

**Australian
Aid**



**ASEAN-Australia
Counter Trafficking**

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 2021



Document information

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**ASEAN-Australia
Counter Trafficking**

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 2021



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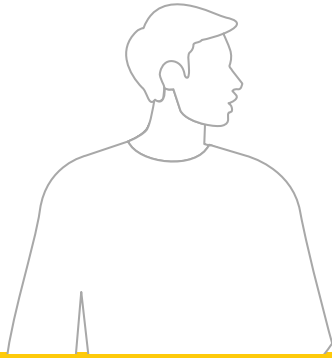


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Foreword

We are pleased to present the ASEAN–Australia Counter Trafficking (ASEAN-ACT) 2021 Annual Progress Report.

2021 marked the third year of ASEAN-ACT, contributing to ASEAN states having effective justice systems that provide just punishment of traffickers and that protect the rights of victims of trafficking. ASEAN-ACT is implementing projects in Cambodia, Lao PDR, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam, while establishing programming in Indonesia. Program implementation in Myanmar has been on hold since February 2021. The program is also working with a range of ASEAN sectoral bodies and organs on region-wide activities.

ASEAN-ACT has established governance mechanisms for working together through our National Program Steering Committees (NPSCs) in five partner countries, and our Regional Program Steering Committee (RPSC) with members drawn from all 10 ASEAN Member States. The third RPSC meeting was held on 7 December 2021, with nine ASEAN Member States represented. The RPSC was co-hosted by the Australian Mission to ASEAN and the Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC) of the Philippines as the SOMTC Voluntary Lead Shepherd on trafficking in persons (TIP).

In 2021, the second year of the COVID-19 pandemic, ASEAN member states were confronted with a new wave of cases and renewed border restrictions and lockdowns. Notwithstanding the challenges imposed by the pandemic, ASEAN-ACT achieved the majority of planned outputs outlined in its annual work plan and the program has made notable achievements to date. The majority of ASEAN-ACT's activities contributed to Australia's COVID-19-responsive support to Southeast Asia, with approximately 81% of total activity costs in 2021 directed to COVID-19-related programming.

In this report, we take a look at some of our work in 2021 – we share with you some examples, evidence and stories at regional level, and by country. We also share updates of our partnerships with nine non-government organisations (NGOs) which commenced in June 2021.

We are supporting ASEAN to have effective, victim-sensitive planning, monitoring and reporting of the ACTIP, through our support to the review of the Bohol TIP Work Plan 2017–2020. In 2021, the program established a new partnership with the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion



and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) to advance victim-centred and gender-sensitive approaches to trafficking in persons. See 'regional progress' section of this report for examples of achievements in 2021.

Of the 34 multi-year projects in six countries (including Indonesia), 13 completed planned activities in 2021, 15 partly completed planned activities, five experienced some delays and one experienced major delay. Despite some delays, the program completed most activities that are essential to continuing our projects in 2022 and contributing to achievement of immediate outcomes. See 'progress by country' section of this report for country-level achievements in 2021.

In 2021, the program started developing mechanisms to promote policy dialogue and learning in five target countries and established a grants program. The grants program is providing support to nine NGOs, selected on the basis of their approach to counter-trafficking, experience, expertise, and alignment with ASEAN-ACT's program principles and strategies.

On behalf of the RPSC, we thank all national agency partners, ASEAN sectoral bodies, NGO partners, the Australian Government as a significant donor and partner to ASEAN, other ASEAN-ACT partners and staff for your hard work in 2021 striving towards our shared goal in counter-trafficking in persons.

H.E. Oscar F. Valenzuela

SOMTC Voluntary Lead Shepherd on TIP

Co-chair, Regional Program Steering Committee

H.E. Will Nankervis

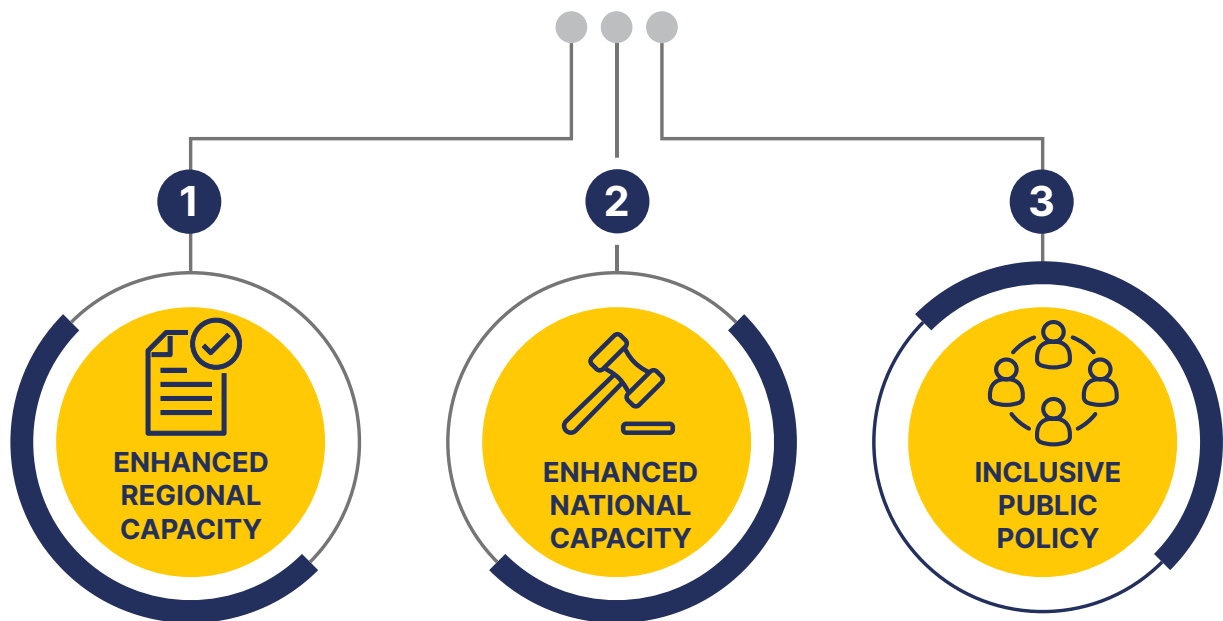
Australian Ambassador to ASEAN

Co-chair Regional Program Steering Committee

Goal

ASEAN member states have effective justice systems that provide just punishment of traffickers and protect the human rights of victims of trafficking in persons.

ASEAN-ACT is contributing to this goal by focusing on three end-of-program (EOPO) outcomes:



ASEAN's planning, monitoring and reporting of ACTIP implementation is increasingly effective and advances the protection of victim rights

ASEAN member state justice and related state agencies are increasingly capable of implementing their ACTIP obligations, in particular those that uphold victim rights

ASEAN member state justice and related state agencies' policies and practices are influenced by relevant stakeholders and better aligned with ACTIP, especially in connection to victim rights obligations

About ASEAN-ACT

A 10-year program to continue Australia's work in the ASEAN region (\$80 million from 2018 to 2028)

Target ASEAN member states

- Cambodia
- Indonesia (under establishment)
- Lao PDR
- Myanmar (activities on hold)
- Philippines
- Thailand
- Vietnam

Key partners

- ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime
- ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC)
- ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR)
- ASEAN Secretariat
- Law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, judges and key social welfare agencies in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam
- Relevant national committees or task forces on anti-trafficking in persons in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
- Overseas Development Institute (ODI)
- The Asia Foundation
- Partnerships with nine non-government organisations



34 multi-year national projects in six countries



3 projects with a principal focus on victim rights and on gender equality and social inclusion

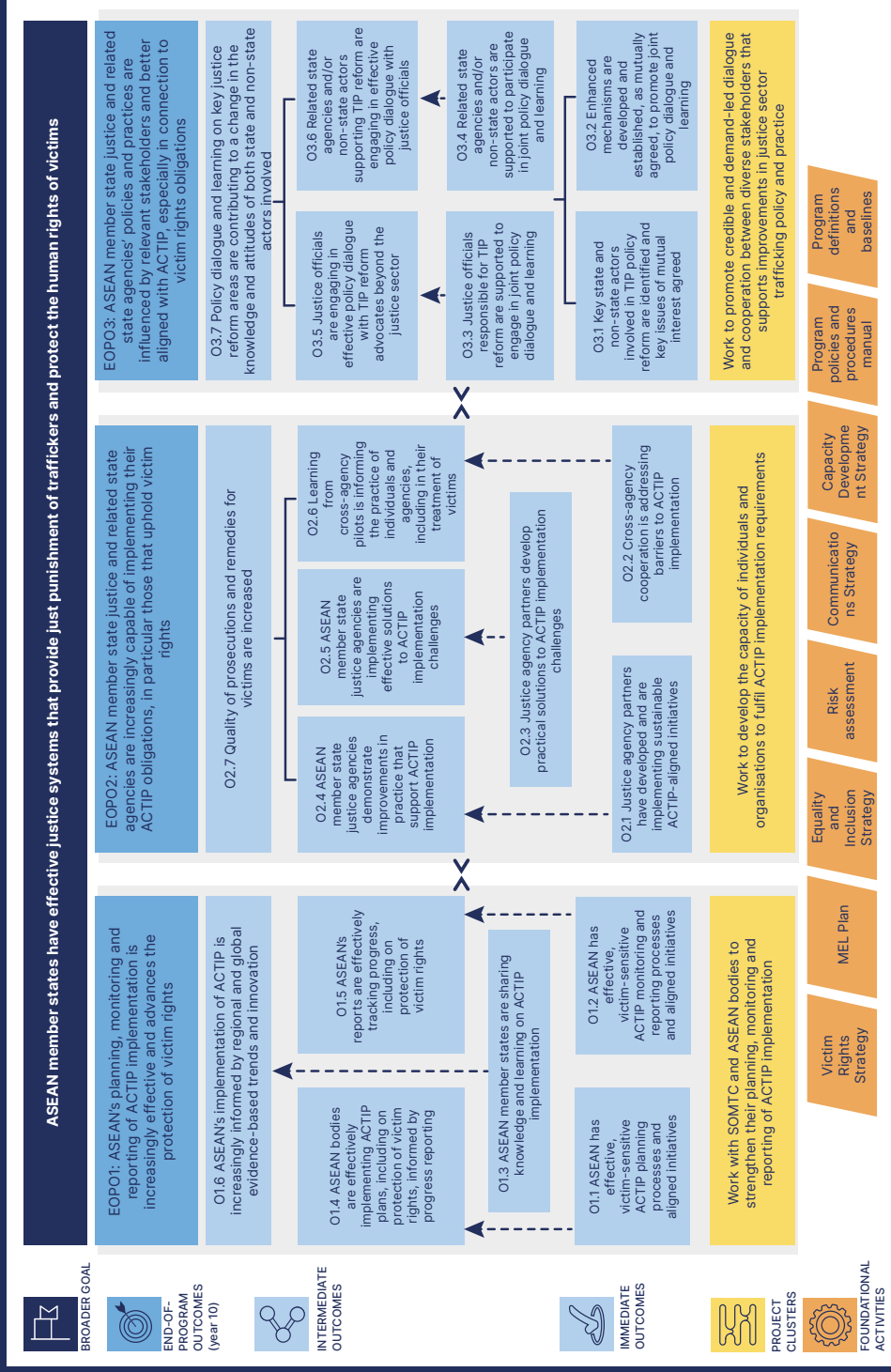


6 regional projects supporting ASEAN's ACTIP implementation

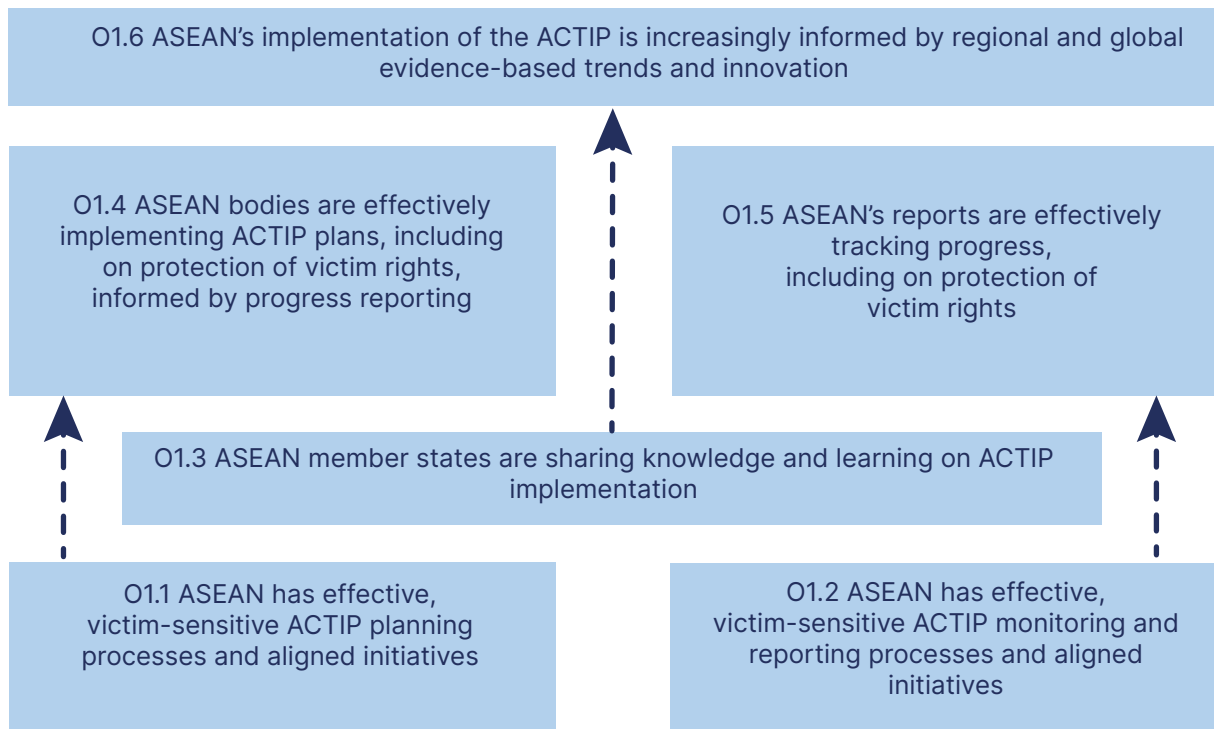


3 projects focusing on inclusive public policy

Theory of change



EOP01: ASEAN's planning, monitoring and reporting of ACTIP implementation is increasingly effective and advances the protection of victim rights

