



La is now safe and busy with her gardening projects, and hopes to help prevent others from being exploited.

ANTI-TRAFFICKING INTERVENTIONS

Human trafficking affects all countries in the Asia-Pacific region where World Vision has development programs. World Vision Australia works across Asia to prevent trafficking, exploitation and abuse, and to provide survivors with support and rehabilitation. We also promote awareness of human rights – especially child rights – and use evidence from our work in the field to advocate for better policies and practices from governments, including through the Don't Trade Lives campaign in Australia and Asia.

Human trafficking and slavery are complex issues that require a collaborative, multi-faceted response. To be effective, anti-trafficking strategies must target the three dimensions of human trafficking: supply, demand, and the systems and structures that allow it to happen. This means taking actions in countries of origin, transit and destination. Interventions to combat trafficking can be clustered under 4Ps – **Prevention, Protection, Prosecution and Policy**. 'Prevention' reduces the vulnerability of a person to become a victim of trafficking; 'Protection' is the identification of victims and keeping victims safe from threats, violence, abuse, as well as providing basic needs, psychological care, and legal protection; 'Prosecution' is the response by law enforcement, prosecutors and the judiciary to end impunity for those who profit from trafficking and to secure justice for victims, and 'Policy' provides a framework to encompass these three important interventions.

CASE STUDY: LA TAKES THE FRONTLINE

La left her hometown in Laos at age 22, lured by the encouragement of a friend and the promise of earning a good salary in Thailand. She ended up working as a housemaid for 16 years, totally cut-off from the outside world. She did everything from laundry to cooking and cleaning the house. La was paid nothing for all her hard work. "I threw countless letters tied to sticks across the pond at the back of the house where I was employed, asking for help", said La, 38.

La's plea for help eventually resulted in policemen coming to the house with a search warrant. "The family tried to hide me in the cabinet under the bed, but the police brought me to the station and helped me get back to Laos. I don't know who picked up one of my messages and gave it to the police. I wish I was able to thank him or her" La said.

Back in her village, World Vision provides La with livelihood support through a gardening and vegetable growing project. With the help of World Vision, La is also dedicated to educating others in her village on the dangers of trafficking. "I try to convince the young people in the village to try and find jobs in Laos, close to their families. But if they are set to travel abroad, we try to educate them on the preparation they need to do, and the things they have to check," La shares. World Vision also distributes cards containing details for important contacts in Laos and Thailand, smart travel booklets with a guide on safer migration, and important information about sexual and labour exploitation. "By sharing my experience with others, I hope they will not endure what I have gone through," La concludes.

KEY TERMS:

Slavery - the status or condition of a person over whom any or all of the powers attaching to the right of ownership are exercised.

Labour exploitation - work obtained from a person under threat (real or perceived).

Sexual servitude - is the condition of a person who is forced to provide sexual services and who, because of the use of force or a threat, is not free.

Child labour - work that is likely to interfere with a child's education and development; including labour that exceeds a minimum number of hours or is hazardous.

Debt bondage - being forced to work to pay off a loan, usually under unfair circumstances.

People smuggling - Procuring the illegal entry of another person into another country for profit. Smuggling is a different crime to human trafficking.

NOT IN OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD!

Many positive achievements on the issue of trafficking in persons in this region have been influenced by the financial and political support of the Australian Government, both past and present. However, human trafficking is a complex, widespread, and often hidden, crime. Ongoing research and investigation continues to reveal more about the true nature of this dynamic crime and so provides the insights to develop more specific and sophisticated "second generation" responses to the issue. This increasing knowledge coupled with the current global economic environment, calls for renewed efforts to adequately address and reduce unsafe migration practices and labour exploitation, especially of migrants and children in Asia and the Pacific.

World Vision has outlined a comprehensive set of recommendations to assist the Australian Government to improve its whole-of-government response to human trafficking in the Asia-Pacific region.

