights, gender-based violence, community development, safe migration, criminal justice strengthening, behavior change and others. Winrock integrates work across multiple development sectors to achieve sustainable solutions:

- Increased awareness about the threat of traffickers and strengthening the ability of law enforcement agencies to disrupt and prosecute these criminals;
- Sustainable systems that effectively mitigate trafficking risk, remove victims from harm and help those affected access justice and the essential services needed to restart their lives.
- Enhanced mutual accountability through improved frameworks, shared standards and clear guidelines for stakeholders;
- Empowerment of vulnerable individuals through increased information on TIP risks, patterns and prevalence; safe and sustainable economic opportunities; access to essential support services; and amplified voice in policy and community affairs.

¹The UN Palermo Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking-in-Persons Especially Women and Children supplements the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.



CASE STUDIES

Bangladesh Counter Trafficking-in-Persons Program

In Bangladesh, Winrock's **Counter Trafficking-in-Persons program** has successfully empowered victims of trafficking to speak out about their experiences as a way to raise awareness about trafficking and break the stigma associated with victims of trafficking and returned migrants, particularly women. With Winrock's support, Survivor Voice group ANIRBAN has established itself as a powerful advocate to the government for improving policies and services for at-risk groups and victims.

Cambodia Counter Trafficking in Persons

Due to variable weather conditions amplified by climate change, year-round rice availability is not guaranteed in parts of Cambodia that border on Vietnam. Yet rice is critical for people's nourishment and livelihoods. As a result, in times of shortage, underprivileged families are forced to cross the border to work or beg. As part of the **Cambodia Counter Trafficking in Persons** program's Rice Bank Initiative, Winrock helped establish a rice bank in Svay Rieng Province to help prevent migration. Villagers came together to build and govern the bank. Under shared community terms, members now borrow rice in times of shortage.

In addition to combating trafficking for sexual and child exploitation, Winrock has addressed crucial labor-related concerns, such as TIP/modern slavery and child labor reduction, hazardous labor conditions, workforce development and strengthening support systems for sustainable labor practices worldwide. Winrock's experience in this area spans a range of agriculture and food-related sectors, including fisheries, rubber, tea, tobacco, cocoa and other such high-risk products that are part of many global supply chains.



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