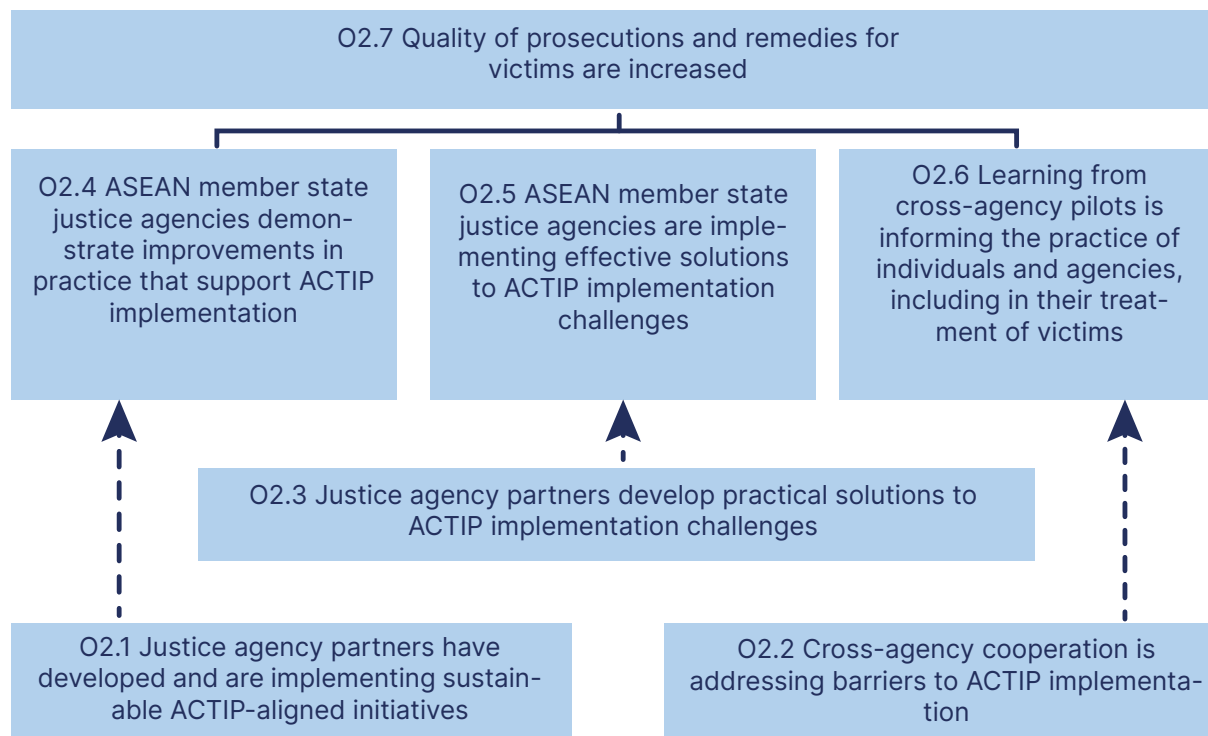


End-of-program outcome 1 (EOP01) – ASEAN's planning, monitoring and reporting of ACTIP implementation is increasingly effective and advances the protection of victim rights



ASEAN-ACT is working with the Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC) and other ASEAN sectoral bodies and organs to strengthen victim-sensitive planning, monitoring and reporting processes (O1.1 and O1.2). The sharing of knowledge and learning on ACTIP implementation by ASEAN member states (O1.3) helps to ensure that implementation is informed by regional and global evidence-based trends and innovation (O1.6).

EOP02: ASEAN member state justice and related state agencies are increasingly capable of implementing their ACTIP obligations, in particular those that uphold victim rights

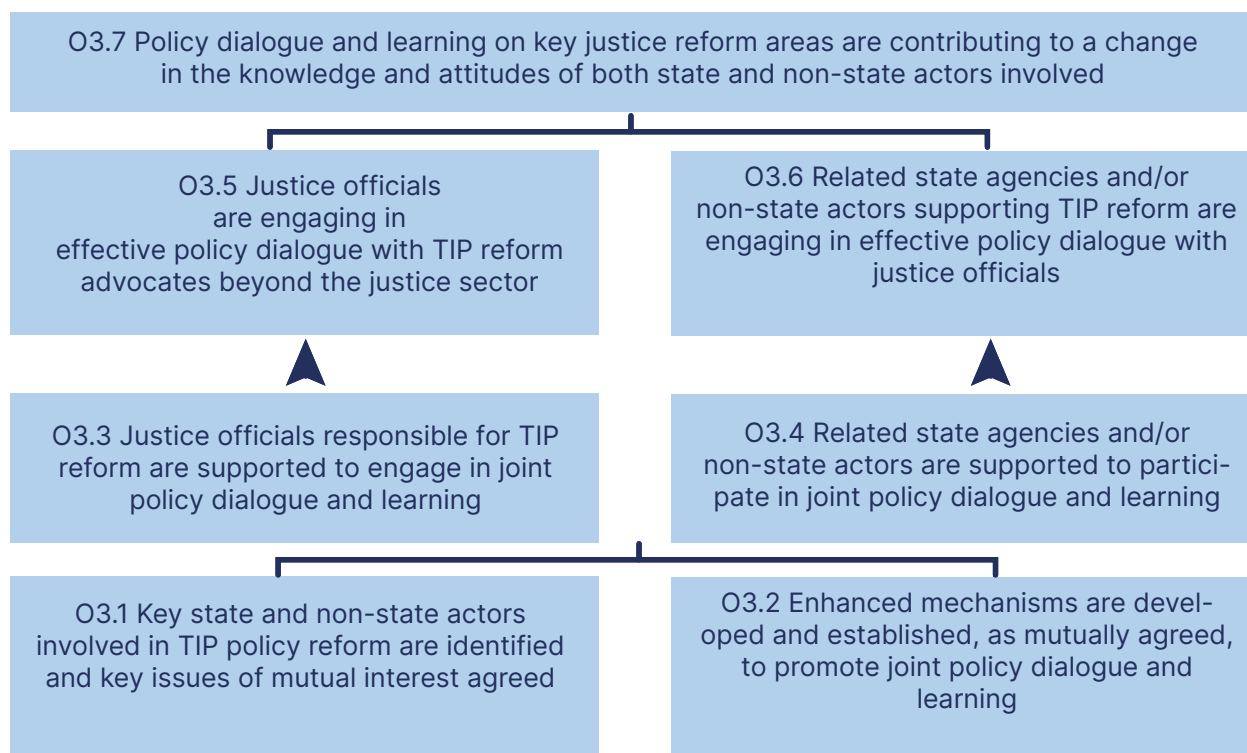


End-of-program outcome 2 (EOP02) – ASEAN member state justice and related state agencies are increasingly capable of implementing their ACTIP obligations, in particular those that uphold victim rights



ASEAN-ACT is working with national partners to strengthen their capacity to fulfil ACTIP implementation requirements. Our work supports justice agency partners in developing and implementing sustainable ACTIP-aligned initiatives (O2.1 and O2.4), and practical solutions to ACTIP implementation challenges (O2.3 and O2.5). Through ASEAN-ACT's support, cross-agency cooperation is addressing barriers to ACTIP implementation (O2.2) to inform the practice of individuals and agencies, including in their treatment of victims of trafficking in persons (O2.6).

EOP03: ASEAN member state justice and related state agencies' policies and practices are influenced by relevant stakeholders and better aligned with the ACTIP, especially in connection to victim rights obligations



End-of-program outcome 3 (EOP03) – ASEAN member state justice and related state agencies' policies and practices are influenced by stakeholders and better aligned with the ACTIP, especially in connection to victim rights obligations



ASEAN-ACT is promoting inclusive and demand-led dialogue and cooperation between diverse stakeholders to support improvements in justice sector counter-trafficking policy and practice. As part of this process, we are identifying and supporting key state and non-state actors involved in TIP policy reform and key issues of mutual interest (O3.1, O3.3 and O3.4). ASEAN-ACT is also developing and establishing enhanced mechanisms to promote joint policy dialogue and learning (O3.2, O3.3 and O3.4), which over time will contribute to change in knowledge and attitudes, and influence policies and practices across the justice sector (O3.5 and O3.6).

The ASEAN Convention Against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (ACTIP)



About the ACTIP

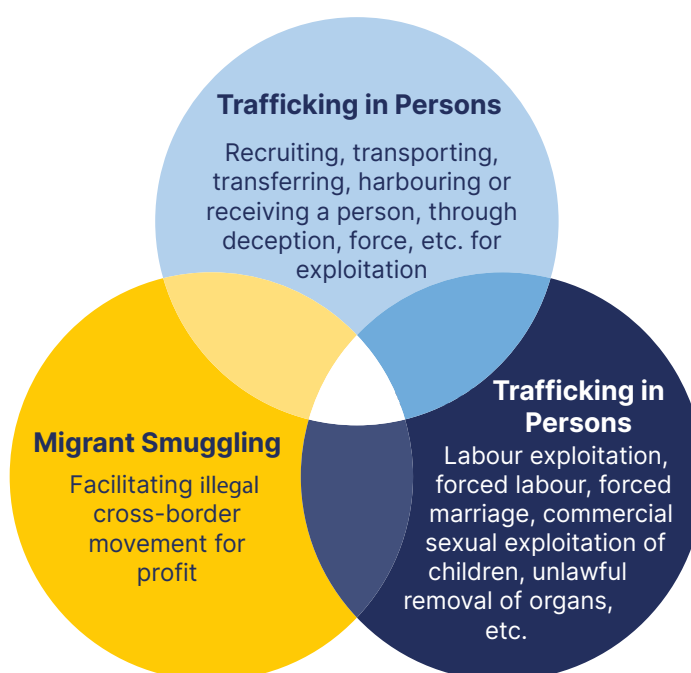
- The first legally binding regional agreement on trafficking for ASEAN: making this the second region in the world (after Europe) to have put in place legal rules around human trafficking
- Adopted in November 2015 – entered into force among States Parties in March 2017, then the Convention had been ratified by all ASEAN Member States, the latest by Brunei in 2020.
- Affirms the key principles and rules set out in the major international treaty on trafficking (the UN Trafficking Protocol) and its ‘parent’ treaty, the UN Organized Crime Convention
- Extends those rules in certain key respects – especially around victim protection and support
- Once an ASEAN State ratifies the ACTIP, then they are legally obliged to comply with its provisions.