In particular, Don't Trade Lives calls for the Australian Government to:

1. Appoint an Ambassador for Trafficking in Persons to Australia to demonstrate Australia's leadership and commitment in the global response to trafficking, and distinguish between the concepts of and responses to people smuggling and trafficking
2. Fund innovative interventions in the areas of prevention, protection and criminal justice responses
3. Call on "destination countries" to engage in anti-trafficking and migrant labour protection initiatives both independently and within the ASEAN framework
4. Play a lead role in ensuring Australian businesses actively combat the crime of extreme labour exploitation by helping:
 - Reduce the market in Australia for products produced through child and trafficked labour; and
 - Encourage Australian businesses to have transparent, traceable and independently verifiable supply chains that are free from labour exploitation.

We all have a role to play...

Individuals, governments and businesses worldwide directly and indirectly fuel the crime of human trafficking and slavery and have a role to play in combating it. Consequently, the Don't Trade Lives campaign incorporates three strategies targeting each of these segments of society.

Don't Trade lives seeks to:

- Reduce the market in Australia for products produced through slavery and trafficked labour. This includes:
 - Ensuring that the global chocolate industry guarantees farmers a fair price for their cocoa and eliminates exploited labour from coca production by 2018
- Ensure that by 2015 governments in Australia and the Asia-Pacific region build and maintain a comprehensive, integrated & effective anti-trafficking policy environment
- Ensure that Australian businesses and multinationals have transparent, traceable, and independently verifiable supply chains that are free from labour exploitation.



Don't Trade Lives

Campaigning against human trafficking and slavery

"The victims of modern slavery have many faces. They are men and women, adults and children. Yet, all are denied basic human dignity and freedom... Fighting modern slavery and human trafficking is a shared responsibility."

US President Barack Obama, 4 January 2010



Take action to combat trafficking and slavery today! Visit:

donttradelives.com.au

CHILD RESCUE

Many children are beyond the reach of child sponsorship. Often they don't have a fixed place to stay or even an address. Some have no parents. Some have escaped from exploitation in a brothel or factory and are fending for themselves as they try to survive on the streets.

Child Rescue is reaching out to these children. To find out how you can help, visit worldvision.com.au/childrescue

Human trafficking and slavery is about the buying and selling of people for exploitative labour or sexual slavery. It is now the third largest transnational organised crime in the world, behind drugs and arms. It has been estimated that trafficking enslaves 27 million people today, in countries worldwide.

Through the Don't Trade Lives campaign, World Vision is uniting Australians against human trafficking and slavery. Don't Trade Lives examines the issue of labour exploitation worldwide, and especially in the Asia-Pacific region. Governments, businesses and individuals worldwide – including in Australia – have a role to play in combating this crime.



Child labour deprives children of their right to an education and a safe childhood.

WHAT IS HUMAN TRAFFICKING?

Human trafficking is the recruitment, harbouring, transportation, or receipt of another person, through the use of force, deception or threats, with the aim of exploiting them to generate profit for the trafficker. Put simply, it is the buying and selling of people for the purpose of exploiting their labour. This can take many forms including slavery, debt bondage, child labour, forced labour, commercial sexual exploitation and servitude.

Note: In its work, World Vision uses the definition of Trafficking in Persons as internationally agreed in the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime, United Nations (2000).

THE REAL COST

Human trafficking is a crime against an individual, their rights and human dignity. It reduces human beings to commodities, bought and sold to service the ever expanding demands of global consumers for cheap goods and services, from agricultural products to commercial sex.

Some consumers are well aware of the exploitation involved in their transactions. However, millions more are ignorant of the human suffering that is behind the products and services they buy.

EXPLOITATION IN OUR REGION

The Asia-Pacific region has a high prevalence of human trafficking, with three in 1000 people estimated to fall victim to the crime; it is a point of origin, transit and destination for trafficking in persons. Victims have been found in domestic servitude, agricultural work, garment manufacture, the fishing industry, construction and sexual servitude. Increasing numbers of men and boys are being noted, as there is a greater prevalence of people being exploited for labour purposes (as opposed to sex trafficking). The most common type of exploitation, whether sexual or labour, can vary depending on geographical location, however the International Organization for Migration (2007) has stated that in Central and South East Asia people are predominantly trafficked for exploitative labour purposes. The ILO estimates that for every trafficking victim subjected to forced prostitution, nine people are forced to work. (Trafficking in Persons Report 2010, US Department of State).



