



PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT

Winrock International is a nonprofit organization with a mission to *empower the disadvantaged, increase economic opportunity, and sustain natural resources*. Winrock works at the intersection of some of the world's most complex social and environmental challenges, managing a portfolio of nearly 100 agriculture, environment, human rights, and education projects in 40 countries, combining technical expertise with entrepreneurial innovation to improve lives.

Trafficking-in-persons (TIP) is a pervasive criminal activity that uses force, fraud, psychological coercion, debt bondage, violence, and other means to control and exploit victims for financial gain. For nearly three decades, Winrock International has led efforts globally to combat TIP in all its forms, including forced labor, sex trafficking, the worst forms of child labor, and other exploitative practices. Our approach focuses on supporting trafficking survivors and their families on their journey to recovery; equipping local groups, leaders, governments and the private sector with knowledge and tools to implement successful prevention interventions, combat social norms that increase trafficking risks, provide restitution and economic alternatives to unsafe migration, and strengthen the legal frameworks and systems to protect at-risk groups and assist victims.



Winrock's Global Capacity

Winrock has more than 50 staff on five continents with expertise in combating human trafficking and child labor, and promoting rights, occupational safety and health. Winrock's 35+ counter trafficking projects across South, Southeast, and Central Asia, Africa, and Latin America and the Caribbean demonstrate our extensive footprint in global economic empowerment and private sector development.

PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT TO COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Winrock recognizes an important role of business in combatting human trafficking is through protective interventions in their supply chains and operations as well as lending their expertise and market reach. National regulations have pushed companies to assess their supply chains for vulnerabilities to labor exploitation. More companies have been realizing the importance of responsible labor practices for their reputations and bottom lines and have committed to working to address those vulnerabilities.

In its collaboration with private sector, Winrock deploys varying tactics depending on the context, target industry, and intended impacts. Below are some illustrative approaches.



RESPONSES TO LABOR TRAFFICKING AND ABUSE IN SUPPLY CHAINS

Winrock leverages its expertise and links with communities and civil society to assess and address poor and exploitative working conditions faced by workers in specific supply chains. We also support companies in their interventions to prevent labor abuses and improve labor practices.

Through its **USAID Thailand CTIP Activity**, Winrock implements remote monitoring of labor conditions on fishing vessels and developed a self-assessment tool for sugarcane farmers to promote compliance with labor standards to reduce vulnerability to TIP. Winrock's **Advancing Human Rights within Nestlé's Palm Oil Supply Chain** works with palm oil refineries, mills, and plantations in Malaysia, Indonesia, and Nigeria to assess and provide training on labor rights in palm oil refineries, mills, and plantations.

ETHICAL WORKER RECRUITMENT AND ACCESS TO LEGITIMATE JOBS

Low- and unskilled workers are most vulnerable to TIP, often excluded from formal employment recruitment mechanisms, and are thus exposed to deception and debt by informal brokers. Recognizing this, Winrock develops market-driven solutions that address employers' need for labor while being accessible, transparent and accountable for workers.

In **Turkmenistan**, Winrock's **USAID Safe Migration in Central Asia (SMICA) Activity** developed a Manual on Fair Recruitment for Private Employment Agencies.

JOBS AND LIVELIHOODS FOR TRAFFICKING SURVIVORS AND AT-RISK POPULATIONS

Due to debt or financial struggles, access to jobs is the major need of at-risk groups and TIP survivors. Winrock focuses on facilitating viable livelihoods models and job opportunities by collaborating with private sector to provide job training, apprenticeships and placement in high-demand sectors. We also work to promote income generation through entrepreneurship literacy, in-kind grants and connection to markets.

Winrock's USAID Vietnam CTIP Activity will conduct a job market assessment to inform the creation of market-driven vocational trainings and job placement in communities particularly vulnerable to trafficking.

In **Cambodia**, Winrock partners with "SPOONS Cambodia" on its **USAID Cambodia CTIP Activity** to support young adults in rural communities with livelihood support and training in Cambodia's growing tourism industry.

The **Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation-funded Ashshash** project works in partnership with public and private-sector service providers in Bangladesh to deliver counseling, legal services, and access to economic opportunities to men and women who have escaped trafficking. **Ashshash** has provided services and support to 4,875 trafficking survivors to restore their dignity, improve their well-being, and build self-sufficiency.

POLICY ADVOCACY AND DIALOGUE ON BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Winrock collaborates with industry associations, international alliances and national stakeholders to foster regulatory

improvements and promote implementation of international standards related to labor rights, working conditions, and ethical recruitment.

Winrock's **USAID SMICA Activity** helped to establish the GLOBALG.A.P. National Technical Working Group to support Turkmen agricultural companies comply with international fair labor standards.

In **Malaysia**, Winrock's **USAID Asia CTIP Activity** and its partners carried out a series of research initiatives in the palm oil industry, documenting current policy challenges as well as exploitative practices by businesses. A series of recommendations for the business, government and civil society were put forward to ensure greater accountability.

DATA ANALYTICS TO COMBAT TIP

Winrock promotes non-conventional approaches to addressing TIP, such as utilizing anti-money laundering framework to document and address TIP in global economy. It supported the development of case studies that help governments, prosecutors, and financial crime professionals to identify and stop human trafficking related behaviors and networks.

Winrock's **USAID Asia CTIP Activity** conducted research on recruitment and employment of tuna fishermen on Taiwanese and Chinese vessels in the Pacific Islands and developed comprehensive recommendations to present to seafood companies, enabling them to reduce TIP risks in their supply chains.

In **Indonesia**, Winrock's **Advancing Human Rights within Nestlé's Palm Oil Supply Chain** partnered with "Verité" to assess palm oil refineries and mills against Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil Principles and Criteria, which include metrics on forced and trafficked labor. These assessments resulted in comprehensive reporting and recommendations to address identified risks.

BEHAVIOR CHANGE AND AWARENESS RAISING

Winrock collaborates with media and telecommunication companies to produce content and services and redress, as well as to improve public awareness of trafficked labor.

In **Bangladesh**, Winrock's collaborates with radio stations for free placement of TIP-related content. In **Nepal**, Winrock is working with local mobile phone operators to push safe migration and trafficking prevention information for vulnerable communities.

In **Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, and Uzbekistan**, **USAID SMICA Activity** partners with airports to install digital kiosks to provide outgoing labor migrants with information on safe migration and trafficking prevention tips. SMICA also trains hospitality sector personnel to recognize signs of trafficking and utilize resources to report and prevent it.