Definition of trafficking

UN TRAFFICKING PROTOCOL / ASEAN TRAFFICKING CONVENTION

KEY ELEMENT	<i>Three</i> elements must be present for a situation of trafficking in adults	<i>Two</i> elements must be present for a situation of trafficking in children (persons under 18 years old)
1. An action: <i>What traffickers do</i>	Recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons	
2. By means of: <i>How they do it</i>	Threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or position of vulnerability, giving or receiving payments or benefits to achieve consent of a person having control over another	(Not required)
3. For the purpose of: <i>Why they do it</i>	Exploitation (including, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others, or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs)	

Trafficking and related crimes



Key provisions / obligations of states parties to the ACTIP

The purpose of the ASEAN Trafficking Convention is:	
To prevent and combat trafficking, paying particular attention to women and children and ensure just and effective punishment for traffickers;	Article 1
To protect and assist the victims of such trafficking, with full respect for their human rights; and	
To promote cooperation among States Parties in order to meet these objectives	
The key obligations of states parties to the ASEAN Convention are:	
To criminalize ‘trafficking in persons’ as defined in the Convention and to provide for higher penalties in certain cases including where the offence involves a vulnerable victim or serious injury or death; or where the offence is committed by a public official	Article 5
To criminalize corruption and obstruction of justice associated with trafficking such as the giving or receiving of bribes; intimidation of witnesses / public officials	Article 8,9
To establish national guidelines or procedures for proper victim identification and to respect the decisions of other States Parties with regard to victim identification	Article 14(1&2)
To consider allowing victims to remain in their territory, whether permanently or temporarily, taking into account humanitarian and compassionate factors	Article 14(4)
To provide for physical safety of victims within the territory	Article 14(5)
To protect victim privacy and identity to the extent possible under domestic law	Article 14(6)
To consider not holding victims liable for committing unlawful acts directly related to their trafficking	Article 14(7)
To not unreasonably hold victims in detention or prison	Article 14(8)
To provide care and support to victims including housing; counselling and information; medical, psychological and material assistance; and employment, education and training and to allocate appropriate funds for the care and support of victims	Article 14(10), (14)
To ensure the law provides for the possibility of victims obtaining compensation for damage suffered	Article 14(13)
State Party of origin to verify nationality of victim; issue necessary documentation; and accept return without delay; return to be undertaken with due regard for safety of victim and status of legal proceedings; states of origin and destination to establish repatriation programs and assist in reintegration of victims	Article 14(11), Article 15
To ensure law enforcement and prosecution authorities are equipped with appropriate skills and knowledge including in relation to victim protection and to provide training for this purpose	Article 16(1), (6)
To cooperate in encouraging victim-witnesses to voluntarily return to the country of destination to testify or otherwise cooperate	Article 16(5)
To protect victim-witnesses from intimidation and harassment and punish such conduct	Article 16(7)
To afford each other the widest measure of mutual legal assistance in accordance with the ASEAN Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty	Article 18
To establish all TIP offences as extraditable offences under national law and through bilateral treaties and to cooperate in extradition requests	Article 19
To cooperate with each other in order to enhance the effectiveness of law enforcement action including through exchange of information and responding to enquiries and requests for assistance; and to cooperate further for purposes of confiscation of proceeds of TIP crimes	Article 20



ASEAN-ACT total expenditure for the past three years:

\$3.735

million



2019

\$8.999

million



2021

2020



\$5.736

million

Regional progress

EOP01:

ASEAN's planning, monitoring and reporting of ACTIP implementation is increasingly effective and advances the protection of victim rights



6 regional projects in 2021, supporting ASEAN's ACTIP implementation



3 projects with a principal focus on victim rights and on gender equality and social inclusion

2021 projects

- A101 – Bohol TIP Workplan, with Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC))
- A102 – Lead Shepherd support initiative, with SOMTC
- A103 – ACTIP implementation support, with SOMTC
- A104 – ASEAN sectoral bodies cooperation
- A199 – Effectiveness and governance
- A208 – ASEAN member states transnational investigative cooperation
- R101 – improved shelter practices in ASEAN
- R206 – Victim rights, and equality and inclusion adaptive responses
- R304 – Enhance victim- and gender-sensitive approaches

Key partners

- ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime
- ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC)
- ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR)
- ASEAN Secretariat
- The Asia Foundations (TAF)
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)



In 2021, ASEAN-ACT worked with SOMTC and ASEAN sectoral bodies and organs in implementing the ACTIP. Some key achievements towards EOPO1 are listed here. Please see next pages for some initiatives and an example of one of the success stories.

- SOMTC confirmed multi-year projects with ASEAN-ACT during 21st SOMTC in July 2021, following consultation in April 2021 – [project A102](#); [outcomes O1.1, O1.2 and O1.3](#)
- SOMTC commissioned the review of the Bohol TIP Work Plan 2017–2020, draft report submitted in December 2021 – [project A101](#); [outcomes O1.1 and O1.2](#)
- AICHR hosted a capacity-building event, on community policing approaches to victim identification and TIP prevention, in August 2021 – [project A104](#); [outcomes O1.1 and O1.3](#)
- AICHR hosted a capacity-building event, on human rights-based, gender-sensitive and child-friendly approaches for frontline responders, in November 2021 – [project A104](#); [outcomes O1.1 and O1.3](#)
- SOMTC and AICHR co-hosted a regional workshop to validate findings of the ASEAN-ACT study on the non-punishment principle in ASEAN – [project R101](#); [outcomes O1.3](#)
- ACWC confirmed the multi-year project with ASEAN-ACT during its regional meeting in March 2021, with kick-off meeting in June 2021, on capacity enhancement of frontline CTIP responders using victim-oriented and gender-sensitive approaches – [project R101](#); [outcomes O1.3 and O1.1](#)
- ACWC and ASEAN-ACT engaged two consultants in September 2021, one to support the development of training materials and the other to develop a ‘do no harm’ guide for frontline responders – [project R101](#); [outcomes O1.3 and O1.1](#)
- ASEAN-ACT provided input and recommendations in the development of Malaysia’s new National Action Plan on Anti-Trafficking in Persons 2021-2025, launched in March 2021, with our input officially acknowledges, along with that of other agencies, in the final document – [project A199](#); [outcomes O1.1 and O1.2](#)
- ASEAN-ACT facilitated knowledge sharing and learning through the [portal](#), which serves as a resource hub for CTIP policymakers, practitioners, NGOs and the private sector – [project A199](#); [outcome O1.3](#)
- In collaboration with key partners from ASEAN member states as speakers, we [conducted five webinars in 2021](#), on justice system adaptive responses – [project A199](#); [outcome O1.3](#)

Study on non-punishment principle

Achievement: In 2021, a study on the implementation of the non-punishment principle for victims of human trafficking in ASEAN member states was conducted. ASEAN-ACT commissioned international law expert, Dr Marika McAdam, to carry out the study, which explores the extent to which the non-punishment principle is implemented in law, policy and practice. It also canvasses practical challenges and barriers that have been encountered by justice actors in interpreting and applying the principle. The report findings and recommendations are offered to legislators, policy makers and justice practitioners to support the ongoing implementation of the non-punishment principle which protects the rights of victims and leads to improvements in victim identification and the criminal justice response to trafficking. The study was informed by a desk review of materials and 12 roundtable discussions held in six countries – Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam. A [regional validation workshop](#) was held in December 2021 to present the key findings and recommendations of the study. A total of 63 participants (35 female and 28 male) from government agencies and non-government organisations attended the regional workshop. Professor Siobhán Mullally, UN Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons provided the keynote speech during the regional workshop. The report is available [here](#).

Webinar series

Achievement: To address a recognised lack of crisis management integration in ACTIP implementation, we conducted [five webinars](#) for ASEAN member states from July to December 2020. We received positive feedback and saw increasing participation in our webinars, so we continued the series in 2021, with five further webinars. The webinars serve as a platform to build capacity and share knowledge, and good practice from within and beyond the ASEAN region. A total of 2,370 participants (1,347 female, 1,013 male and 10 other) attended the five

webinars. We collected feedback from participants after each webinar. In 2021, of 1,577 responses, feedback was positive, with 95% expressing overall satisfaction. About 91% of respondents believed that this type of event was very useful, and 95% confirmed that they learned something new from the webinar.

Study on freedom of movement of TIP victims

Achievement: In late 2020, an information note was written by Dr Anne Gallagher and Dr Marika McAdam, released by ASEAN-ACT based on a 2018 study of shelter practices conducted in the ASEAN region. [The key findings and recommendations from this publication](#) were presented and discussed during a regional workshop in April 2021, co-hosted by the Philippine representatives to SOMTC, the Department of the Interior and Local Government, and supported by ACWC Thailand and Thailand's Ministry of Social Development and Human Security as the focal point of ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Social Welfare and Development. The regional workshop enabled knowledge exchange and discussed experiences on shelter practices among workshop participants from ASEAN member states justice agencies and ASEAN sectoral bodies. ASEAN-ACT is continuing to support policy dialogue on shelter practice and freedom of movement as part of the ACWC multi-year project. The report is available [here](#).

Regional 'do no harm' guide

Achievement: A multi-year project (R101) with the ACWC was commissioned through ASEAN-ACT during the first half of 2021. The regional guide for frontline responders in Southeast Asia will promote consistent delivery of victim support services and protection based on the principles of 'do no harm'. Between October and December 2021, six national consultation workshops were conducted in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam – to share knowledge and experience, and discuss the complex



AICHR partnership with ASEAN-ACT

Context

The ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) has overall responsibility for the promotion and protection of human rights in the ASEAN region. Our partnership with the AICHR, started in June 2021 (under project A104), to contribute to the capacity-building component of the Bohol TIP Work Plan 2017–2020 and support the AICHR in implementing its ACTIP-aligned initiatives.

Key to the start-up of this partnership were two capacity development events held in August and November 2021, after a series of consultation meetings and discussions. Both events strengthened the knowledge and understanding of frontline officers on community policing approach and human rights-based, gender-sensitive and child-friendly approaches to handling TIP victims. The events also aimed to build skills in victim identification and prevention of trafficking in persons.

Achievements

Through these capacity development events, the AICHR and all ASEAN member states had the opportunity to share knowledge, learning and challenges on community policing, human rights and approaches to handling TIP victims (immediate outcome 1.3). The first event focused on a community policing approach to victim identification and prevention, and was attended by 121 partner representatives (76 women and 45 men). The second training was attended by 142 frontline officers across the ASEAN region (95 women and 47 men). We received positive feedback from participants on both events, with 98% of training participants satisfied with the event they attended. About 95% of participants confirmed that the topics covered were relevant to their work. When asked how well the training has enhanced or improved their understanding, 42% responded 'excellent', 44% responded 'good' and 14% responded 'fair'.

“ I gained knowledge in assisting children who are victims of human trafficking and especially involving them in every process. Community-based cooperation at grassroots level is very important to be able to detect people who are victims of criminal acts early.

Event participant



It is an art to conduct an interview. I am thankful that I gained knowledge on this, especially the things to be done when using an interpreter; there are guidelines to follow to effectively provide [for] the need[s] of the victim. It was a great discussion.

Event participant

I personally like how the importance of self-care is highlighted in the session. Before anyone can take care of others, they must take care of themselves first to ensure they are in the suitable capacity to perform their duties.

”

Event participant

Cambodia



97%

In 2021, there were 97% of participants in Cambodia who responded that training events enhanced or improved their learning.

Indonesia



69%

69% of the participants trained in Indonesia were women.

Lao PDR



28

In 2021, a total of 28 knowledge sharing and learning events were supported.

Philippines



81

The blended e-learning TIP course was delivered to 81 prosecutors across the country (65% women).

Thailand



93%

In 2021, about 93% of participants from Thailand were satisfied with capacity development events.