Members of Vision Generation take to Parliament House to raise awareness of human trafficking and campaign for fair trade.

CONSUMING ETHICALLY

Many of the goods we use are made or grown in developing countries. Sometimes the workers producing these goods receive no pay or must work in dangerous conditions, and sometimes the workers are child labourers and people that have been trafficked. According to the ILO, the world imports and exports billions of dollars in products tainted by forced labour in manufacturing and raw materials procurement every year.

Cocoa, used to make big brand chocolate, is regularly harvested in part by child labourers in West Africa. In South East Asia, men are too often exploited for their labour in the fishing industry. Carpets are woven and sports balls stitched in India and Pakistan by children as young as six years old working long hours in physically strenuous positions. Women and children who are forced to work in the sex trade endure lives of torment and disease. Sadly, the list goes on.

As consumers, you have the power! Every dollar you spend can make a difference. When you shop ethically, you send a message to sellers, to manufacturers, and to other shoppers. The more we buy ethically, the more others will realise we won't put a price on humanity.



Soccer balls are just one of many consumer items tainted by the exploitation of children like Nagma.

THE DON'T TRADE LIVES DIFFERENCE

Since its launch in March 2008, Don't Trade Lives and its supporters have played a significant role in improving the lives of thousands of people suffering from exploitation.

1. Don't Trade Lives has been successful in influencing chocolate industry practices and commitments:

- Hundreds of thousands of Australians have supported actions targeting the chocolate industry
- Cadbury Australia started using Fairtrade certified cocoa in its most popular product Cadbury Dairy Milk Chocolate in 2009. This has tripled the amount of Fairtrade cocoa available in Australia and is directly impacting 39,000 people, 23,400 of which are children!
- Green & Black's is transitioning its entire product range to the Fairtrade label
- Arnott's has acknowledged that child labour and human trafficking are issues in the cocoa industry, and announced they are investigating this issue in their supply chain
- Mars announced it would certify its entire cocoa supply through the Rainforest Alliance scheme by 2020.

2. Don't Trade Lives has contributed to an increased demand for and availability of ethical products:

- Consumer awareness of certification schemes, including the Fairtrade Label, has increased. While the global Fairtrade market grew by 22% in 2008, in Australia market growth was 81%!
- Coles and Woolworths have increased the number of Fairtrade certified chocolate products in their stores
- Adelaide, Manly and Freemantle City councils are now recognised as 'Fair Trade Councils' and another eight councils have committed to taking this step
- RMIT and Macquarie have been announced as the first Fair Trade Universities in Australia.

3. The Don't Trade Lives campaign has expanded into Asia! The campaign is:

- Influencing governments in the region to recognise trafficking for labour exploitation and to enforce policies to prevent trafficking and protect victims; and
- Empowering youth and communities to influence government and private sector action on trafficking.

TRAPPED AT SEA

World Vision's field work is increasingly revealing instances of trafficked and exploited seafarers and fisherman across the Asia region. The physical confines of a ship and the natural dangers of the sea can create a deadly combination for vulnerable workers who are at the mercy of people traffickers.