Vietnam



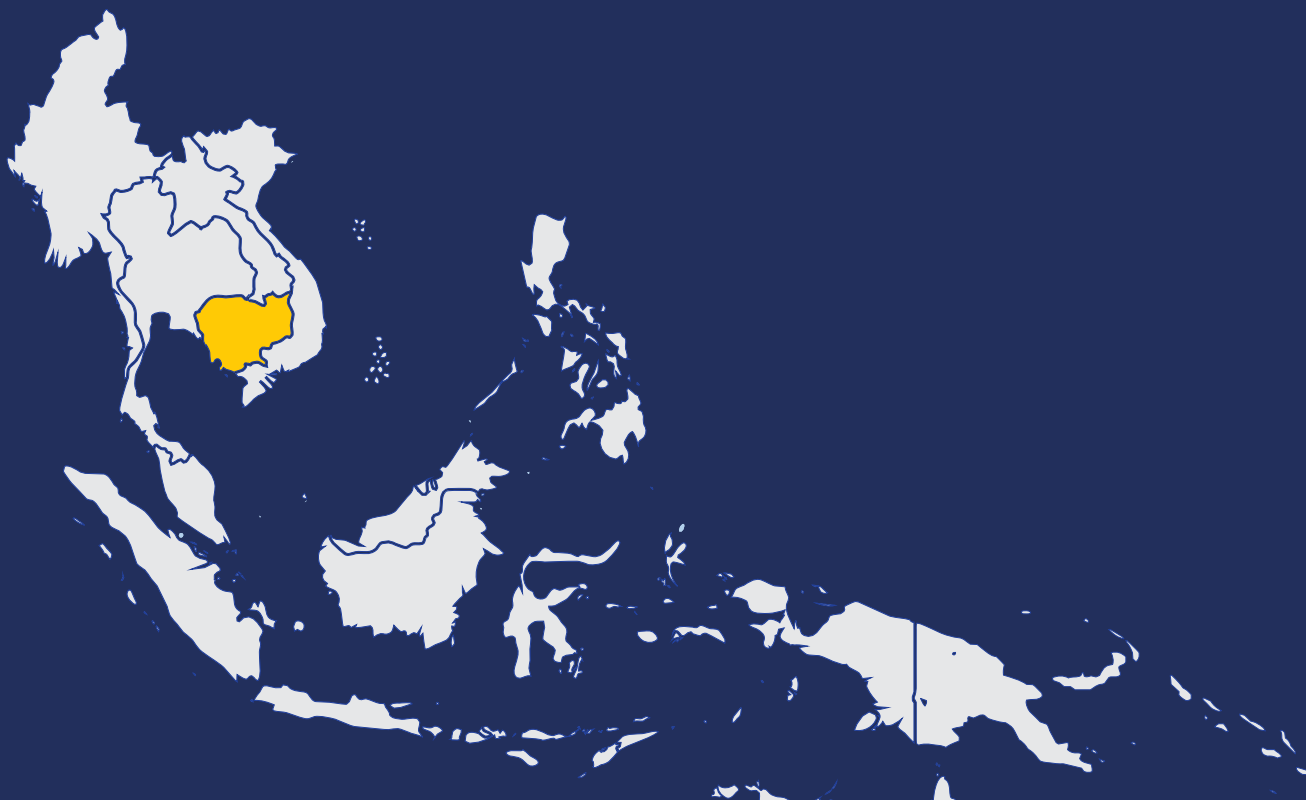
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In 2021, justice partners in Vietnam had incorporated victim rights and GESI into 5 trafficking in persons training materials.

Progress by country

EOP02:

ASEAN member state justice and related state agencies are increasingly capable of implementing their ACTIP obligations, in particular those that uphold victim rights



Cambodia



5 approved projects in 2021

2021 projects

- C202 – transnational investigative cooperation, with Cambodian National Police (CNP)
- C203 – capacity development initiative, with CNP
- C204 – prosecutor capacity development initiative, with the Ministry of Justice (MOJ)
- C205 – counter trafficking in persons court capacity development initiatives, with the Judiciary
- C299 – Effectiveness and governance

Other key partners in 2021 program implementation

- National Committee for Counter Trafficking (NCCT)
- Ministry of Justice
- Cambodian National Police, Ministry of Interior
- Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (MoSVY)
- Legal Support for Children and Women (LSCW)



34 events in Cambodia, with 1,057 participants (36% women)



20 capacity development events conducted in Cambodia



743 people trained (35% women)

In 2021, we supported partners in Cambodia in contributing to each of ASEAN-ACT's outcomes. Here are some of the achievements:

- Anti-Human Trafficking and Juvenile Protection Police conducted meetings with the Royal Thai Police and Thai Department of Special Investigation, on transnational investigative cooperation – [project C202](#); [outcomes O2.2 and O2.3](#)
- CNP held technical meetings to review the Standard Operating Procedures for Specialist Unit of Anti-Trafficking – [project C203](#); [outcomes O2.1 and O2.3](#)
- MOJ conducted consultative workshop to assess capacity gaps for trainers on the ASEAN Skills Program on TIP for prosecutors and judges – [project C204](#); [outcomes O2.1 and O2.3](#)
- The Judiciary, MOJ and NCCT sponsored an online roundtable meeting on victim-sensitive court principles, with 80 participants¹ – [project C205](#); [outcomes O2.1 and O2.3](#)
- NCCT conducted training for 105 frontline responders² on procedures for identifying TIP victims – [project C299](#); [outcomes O2.1, O2.2 and O2.3](#)
- MoSVY held six training on policy and minimum standards on protection of TIP victims – [project C299](#); [outcomes O2.1, O2.2 and O2.3](#)
- Conducted three capacity development assessment workshops for judiciary, prosecutors, police, welfare, social services and foreign ministry officials – [project C299](#); [outcomes O2.1, O2.2 and O2.3](#)

1 30 women and 50 men

2 33 women and 72 men

CASE STUDY:

MoSVY training on policy and minimum standards on protection of TIP victims

Context: During the capacity development assessment workshops with justice and welfare agencies in 2021, partners identified key areas to strengthen. One of key areas to strengthen is the need to implement and improve the policy and minimum standards on protection of TIP victims. MoSVY collaborated with ASEAN-ACT in planning and conducting training of provincial/district frontline officers on this issue. The objective of the training was to raise awareness and strengthen the capacity of frontline officers who are working directly and providing services to TIP victims.

Achievement: In 2021, MoSVY conducted six training for 230 provincial frontline officers (61 women, 169 men) on policy and minimum standards on protection of TIP victims under project C299. By providing this training, participants discussed and shared experiences on working with TIP victims. They learned about TIP laws, procedures on victim identification, protection of victims and services available to TIP victims.

Linkages: MoSVY worked with local commune police, local health centres, district council officials and directors of district secondary/high schools.

Intended outcome: If MoSVY train frontline responders; **then** there will be increased awareness and enhanced capacity on protection of TIP victims; **and finally**, this will help to improve quality of remedies for TIP victims in Cambodia.



Indonesia



5 approved projects in 2021

2021 projects

- C202 – transnational investigative cooperation, with Cambodian National Police (CNP)
- C203 – capacity development initiative, with CNP
- C204 – prosecutor capacity development initiative, with the Ministry of Justice (MOJ)
- C205 – counter trafficking in persons court capacity development initiatives, with the Judiciary
- C299 – Effectiveness and governance

Other key partners in 2021 program implementation

- National Committee for Counter Trafficking (NCCT)
 - Ministry of Justice
 - Cambodian National Police, Ministry of Interior
 - Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (MoSVY)
 - Legal Support for Children and Women (LSCW)
-



7 events in Indonesia, with 402 participants (69% women)



2 capacity development events conducted in Indonesia



206 people trained, 69% women

In 2021, the bilateral memorandum of agreement between Indonesia and Australia was not yet signed. However, we supported partners in Indonesia in contributing to each of ASEAN-ACT's outcomes through our regional activities and through activities delivered in partnership with AIPJ2. Here are some of the achievements:

- ASEAN-ACT provided technical advice to the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection to inform the evaluation of Indonesia's five-year National Plan of Action to Counter Trafficking 2015–2019. The program supported translation and the printing of 150 copies of the report – project I202; outcomes O2.1, O2.2 and O2.3
- ASEAN-ACT provided technical input and participated in consultations to inform the development of Indonesia's new national action plan to counter trafficking, including on victim rights and gender equality and social inclusion – project I202; outcomes O2.1, O2.2 and O2.3
- In partnership with AIPJ2 and an Indonesian civil society organisation, commenced a detailed analysis of Indonesia's trafficking in persons from decisions made by courts from 2019 to 2021 – project I204; outcomes O2.1 and O2.3
- LPSK co-hosted an expert roundtable on the non-punishment principle to generate input into our study on the non-punishment principle in ASEAN – project I299; outcomes O2.1 and O2.3
- In partnership with AIPJ2 and Australian government agencies, conducted a capacity development assessment workshop for LPSK's 22 officers³ from counter-trafficking and counter-terrorism, to determine priorities and support to CTIP and counter-terrorism – project I299; outcomes O2.1, O2.2 and O2.3

³ 10 women and 12 men

CASE STUDY:

ACWC Indonesia workshop on 'do no harm'

Context: During the first half of 2021, we confirmed a multi-year project with the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC). One of the project's initiatives is a regional 'do no harm' guide to be developed in consultation with partners, practitioners and frontline responders.

Achievement: On 21 October 2021, ACWC Indonesia conducted a national workshop for 46 stakeholders (35 women, 11 men) from government agencies and non-government organisations. By conducting this workshop, participants contributed their views and experiences to the development of the regional guide. The regional guide for frontline responders, especially law enforcers, in Southeast Asia will ensure consistent delivery of victim support services and protection using the 'do no harm' principle and approach

Linkages: ACWC Indonesia was supported by MoWECP in conducting this online workshop.

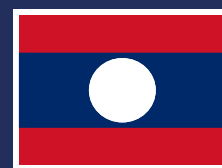
Intended outcome: If ACWC conducted 'do no harm' workshop for stakeholders; **then** there will be increased learning and knowledge-sharing on 'do no harm' principle and approach; **and finally**, this will help to improve consistent delivery of victim support services and protection of TIP victims in the region.



Do No Harm explained by ACWC representative to Indonesia Sri Danti Anwar: <https://youtu.be/47toD5d-Ols>



Lao PDR



5 approved projects in 2021

2021 projects

- L201 – counter trafficking in persons capacity development initiative, with Anti-Human Trafficking Department (AHTD)
- L204 – CTIP court capacity development initiatives, with People's Supreme Court (PSC)
- L206 – cross-agency CTIP cooperation, with the Lao Women's Union (LWU)
- L207 – prosecutor capacity development initiative, with the Office of the Supreme People's Procuracy (OSPP)
- C299 – Effectiveness and governance

Other key partners in 2021 program implementation

- National Committee on Anti-Trafficking in Persons
- Ministry of Public Security
- Judicial Research and Training Institute
- Public Prosecutor Training Institute
- Village Focus International (VFI)



28 events in Lao PDR, with 602 participants (45% women)



17 capacity development events conducted in Lao PDR



275 people trained, 48% women

In 2021, we supported partners in Lao PDR in contributing to each of ASEAN-ACT's outcomes. Here are some of the achievements:

- The Anti-Human Trafficking Department conducted a training-of-trainers on investigation of TIP cases for 17 officers⁴ and a consultation workshop on information sharing among law enforcement agencies in TIP cases – [project L201; outcomes O2.1 and O2.3](#)
- PSC held electronic evidence procedures workshop for 21 judges⁵ – [project L204; outcomes O2.1 and O2.3](#)
- PSC conducted three workshops on leading to the development of victim-sensitive court guidelines for judges – [project C204; outcomes O2.1 and O2.3](#)
- LWU conducted a workshop on victim support and protection, and a training-of-trainers course on victim protection, assistance and referral guidelines – [project L206; outcomes O2.2](#)
- OSPP and the Public Prosecutor Training Institute conducted a training-of-trainers course, with 30 participants⁶ to enhance capacity in developing and conducting TIP training, and a workshop to develop a permanent training program for prosecutors – [project L207; outcomes O2.1 and O2.3](#)
- Conducted capacity development assessment workshops for judiciary, prosecutors, police, welfare, social services and foreign ministry officials – [project L299; outcomes O2.1, O2.2 and O2.3](#)

4 2 women and 15 men
5 5 women and 16 men
6 11 women and 19 men

CASE STUDY:

Strengthening victim assistance and referral process

Context: During the Lao PDR capacity development assessment workshops with justice and welfare agencies in 2021, partners identified key areas to strengthen. One of key areas to strengthen is the cross-agency cooperation in providing protection, services and support to TIP victims. Lao Women's Union partnered with ASEAN-ACT in developing a multi-year project in response to this area to strengthen.

Achievement: In September 2021, LWU conducted a workshop on victim support and protection for 18 service providers (15 women, 3 men). We also supported the printing of 5,000 copies of guidelines on protection, assistance and referral of TIP victims. The guidelines were used in the training-of-trainers course in November 2021 for 28 participants (24 women, 4 men). The training and distribution of printed guidelines serves as an entry point for capacity development on TIP victim support and protection, gender sensitivity, and including victim rights and GESI principles.

Linkages: LWU worked with provincial branches of LWU, Village Focus International and Sengsavang Shelter.

Intended outcome: **If** LWU conduct training-of-trainers course; **then** there will be increased awareness and enhanced capacity on victim protection, assistance and referral guidelines; **and finally**, this will help to improve quality of remedies for TIP victims in Lao PDR.