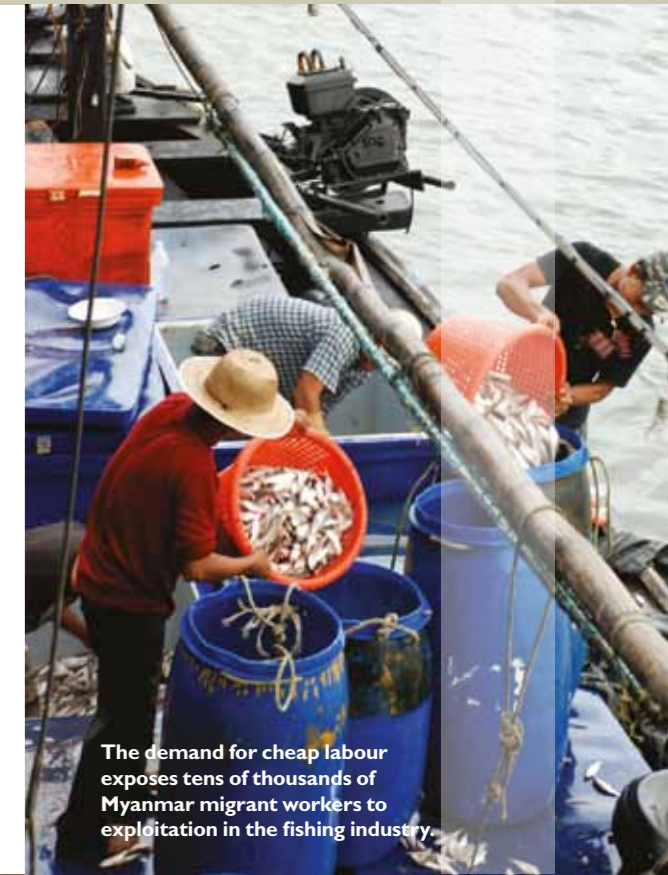
Workers might have their wages, food or medical treatment withheld, or be forced to work for significantly less money than agreed and required to work in excess of 24 hours straight. There have been reports of captains regularly spiking drinking water with amphetamines to ensure constant work, sometimes for as long as three continuous days and nights. In the worst cases, workers have been beaten, threatened and some have been murdered, with their bodies simply thrown overboard.

Many fisherman who work in the Mekong Sub-region are from Cambodia, Myanma and rural Thailand. Often they are undocumented migrants who are forced by circumstance to take on low-paying hazardous and dangerous jobs. The International Labour Organization estimates that there are as many as 10,000 workers trapped on fishing trawlers in the region.

Don't Trade Lives is encouraging the Australian Government to be proactive in ensuring there is a comprehensive, integrated and effective anti-trafficking policy environment in the Asia-Pacific region to put an end to this exploitation.

Sources include: Upcoming research report undertaken by Phillip S. Robertson Jr, Bangkok based labour and human rights advocate, about human trafficking in the fishing industry.

World Vision's Regional Advocacy Anti Child Trafficking project.



The demand for cheap labour exposes tens of thousands of Myanmar migrant workers to exploitation in the fishing industry.



Fair trade certification guarantees that cocoa is produced without using child labour or exploitation.

THE DARKER SIDE OF CHOCOLATE

Criminal networks have been caught trafficking children across regions and international borders to work on cocoa farms in West Africa. Many more children regularly work on family farms to supplement their low and often unfair income. These children carry heavy loads, work with fire, chemicals and knives, with little or no protection. They receive little or no pay. Often they have no hope of going to school.

Some media reports have claimed that in the worst cases, children as young as six are being forced to work 80-100 hours per week, enduring beatings and malnutrition on top of back-breaking work.

Major chocolate manufacturers have known about the problem of child labour in cocoa production for at least 10 years.

Don't Trade Lives calls on the global chocolate industry to guarantee farmers a fair price for their cocoa and eliminate exploited labour from cocoa production by 2018.

WHAT IS ETHICAL CERTIFICATION?

The Australian Competition & Consumer Commission (ACCC) notes that many products carry a symbol, logo or other trade mark to show that they are "certified" to a particular standard.

The most credible ethical certification schemes, such as those under the ISEAL Alliance, including the Fairtrade Label, independently certify for social and environmental standards. Certification can guarantee that products and services were produced without harm to or exploitation of humans, animals or the natural environment. The standards for certification can, and often do, vary by scheme.

Always check the product packaging for certification scheme labelling.

Always look for the Label



Guarantees a better deal for Third World Producers