Philippines



8 approved projects in 2021

2021 projects

- P201 – localisation of CTIP law pilot initiative, with the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG)
- P202 – victim-centred prosecution capacity development initiative, with Department of Justice (DOJ)
- P203 – CTIP operations capacity development initiatives, with the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI)
- P204 – victim-centred courts capacity development initiative, with the Supreme Court (SC)
- P206 – transnational investigative cooperation, with the Philippine National Police (PNP)
- P209 – capacity development, with the PNP
- P299 – Effectiveness and governance
- P305 – CTIP in government supply chains pilot initiative, with the Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking (IACAT)

Other key partners in 2021 program implementation

- Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD)
- Philippine Overseas Employment Administration
- Department of Labour and Employment
- International Justice Mission (IJM)
- Blas F. Ople Policy Center and Training Institute (Ople Center)



109

events in the Philippines, with **3,647 participants** (61% women)



32

capacity development events conducted in the Philippines



1,889

people trained, 55% women

In 2021, we supported partners in the Philippines in contributing to each of ASEAN-ACT's outcomes. Here are some of the achievements:

- DILG completed three manuals: (1) anti-trafficking roadshow materials, (2) ordinance writing guidebook, and (3) operations manual for the Local Committees on Anti-Trafficking and Violence Against Women and Children – [project P201; outcomes O2.1 and O2.3](#)
- DOJ held three victim-sensitive courts focus group discussions on TIP cases in the National Capital Region, Visayas and Mindanao – [project P202; outcomes O2.1 and O2.2](#)
- NBI conducted a validation workshop to review the draft basic and advanced program of instructions for anti-trafficking course – [project P203; outcomes O2.1](#)
- Presented the victim-sensitive court concept to the Technical Working Group of the Supreme Court, composed of the Philippines Judicial Academy, the Office of the Court Administrator and Program Management Office – [project P204; outcomes O2.1](#)
- The IACAT completed the roundtable discussion on TIP dataset with 77 participants⁷ on TIP indicators, data collection principles and challenges – [project P204; outcomes O2.1](#)

CASE STUDY:

Blended e-learning TIP course for prosecutors

Context: One of key areas to strengthen and prioritised by partners in the Philippines is the capacity building of prosecutors in dealing with TIP cases. The National Prosecution Service (NPS) of the DOJ collaborated with ASEAN-ACT in reviewing the existing basic TIP course for prosecutors in the Philippines. Due to the pandemic, NPS addressed the challenges of face-to-face training by considering e-learning format.

Achievement: An instructional designer and e-learning developer was engaged to convert existing basic TIP course into e-learning format, as part of the online blended learning course for the NPS. In 2021, the NPS conducted three training for 81 prosecutors (53 women, 28 men) under project P202. A core group of trainer-prosecutors who delivered the course to fellow prosecutors, drawing on their own knowledge and expertise in TIP in the Philippines and benefiting from ASEAN-ACT training and guidance on how to develop and deliver effective adult learning courses. We supported them to become better trainers and mentors.

Linkages: DOJ worked with prosecutors from the National Capital Region and the Visayas regions.

Intended outcome: If DOJ train prosecutors using the blended e-learning course; **then** there will be enhanced capacity on protection of TIP victims and prosecution of TIP cases; **and finally**, this will help to improve the quality of prosecutions of TIP cases.

Justice systems coordination mechanism

Achievement: The establishment of the Philippines justice system coordination mechanism and signing of the memorandum of agreement for justice system coordination mechanism between the Office of the Court Administration of the Supreme Court and the Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking (IACAT) in May 2021 are key milestones towards improving practice of monitoring and reporting of TIP cases in the Philippines (project P202). The coordination mechanism supports monitoring of TIP cases in the justice system and promotes victim-sensitive handling of victim-witnesses. Counterparts confirmed that coordination has improved, and will continue to improve, as a result of the memorandum of agreement.⁸ This activity was complemented by three victim-sensitive courts focus group discussions on TIP cases, completed in 2021.

Digital communications training

Achievement: On 14–15 December 2021, ASEAN-ACT facilitated a training on digital communications for 24 officers (9 female and 15 male) of the NBI Anti-Human Trafficking Division, Public Information Office and the IACAT. The objective of the training was to enhance skills in digital storytelling and social media management. Training participants were introduced to the principles of planning and implementing digital campaigns, drafting campaign strategy, messaging, techniques to increase reach using Facebook Ads, and boosted posts. Participants learned how to use and manage social media tools more effectively for community outreach.

Partnership with the IACAT

Achievement: In 2021, we continued our support to the IACAT's pilot project on CTIP in government supply chains. We participated in an IACAT-initiated introductory meeting with the Government Procurement Policy Board. In October 2021, the IACAT Secretariat convened the second roundtable discussion with the DOJ on the introduction of anti-trafficking in persons policy in the department's procurement process. During the second half of 2021, the IACAT commenced planning for the

review of the Third National Strategic Plan of Action Plan Against Trafficking in Persons (2017–2021) which will inform the development of the next national strategic plan of action. By the end of 2021, we supported the IACAT to engage a consultant – to facilitate and support the IACAT in reviewing the strategic plan. Both initiatives are continuing in 2022.

E-learning on recovery and reintegration

Achievement: A cross-agency collaboration to improve recovery and reintegration of TIP victims was supported by ASEAN-ACT, involving DSWD, IACAT, DOJ, IJM, DILG and SaferKids Philippines. Two workshops in September and October 2021 to develop e-learning course materials for the recovery and reintegration program for TIP victims. Stakeholders beyond the justice sector, including NGOs, were consulted in developing the course materials.



Photo: Launching of three DILG knowledge products for Local Government Units (LGU), supported by ASEAN-ACT.



Photo: Review and reflection of ASEAN-ACT progress with government and non-government partners.



Thailand



6 approved projects in 2021

2021 projects

- T201 – CTIP court capacity development initiative, with Court of Justice (COJ)
- T202 – victim-centred prosecution capacity development initiative, with Office of the Attorney General (OAG)
- T203 – transnational investigative cooperation, with the Royal Thai Police (RTP) and Department of Special Investigation (DSI)
- T206 – cross-agency CTIP cooperation
- T208 – capacity development initiative, with the Division of Anti-Trafficking in Persons, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security (MSDHS)
- T299 – Effectiveness and governance

Other key partners in 2021 program implementation

- Ministry of Justice
- Department of Trafficking in Persons Litigation (DTIPL), OAG
- Ministry of Labour
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
- International Justice Mission (IJM)
- Social Responsibility Law Office (SR Law)
- Human Rights and Development Foundation (HRDF)
- Verité Southeast Asia (VSEA)
- Labour Protection Network (LPN)



72 events in Thailand,
with 1,448
participants
(49% women)



13 capacity
development
events conducted
in Thailand



879
people trained,
48% women

In 2021, we supported partners in Thailand in contributing to each of ASEAN-ACT's outcomes. Here are some of the achievements:

- Victim-sensitive court concepts, principles and [indicators](#) were presented to the Office of the Judiciary and representatives from the RTP, DSI, OAG, MSDHS and Ministry of Labour – [project T201; outcome O2.1](#)
- DTIPL conducted three batches of fundamental training on TIP prosecution for assistant provincial public prosecutors – [project T202; outcomes O2.1 and O2.2](#)
- DTIPL organised a workshop in December 2021 on prosecutors' roles in prosecuting TIP cases, including coordination with police and other agencies in preparing TIP victims and witnesses – [project T202; outcome O2.3](#)
- Developed and presented a concept note on new Centre of Excellence to develop CTIP capacity to two national subcommittees and to the National Coordinating and Monitoring of Anti-Trafficking in Persons Performance Committee – [project T206; outcome O2.3](#)
- Supported the printing of 5,000 copies of the Child-Centric Approach Guidelines for the Thailand Internet Crimes Against Children (TICAC) Task Force in RTP. The new bilingual materials were distributed to RTP officials for reference whenever they are dealing with child victims – [project T299; outcomes O2.1, O2.2 and O2.3](#)

CASE STUDY:

Sharing experience on victim protection and court process

Context: Through ASEAN-ACT's activity on victim-sensitive principles and indicators with Law and Development Partners, workshops were organised in Lao PDR (February 2021), Vietnam (April 2021) and Cambodia (June 2021). The highlight of the workshops was the presentation and discussion session with the Justice of the Human Trafficking Division of Thailand's Court of Appeal, the Hon. Sittipong Tanyapongpruch. His presentation focused on his knowledge and experience on victim-sensitive court practices for TIP victims.

Achievement: By sharing knowledge and experience, judges learned from each other – a solution to their challenges in practicing victim-sensitive courts. Examples and benefits of cross-agency collaboration on victim-sensitive courts informed workshop participants. The format of sharing knowledge and learning from other ASEAN member states was well received by judges.

Linkages: Thailand's Court of Appeal worked with Law and Development Partners, and presented to judges from Lao PDR, Cambodia and Vietnam.

Intended outcome: **If** Thailand's Court of Appeal shared knowledge and experience to other judges; **then** there will be increased awareness and enhanced capacity on victim protection and court process; **and finally**, this will help to improve quality of remedies for TIP victims in the region.

Recovery and reflection period

Achievement: In 2021, the ASEAN-ACT completed a study on the ‘recovery and reflection period’ for TIP victims which examined policies and practices in Thailand and other jurisdictions. The findings of the study were presented to the national working group on reflection period in November 2021, attended by government working group members and representatives from government and NGO shelters. Consequently, the Department of TIP Litigation of the Office of the Attorney General and the Ministry of Social Development and Human security (MSDHS) completed a roadmap to pilot a longer recovery and reflection period for TIP victims. The pilot will be implemented in 2022.

Transnational investigative cooperation

Achievement: The issue of transnational investigative cooperation is being addressed through police-to-police cooperation between countries (projects T203 and A208). The Royal Thai Police (RTP) had been working with the Myanmar Police Force (MPF) since the predecessor program AAPTIP⁹. The Department of Special Investigation also worked with MPF on specific TIP cases. The cooperation with MPF has been on hold since February 2020. However, the experience and lessons from the cooperation with MPF is being used in new cooperation with the Royal Malaysia Police (RMP) and Cambodian National Police (CNP). Introductory meeting with RMP was held online in March 2021. Introductory meetings with CNP were held in August 2021 (with DSI) and November 2021 (with RTP).

UNODC training of judges

Achievement: The partnership with UNODC resulted in the development of a training curriculum (seven modules) for judges in Thailand in 2020. The first training using this curriculum was held in December 2020 (Chiang Rai). Three training courses were completed in 2021: Udon Thani on 18–19 March, attended by 19 judges (4 female, 15 male); Hat Yai on 25–26 March attended by 27 judges (5 female, 22 male); and Krabi on 8–9 April, attended by 23 judges (6 female, 17 male). The last event planned for April 2021 was postponed due to COVID-19-related restrictions. The training will be conducted in 2022.

9 Australia–Asia Program to Combat Trafficking in Persons





Vietnam



7 approved projects in 2021

2021 projects

- V201 – victim identification capacity development initiative, with Ministry of Public Security (MPS)
- V202 – CTIP court capacity development initiative, with Supreme People's Court (SPC)
- V203 – victim-centred courts capacity development initiative, with the Supreme People's Court (SPC)
- V204 – equality and inclusion – victim-centred prosecution capacity development initiative, with the Supreme People's Procuracy (SPP)
- V205 – support for including equality and inclusion and victim rights in national plan of action, with Ministry of Public Security (MPS)
- V206 – Cross-agency CTIP cooperation
- V299 – Effectiveness and governance

Other key partners in 2021 program implementation

- People's Police Academy
- People's Police College No. 1
- Vietnam Court Academy
- Hanoi Procuratorate University
- Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs (MOLISA)
- Vietnam Women's Union (VWU)
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Blue Dragon Children's Foundation (Blue Dragon)



37 events in Vietnam,
with 1,132
participants
(56% women)



16 capacity
development
events conducted
in Vietnam



577 people trained,
57% women

In 2021, we supported partners in Vietnam in contributing to ASEAN-ACT's outcomes. Here are some of the achievements:

- Ministry of Public Security organised a workshop on enhancing the effectiveness of international cooperation on TIP cases in April 2021, with 49 participants¹⁰ from law enforcement central agencies and representatives from 12 provinces – [project V201; outcome O2.1](#)
- The Supreme People's Court finalised TIP training materials for judges and court staff, which are currently under review and will be endorsed – [project V202; outcome O2.1](#)
- The Supreme People's Court organised a workshop on victim-sensitive courts and [victim-centred approach](#) for 38 judges¹¹ – [project V203; outcome O2.2](#)
- The Supreme People's Procuracy conducted a 'writeshop' to develop guidance on mutual legal assistance in handling TIP cases – [project V204; outcomes O2.1 and O2.2](#)
- A 'training of trainers' was held for CTIP officials from key justice agencies on both the technical aspects of CTIP as well as participatory methods and approaches for designing and delivering training programs – [project V205; outcomes O2.1 and O2.2](#)
- MOLISA conducted training for the labour sector on victim-centred and trauma-informed approaches – [project V299; outcomes O2.2 and O2.3](#)

¹⁰ 5 women and 44 men

¹¹ 18 women and 20 men

CASE STUDY:

Cross-agency collaboration – our partnership with the Vietnam Women's Union

Context: The Vietnam Women's Union (VWU) is one of the government institutions in Vietnam that provides frontline support to female victims of trafficking in persons. Following the 2019 capacity development assessment workshops organised by ASEAN-ACT, a multi-year project (V206) was developed, on cross-agency CTIP cooperation that includes activities with the VWU.

Achievement: In 2021, three batches of training were conducted for 127 victim support frontline officers (110 women, 17 men) from VWU, MPS, SPP, SPC, MOLISA, Peace House Shelter, One-Stop Service Offices, People's Police Academy and People's Police College. They were trained on the following key topics: TIP legislation, the psychology of TIP victims, victim-centred principles and approach, gender sensitivity, and a trauma-informed care approach. Participants had an opportunity to share experiences and discuss with key national and international speakers and experts.

Linkages: VWU worked with other government agencies – the People's Police Academy, People's Police College No. 1, Supreme People's Court, Court Academy, Institute of Labour Science and Social Affairs, People's Police College No. 2, People's Police University and Hanoi Procuratorate University.

Intended outcome: If VWU train frontline responders; then there will be increased awareness and enhanced capacity on protection of TIP victims; and finally, this will help to improve quality of remedies for TIP victims in Vietnam.

Vietnam TIP Journal

Achievement: On 30 July 2021, the Hanoi Procuratorate University (HPU) launched the second [Trafficking in Persons Journal](#) to commemorate World Day against Trafficking in Persons. A total of 2,500 copies were printed and distributed as reference materials for TIP trainers, justice agencies, students, prosecutors across the country, practitioners and training institutions. The publication of the second journal build on the success of the first TIP Journal in 2020. A follow-up survey¹² of those who received the first journal indicated that 24% 'always' use the journal, 51% 'often' use the journal and 23% sometimes use the journal. About 92% of respondents believed that the journal helped them better understand CTIP issues. When asked to rate the overall usefulness of the journal, 36% responded 'extremely useful', 55% responded 'very useful', 8% responded 'moderately useful'.

National Plan of Action Against Human Trafficking 2021–2025

Achievement: The new National Plan of Action Against Human Trafficking 2021–2025 was submitted to the Prime Minister in January 2021 and enacted in February 2021. Key components of the new national plan of

action include: the integration of victim rights and gender equality and social inclusion; and a commitment to establish a TIP data dashboard for relevant CTIP government actors. The development of the new national plan of action was supported by ASEAN-ACT in 2020. It started with a review of the national plan of action that ended in 2020. The development of the national plan of action involved a series of workshops and consultation with wide range of stakeholders from government agencies and NGOs.

Capacity development of law enforcement

Achievement: In 2021, TIP training materials were completed for the People's Police Academy and local trainings of police officers in the provinces. A training-of-trainers module on TIP training for law enforcement was also completed and will be used by lecturers at police and other criminal justice training institutions. The training-of-trainers module was used in a training-of-trainers event (24 participants) and a master training course (12 participants), from four police training institutions. In January 2021, ASEAN-ACT supported a workshop on improving the identification and verification of victims of trafficking, with 47 participants (22 women, 25 men) from different national agencies and representatives of nine provinces.



¹² Survey of 1,248 people who received the first TIP Journal, conducted in May 2021 by ASEAN-ACT.

Hỗ trợ các quốc gia thành viên
của ASEAN xây dựng hệ thống
tư pháp hiệu quả để trừng trị
những kẻ mua bán người
và bảo vệ quyền con người
của nạn nhân.

aseanac



Development of victim-sensitive court guidelines – the experience of Lao PDR judges

Context

Lao PDR judges identified that applying victim sensitivity in the court room was one of their challenges during our consultations in 2020. In response to this challenge, ASEAN-ACT introduced judges and other judicial officials to the [eight victim-sensitive court indicators and 22 TIP data indicators](#) used to support victim-centred, gender-sensitive disability-inclusive and child-friendly judicial institutions. We organised a workshop on 16 February 2021 for 29 judges and court officials (7 women and 22 men) to discuss the principles and indicators and how they could be applied in the Lao context.

Achievements

The February 2021 workshop generated interest from a senior judge from the People's Supreme Court in developing guidelines for victim-sensitive courts. The strong commitment of the People's Supreme Court led to a series of consultation workshops on the development of victim-sensitive guidelines. Our counterparts initiated this activity as a solution to their challenge of making courts more victim-sensitive and inclusive (immediate outcome 2.3).

By sharing knowledge and experience, judges learned from each other (immediate outcome 1.3). Examples of the benefits of cross-agency collaboration on victim-sensitive courts also informed workshop participants (immediate outcome 2.2). The drafting of the guidelines started in March 2021 and was followed by two consultation drafting workshops on 17–19 August and 10–12 November 2021.

In November 2021, we conducted a follow-up survey of judges who participated in the three workshops (75% response rate) to monitor progress and outcomes of this capacity development activity. About 83% of judges indicated that they retained what they learned. All confirmed the usefulness of the workshop series, with 42% saying they 'always' had opportunity to apply or shared what they learned, while 58% 'often' had opportunity to apply or shared what they learned.

Due to the success of this approach in Lao PDR, this model was presented in Vietnam and Cambodia. Vietnam is also progressing with its own version of victim-sensitive court guidelines.



Australian
d



ASEAN-Australia Counter Trafficking

ລາວ
ສາລະນາຄະດີຄ້າມະນຸດ
ສາມາດຊຶ້ງຖືກເຄາະຮ້າຍ

ລາວ

PROTECTIVE COURTS

“Not often that we get to learn directly from fellow judges in other countries on victim-centred issues like this. Lao courts can learn a lot and obtain valuable and practical ideas and steps on how to strengthen our victim protection efforts in Lao PDR, such as developing a handbook and capacity-building activities – we will still have a lot to do and to expand nationwide.

*Hon. Thongmai Mounbandith,
Chief Judge at People's Supreme Court*

Non-government organisations shared these key achievements as part of our partnerships towards inclusive public policy development in counter-trafficking in persons, that commenced in June 2021.



25 Legal Support for Children and Women, Cambodia

Provided support to 25 TIP survivors through legal aid and referral services.



33 Village Focus International, Lao PDR

Mapped and formed an informal network of 33 NGOs to share knowledge and expertise on CTIP issues.



19 Blas F Ople Policy Center and Training Institute, Philippines

Formed a Coalition Against the Trafficking of Overseas Filipino Workers (CAT-OFWs) composed of 19 founding members: 10 NGOs, 4 OFW community organisations, 4 private recruitment agencies and 1 major trade union.

32 Blas F Ople Policy Center and Training Institute, Philippines

Conducted an information event on the anti-TIP law, labour act and government complaint mechanism for 32 agriculture migrant workers.



216 Labour Protection Network, Thailand

Collected baseline information from 216 migrant workers, on their situation in the three special economic zones in Thailand.



สำนักงานกฎหมาย เอส อาร์

2 Social Responsibility Law Office, Thailand

Completed 2 draft policy briefs on victim identification and compensation for victims.



43 Verité Southeast Asia Inc., Thailand

Interviewed 43 stakeholders to inform the development of research methodology.

29 Verité Southeast Asia Inc., Thailand

Supported the identification, investigation and representation in court of 29 female victims of trafficking in persons, of which 7 were under 18 years old.



5 Migrant Forum Asia

Conducting research in 5 countries, to better understand the impacts of COVID-19 on vulnerability to human trafficking among migrant workers.

Inclusive public policy

EOPO3:

ASEAN member state justice and related state agencies' policies and practices are influenced by relevant stakeholders and better aligned with the ACTIP, especially in connection to victim rights obligations



Policy agenda

Around the specific policy priority



Policy rhetoric

What is discussed around the specific counter-trafficking policy priority?



Policy process

How policy is made and who is engaged?



Policy content

What counter-trafficking policies cover their substance?



Policy implementation

How policies are implemented, mechanisms needed to support implementation?

ASEAN-ACT supported state agencies, non-state stakeholders and other agencies to promote demand-led dialogue and cooperation. Some key achievements towards EOPO3 are listed here. Please see next pages for some initiatives with nine NGO partners, and a story.

Policy engagement plan

Achievement: The development of a national policy engagement plan is a formative step towards joint policy dialogue and learning. An introductory policy engagement planning consultation in the Philippines, held in July 2021, was followed by an intensive policy engagement planning workshop with key partners in November 2021. The purpose of the workshop was to develop a policy engagement plan for the Philippines, and a strategy and learning plan for implementing the policy engagement. Using a problem-driven iterative adaptation (PDIA) approach, counterparts devoted time to agree on key priority problems in trafficking in persons, considered its root causes, identified entry points, and searched for possible solutions to inform the development of the policy engagement plan.

Grants program

Achievement: In 2021, we initiated a grants program in June 2021, to promote joint policy dialogue and learning. Through

the grants program, we are providing support to partner to nine non-government organisations (NGOs) selected as partners based on their approach to counter-trafficking, experience, expertise and alignment with ASEAN-ACT principles and strategies. Activities identified as part of our NGO partnerships to promote policy dialogue and learning includes research, policy advocacy, establishing NGO networks and supporting development of inter-agency cooperation.

Applied political economy analysis

Achievement: A partnership with the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) was initiated in 2021, to conduct an applied political economy analysis to better understand structural vulnerabilities to trafficking for labour exploitation in Southeast Asia. Phase 1 of the research commenced during the second half of 2021 covering Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Vietnam, which will be followed by studies covering the rest of ASEAN member states. The political economy analysis will inform ASEAN-ACT and partners' programming, through an applied approach. The initiative has been introduced to counterparts and the analytical framework has been developed and agreed in 2021. An initiation workshop was successfully convened and data collection started in the four countries in the first phase.

Legal Support for Children and Women

25

Provided support to 25 TIP survivors through legal aid and referral services.

Legal Support for Children and Women (LSCW) is a Cambodian non-government organisation initially established to build the capacity of lawyers and organisational staff in legal aid provision. LSCW is providing free legal advice to Cambodian women and children victims of crime and victims of human trafficking.

In June 2021, ASEAN-ACT commenced partnership with LSCW. The focus is to provide legal assistance to victims of trafficking and use lessons learned in victim identification to inform policy dialogue. Here are some of their achievements under this partnership:

- Provided legal aid support to 25 trafficking in persons survivors (7 female and 18 male). These survivors were also referred to relevant services. [EOP02 and EOP03](#)
- Organised two virtual consultation meetings with members of the NGO Technical Working Group (TWG) on trafficking in persons, a working group of Cambodia's National Committee for Counter Trafficking (NCCT). [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- Conducted a virtual case management and referral system for Tbong Khmum Provincial Committee to Counter Trafficking (PCCT) and NGO representatives, with 21 participants (10 female and 11 male). [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- Organised three virtual meetings with PCCT in Kampong Cham, Tbong Khmum and Prey Veng provinces, to inform about the project, build partnership and develop telegram group. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- Established telegram groups as an e-platform for information sharing, communication and case referrals between PCCT and NGOs in three provinces. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- Between July and December 2021, provided legal aid on two cases of trafficking, both are still pending in court. [EOP02 and EOP03](#)
- Referred five irregular migrant workers for vaccination support upon arrival at the quarantine area along the Thai border, through the referral system established by LSCW with the provincial committee. [EOP02 and EOP03](#)

Village Focus International



Mapped and formed an informal network of 33 NGOs to share knowledge and expertise on CTIP issues.

Village Focus International (VFI) is an international non-government organisation founded in Lao PDR in 2000, to address challenges faced by rural communities. VFI work across multiple provinces and operates two shelters that support victims of trafficking. VFI also manages border transit centre for trafficking survivors and an agricultural training facility for local farmers.

In June 2021, ASEAN-ACT commenced partnership with VFI. The focus is on improving victim identification and assistance at local levels, and developing the capacity of government and NGOs to respond to TIP. Here are some of their achievements under this partnership:

Identified 33 NGOs and developed a mapping by areas of work, key objectives, target groups and geographic targets. [EOPO2 and EOPO3](#)

Organised a consultation workshop in December 2021, with NGOs in Lao PDR that worked directly or indirectly on counter-trafficking in persons issues focusing on migration in southern provinces. Consultation included relevant government agencies, and representatives from 14 NGOs. The workshop intends to build

network of NGOs and other organisations working on TIP and migration issues. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)

Established an informal network of NGOs, a key output from the consultation workshop held in December 2021. NGO members are eager to participate and link with VFI. [EOPO2 and EOPO3](#)

Conducted a two-day hybrid training on basic knowledge on TIP and labour migration laws and referral system for suspected TIP cases, in November 2021. The training for 16 NGOs with 30 participants (11 women and 19 men) – also aimed to enhance relationship between VFI and other NGOs working on counter-trafficking in persons. Two specialist trainers were invited – a trainer from the Supreme Court and an expert on TIP and migration. At the end of the training, all participants requested VFI to organise more training to increase their capacity in responding to trafficking in persons and providing services to TIP victims. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)

Commenced the development of a simple TIP victim identification guidelines for NGOs. This will be completed during the first quarter of 2022. [EOPO2 and EOPO3](#)

Blas F Ople Policy Center and Training Institute

19

Formed a Coalition Against the Trafficking of Overseas Filipino Workers (CAT-OFWs) composed of 19 founding members: 10 NGOs, 4 OFW community organisations, 4 private recruitment agencies and 1 major trade union.

Blas F Ople Police Center and Training Institute (Ople Center) is a non-profit organisation in the Philippines that advocates for migrant workers' rights and welfare, provides assistance to overseas Filipino workers, and contributes to counter-trafficking efforts and capacity building.

In June 2021, ASEAN-ACT commenced a partnership with the Ople Center. The focus is policy dialogue and advocacy on migrant workers protection in a new policy framework and government agency to protect migrant workers. See story at the end of this section, on Ople Center's advocacy work for the establishment of the Department of Migrant Workers (DMW).

- Formed the CAT-OFWs on 24 November 2021, with 19 founding members. Two key events held – formal convening of the coalition, and advocacy plan charted in December. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- CAT-OFWs submitted in December 2021 a position paper to the Philippine Congress on proposed Bill creating the Department of Migrant Workers. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- Completed analysis for the amendments to the TIP Law, presented to the Chief Legislative Officer, and agreed that the coalition's amendments will be included in the next period amendments in Congress. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- Dialogue with key legislative staff and three senators – successfully lobbied to include provisions that strengthen the anti-trafficking mandate of the new

DMW. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)

- CAT-OFWs worked with sponsors of the Bill to retain provisions on Fair and Ethical Recruitment which will provide more incentives for private sectors to better protect migrant workers. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- Supported the IACAT in successfully lobbied to restore the 25 million pesos budget removed from the IACAT. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- **Key lessons** – The Ople Centre's access to legislators and legislative staff was a key factor in achieving these results. Ople Center continues to serve as resource to the Congress and Ople Center representatives are asked to speak in various congressional hearings. This enables Ople Center to have access to relevant information, which is shared with coalition members to inform strategy and decision-making.

FEATURE STORY:



Overseas Filipino Workers vulnerable to trafficking will be protected under new Philippines Department of Migrant Workers

Human Rights and Development Foundation



Conducted an information event on the anti-TIP law, labour act and government complaint mechanism for 32 agriculture migrant workers.

Human Rights and Development Foundation (HRDF) was established in 2000, aims to support development that promotes and protects human rights, and promotes the sustainable use of natural resources in Thailand. It was established as a foundation by human rights academics and a human rights lawyer.

In June 2021, ASEAN-ACT commenced a partnership with HRDF. The focus is on research, legal support and advocacy on trafficking in persons in agriculture and construction sectors in Thailand. Here are some of their achievements under this partnership:

- Recruited a legal officer based in Chiang Mai who is responsible for the partnership with ASEAN-ACT. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- Conducted two outreach and awareness-raising events on 30 October and 26 November 2021, with 33 agriculture migrant workers (27 women and 5 men) in Chiang Mai. They learned about the fundamental features of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act, the Labour Protection Act and the government complaint mechanism. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- In August 2021, together with Migrant Working Group, Save the Children and the Foundation for AIDS Rights – published an [open letter](#) to the chair of the national Anti-Trafficking in Persons Committee with recommendations on the implementation of anti-trafficking in persons measures and protection mechanisms. As at January 2022, HRDF and its cosignatories had received no response to the letter. However, HRDF sent the same letter to the adviser of the Committee on Foreign Affairs under the Secretariat of the House of Representatives, which is conducting an inquiry into the US TIP Report's downgrading of Thailand. The committee had a meeting with relevant government officials and acknowledged the recommendations in the letter. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- Three HRDF volunteers (2 female, 1 male) who are studying labour law have also support the partnership with ASEAN-ACT. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- Conducted a four-day in-house training for HRDF legal staff, to increase their understanding of the CTIP, the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act and International Labour Organization forced labour indicators. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)

Social Responsibility Law Office



**Completed 2 draft
policy briefs on victim
identification and
compensation for
victims.**

Social Responsibility Law Office (SR Law)

is a non-government organisation, with extensive experience working with cases of labour exploitation and human rights violations. It aims to support victims of trafficking to seek redress.

In July 2021, ASEAN-ACT commenced a partnership with SR Law. The focus is on policy dialogue and documenting lessons learned in victim identification, labour exploitation and trafficking in persons, and increasing access to justice for TIP victims. The partnership aims to contribute to addressing the lack of clarity in policies and practices around forced labour and trafficking in persons, and the need for advocacy on TIP victims' rights to compensation. Here are some of their achievements under this partnership:

- Conducted research and analysis of court rulings to inform development of policy briefs. Cases of trafficking in persons and labour exploitation were analysed. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- Completed two draft policy briefs – on victim identification and compensation for victims, by the end of 2021. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- Conducted meetings with relevant government agencies to strengthen collaboration and coordination on counter-trafficking in persons. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- Worked in partnership with other organisations, including ASEAN-ACT's partner such as Verité Southeast Asia Inc., to leverage each others' work. For example, jointly conducting interviews of migrant workers to determine risks to migrant workers, understand the recruitment process and measure to protect migrant workers. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- Consulted with government and non-government stakeholders in completing policy briefs. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- Commenced drafting of the policy brief on addressing trafficking in persons in labour exploitation. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- The lessons and information from research also informed SR Law's training for Fishery Department, Sea Asset Management Office, Ministry of Labour staff and training for police officers. [EOPO2 and EOPO3](#)

Labour Protection Network

216

Collected baseline information from 216 migrant workers on their situation in the three special economic zones in Thailand.

Labour Protection Network (LPN) is a non-government organisation, formed to improve the lives of migrant labourers in Thailand by addressing the injustice brought on by discrimination and inequality. LPN focuses on three service areas: (1) raids, rescue and victim assistance; (2) migrant education center; and (3) labour rights promotion, advocacy and media.

In September 2021, ASEAN-ACT commenced partnership with LPN, targeting the special economic zones of Sa Kaeo, Rayong and Trat. The focus is supporting migrant workers to advocate for their own rights, identifying vulnerabilities of migrant workers to trafficking, and facilitating consultations with authorities and other stakeholders to address these vulnerabilities. Here are some of their achievements under this partnership:

- Collected baseline information on the situation of migrant workers in the three special economic zones, to understand labour practice. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- Completed in-person survey of migrant workers – 61 workers in Sa Kaeo, 64 workers in Trat and 60 workers in Rayong responded to the survey. LPN noted that during the pandemic, many migrant workers were not able to work and migrant children were not attending school. The situation increased children's vulnerability. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- Conducted 31 key informant interviews, with representatives of regional public office, private sector, community leaders, civil society and government agencies at national level. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- Commenced analysis of data for research report due in mid-2022. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- **Key lessons** – Migrant workers in the target special economic zones were willing to share information during in-person interviews. Similarly, government agencies and private sector representatives are willing to engage with LPN, a good sign of possible future collaboration and dialogue.

Verité Southeast Asia Inc.

43

Interviewed 43 key stakeholders to inform development of research methodology.

Verité Southeast Asia Inc. (VSEA) is a labour rights organisation with a mission to ensure that people worldwide, especially in Southeast Asia, work under safe, fair and legal conditions. VSEA is an independent non-profit organisation with regional headquarters in the Philippines and network of local consultants in the region, including Thailand.

In June 2021, ASEAN-ACT commenced partnership with VSEA. The focus is on conducting research on in-country recruitment of foreign migrant workers and examining the associated risks of trafficking in persons among this group in Thailand. From this research, VSEA will produce a report on vulnerabilities to trafficking in persons with policy recommendations for government, business and other key stakeholders. Here are some of their achievements under this partnership:

- Conducted desk research and scoping to better contextualise the issues around in-country recruitment of foreign workers. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- Conducted interviews with key informants such as migrant workers, NGO representatives, recruitment

agents, brokers, employers and subject matter experts. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)

- Developed the research framework, methodology and research tools, informed by initial findings from the desk research, scoping and key informant interviews. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- Increased knowledge of project team on issues of trafficking in persons and forced labour in Thailand, and linkages to in-country recruitment, due to scoping activities of this partnership. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- Started data collection in November 2021, focused in government, civil society organisations, NGOs, and workers. Data collection will continue in 2022 – on targeted interviews with workers, business, recruitment agents and brokers. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- **Key lessons** – Some potential interviewees were reluctant to provide information for fear of adverse consequences to their status, security and employment, despite assurances of the confidentiality and non-disclosure of the information shared. Therefore, more potential respondents needed to be identified and approached.

Blue Dragon Children's Foundation

Blue Dragon Children's Foundation (Blue Dragon) is a non-government organisation that started in Vietnam in 2003. Blue Dragon's services are holistic, including rescue and crisis care for young people in immediate danger; shelter; legal advocacy; and long-term support to return to school and training. Learnings from individual cases informed Blue Dragon's work on law reform, policy development and training programs.

In July 2021, ASEAN-ACT commenced partnership with the Blue Dragon. The focus is a review of lessons learned on victim identification, policy engagement with the government, assistance in TIP cases and development of interagency collaboration at provincial level in Dien Bien and Ha Giang provinces. Here are some of their achievements under this partnership:

- Supported the identification and representation in court of 29 female victims of trafficking in persons (of which 7 were under 18 years), between July and September 2021. Support to investigation of their cases were also provided. These cases have led to the prosecution of 15 traffickers. [EOPO2 and EOPO3](#)
- Recruited a research consultancy team, which has completed the desk review of relevant policies, guidelines and reports. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- Completed analysis of Blue Dragon's database of victims and court cases. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- Completed interviews with Blue Dragon

29
Supported the identification, investigation and representation in court of 29 female victims of trafficking in persons, of which 7 were under 18 years old.

lawyers and legal assistants. Interviews with key national and provincial stakeholders will be conducted in early 2022. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)

- Activities to develop an interagency coordination mechanism were delayed due to travel restrictions in Dien Bien and Ha Giang provinces. However, Blue Dragon continued negotiations with Ha Giang's Department of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs in preparing a proposal to the provincial People's Council for a decision to enable the department to provide emergency assistance to suspected victims in TIP cases under investigation. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- **Key lessons** – Initial findings from analysis of Blue Dragon's database of court cases showed that court judgements are not detailed enough to show the specific challenges for victim identification.

FEATURE STORY:



Migrant Forum Asia



Conducting research in 5 countries to better understand the impacts of COVID-19 on vulnerability to human trafficking among migrant workers.

Migrant Forum Asia (MFA) is a regional network of non-government organisations, associations and trade unions of migrant workers, and individual advocates in Asia who are committed to protect and promote the rights and welfare of migrant workers.

In July 2021, ASEAN-ACT commenced partnership with the MFA. The focus is to conduct a multi-country study to better understand the impacts of COVID-19 on vulnerability to human trafficking among migrant workers. Here are some of their achievements under this partnership:

- Completed the research work plan and design. Research partners in five target countries (Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand) were confirmed. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- Conducted desk review to support the baseline and development of research methodology, in all five countries. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- Completed the research design and work plan, including a questionnaire for migrant workers. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- Started the first phase of data collection, with target survey respondents of 100 migrant workers in each of the five target countries. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- Completed a draft baseline desk review report for Malaysia, prior to data collection. [Outcomes 3.2 and 3.4](#)
- **Key lessons** – Communication with research partners improved through the use of the latest technology in conducting briefings and follow-up meetings. Conducting a progress call with partners after reaching 25 respondents helped to clarify challenges and lessons in data gathering.
- **Challenges** – In addition to the challenges brought by the pandemic, a key challenge identified was the length of the questionnaire and the time needed to answer the questions thoroughly. MFA also learnt that it takes time to reach out to diverse migrant respondents and vulnerable groups to seek their participation in the research. MFA is conducting regular progress calls and discussions with their research partners to discuss challenges arising during data gathering.

Advocacy for overseas Filipino workers

Context

The Philippines is one of the biggest labour exporters in the world, with over 10 million Filipinos working outside of the country. 'Overseas Filipino worker' (OFW) is a term often used to refer to Filipino migrant workers – people with Philippine citizenship who reside in another country for a limited period of employment. OFWs endure the challenges of living overseas and most are vulnerable to exploitation and abuse. Under the present government structure, a number of agencies are responsible for the welfare of, and support services for, OFWs and other Filipinos overseas. This resulted in fragmented government services due to division of functions and overlapping areas of services. In response to these challenges, the proposed creation of the Department of Migrant Workers was submitted to the House of Representatives on 16 March 2020. Senate Bill No. 2234 was passed on 25 May 2021, creating the new department and setting out its functions, powers and structure.

In May 2021, we commenced our partnership with the Blas F. Ople Policy Center and Training Institute (Ople Center). The focus of this partnership is advocacy on migrant workers protection in the new policy framework, prevention of trafficking, and assistance to trafficking victims.

Achievements

The Ople Center formed the Coalition Against Trafficking of Overseas Filipino Workers (CAT-OFWs) on 24 November 2021, with 10 CSOs, four OFW community organisations, four private recruitment agencies and one major trade union as founding members (immediate outcome O3.2). The coalition immediately worked on submitting to legislators a common position on the Senate bill on the new Department of Migrant Workers. Coalition members successfully lobbied for the inclusion of provisions that strengthen the anti-trafficking mandate of the new department, particularly the mandate to develop an expanded 'blacklist' of agencies, employers and corporations involved in trafficking in persons.

The coalition, led by the Ople Center, also worked with legislative sponsors of the bill to retain provisions on fair and ethical recruitment – providing incentives to the private sector to adopt standards to better protect migrant workers.

Philippine political leaders were quick to take action – on 14 December 2021, the Senate approved on third and final reading the bill creating the new department. On 30 December, the President signed into law creating the department dedicated to the welfare of OFWs.

The participation of women leaders in the coalition, as well as equal consultation with victims and survivors of trafficking, benefited this advocacy work. Women leaders have a strong voice in the coalition, including representatives of OFWs and their families. Focus group discussions with victims and survivors was also conducted in November 2021, informing the coalition's analysis and submission to legislators.





In its report to ASEAN-ACT, the Ople Center commented that:

“ The project [partnership with ASEAN-ACT] is significant as it is the first genuine attempt to go beyond the usual non-state actors and include organised OFWs and families, who are at the countries of employment and those who have returned. This changes the dynamics of policy engagement since there are more voices from the grassroots that will be heard. However, this would also require more learning sessions for coalition members to better understand technical issues related with enforcement, prosecution, and victim assistance in trafficking in persons cases.

”

Selected indicator results

This section provides summary results of output indicators, results of feedback collected from training events, and results of targeted surveys conducted by ASEAN-ACT in 2021.

Table 1 Number and type of activities supported by ASEAN-ACT, 2021

Country/region	Capacity development	Meetings	Other	ASEAN-ACT staff events	Total number of activities supported in 2021
Cambodia	20	3	11	–	34
Indonesia	2	3	2	–	7
Lao PDR	17	3	8	–	28
Myanmar	–	2	–	–	2
Philippines	32	66	11	–	109
Thailand	13	38	21	–	72
Vietnam	16	16	5	–	37
ASEAN/regional	10	50	10	9	79
Total	110	181	68	9	368

Source: ASEAN-ACT activity data collection, 2019, 2020 and 2021.

Table 2 Number of capacity development events supported by ASEAN-ACT, 2019 to 2021

Country/region	2021	2020	2019
Cambodia	20	2	–
Indonesia	2	–	–
Lao PDR	17	1	–
Malaysia	–	–	1
Philippines	32	5	6
Thailand	13	9	4
Vietnam	16	7	5
ASEAN/regional	10	5	–
Total	110	29	16

Note: This table reflects the number of capacity development events conducted by ASEAN-ACT under country or regional programs, including webinars.

Source: ASEAN-ACT activity data collection, 2019, 2020 and 2021.

Table 3 Number of ASEAN-ACT event participants, 2021

Country/region	Female	Male	Other	Total	% women participants
Brunei Darussalam	22	20	–	42	52%
Cambodia	380	677	–	1,057	36%
Indonesia	277	124	1	402	69%
Lao PDR	270	329	3	602	45%
Malaysia	35	32	–	67	52%
Myanmar	34	14	1	49	69%
Philippines	2,212	1,426	9	3,647	61%
Singapore	30	25	–	55	54%
Thailand	703	745	–	1,448	49%
Vietnam	636	493	3	1,132	56%
ASEAN/regional	47	14	–	61	77%
Total	4,646	3,899	17	8,562	54%
Percentage	54.26%	45.54%	0.20%	100%	

Note: Numbers include all event participants, excluding ASEAN-ACT and DFAT (Australian Embassy) staff.

Source: ASEAN-ACT participant data collection, 2021.

Table 4 Number of people trained by country of origin, 2021

Country/region	Female	Male	Other	Total	% of women trained
Brunei Darussalam	15	11	–	26	58%
Cambodia	257	486	–	743	35%
Indonesia	142	64	–	206	69%
Lao PDR	133	141	1	275	48%
Malaysia	23	16	–	39	59%
Myanmar	26	10	1	37	70%
Philippines	1,048	836	5	1,889	55%
Singapore	20	18	–	38	53%
Thailand	420	459	–	879	48%
Vietnam	327	250	–	577	57%
ASEAN/regional	38	14	–	52	73%
Total	2,449	2,305	7	4,761	51%
Percentage	51.44%	48.41%	0.15%	100%	

Note: Excludes ASEAN-ACT and DFAT (Australian Embassy) staff. A person who attended more than one training event was counted once only within a year or reporting period.

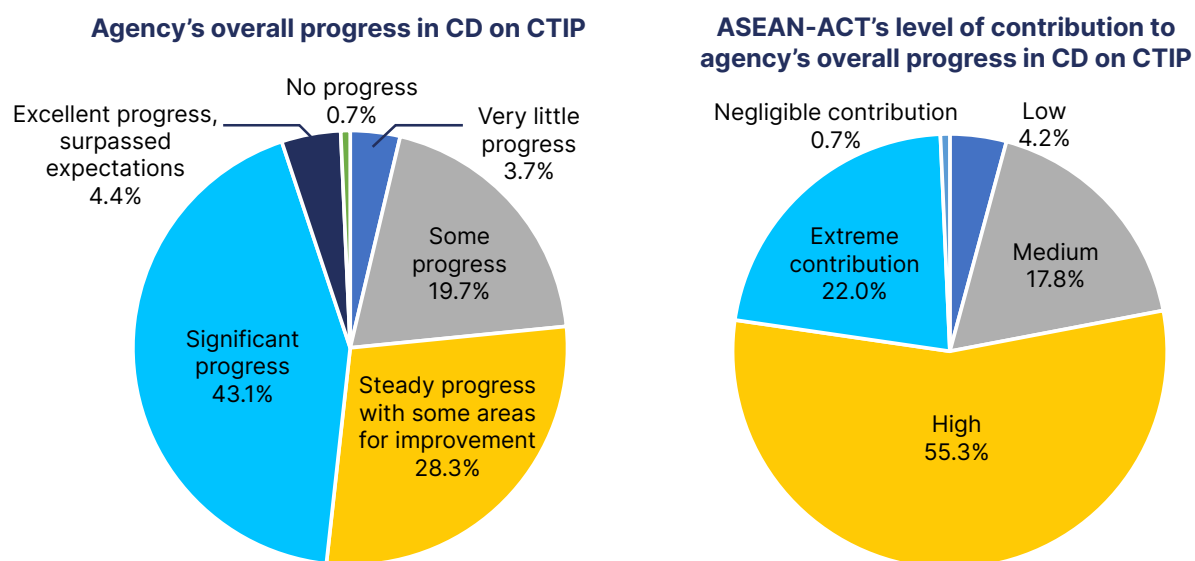
Sources: ASEAN-ACT activity data collection, and participant data collection, 2021.

Table 5 Capacity development events – participant feedback on expectations and learning, 2021

Country / focus area	No. of respondents	Participants who responded that, overall, they are satisfied with event (%)	Participants who responded that event met its objectives (%)	Participants who responded that event met their expectations (%)	Participants who responded that event enhanced or improved their learning (%)
Cambodia	422 (151 female, 265 male, 6 other)	99	98	97	97
Lao PDR	216 (96 female, 120 male)	97	94	94	94
Indonesia	60 (35 female, 25 male)	98	90	90	88
Philippines	661 (440 female, 221 male)	100	97	97	97
Thailand	302 (145 female, 157 male)	93	87	87	92
Vietnam	454 (270 female, 184 male)	100	99	98	98
ASEAN	384 (247 female, 135 male, 2 other)	98	89	84	86
Victim rights and GESI	61 (38 female, 23 male)	100	95	90	95
Total	2,560 (1,422 female, 1,130 male, 8 other)	98	95	93	95

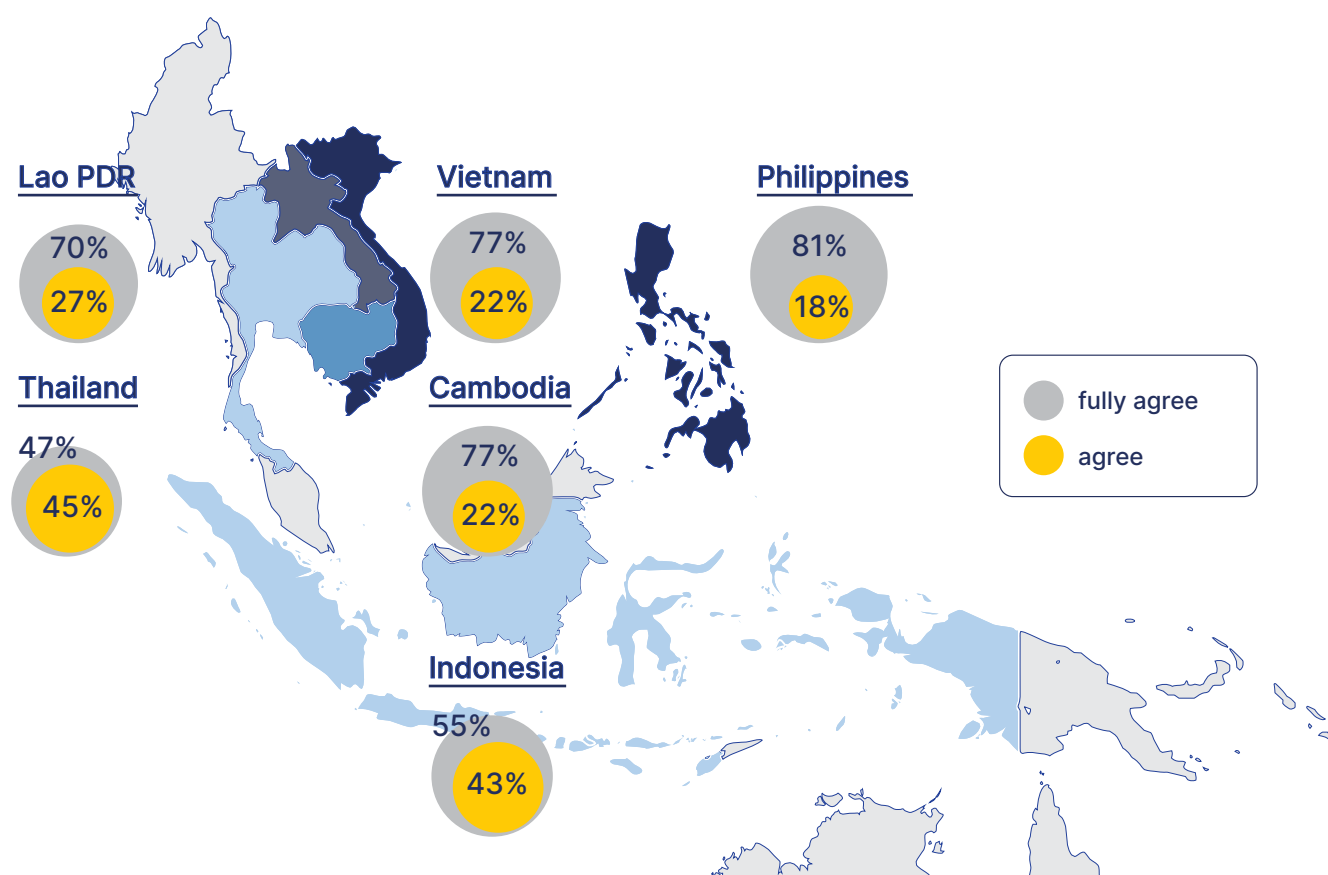
Sources: ASEAN-ACT activity data collection, and participant data collection, 2021.

Figure 1 Summary responses to capacity development questions in annual survey of ASEAN-ACT partners, November 2021



Source: ASEAN-ACT annual survey of partners results database, 2021.

Figure 2 Participants who responded that they are satisfied with ASEAN-ACT capacity development events in 2021

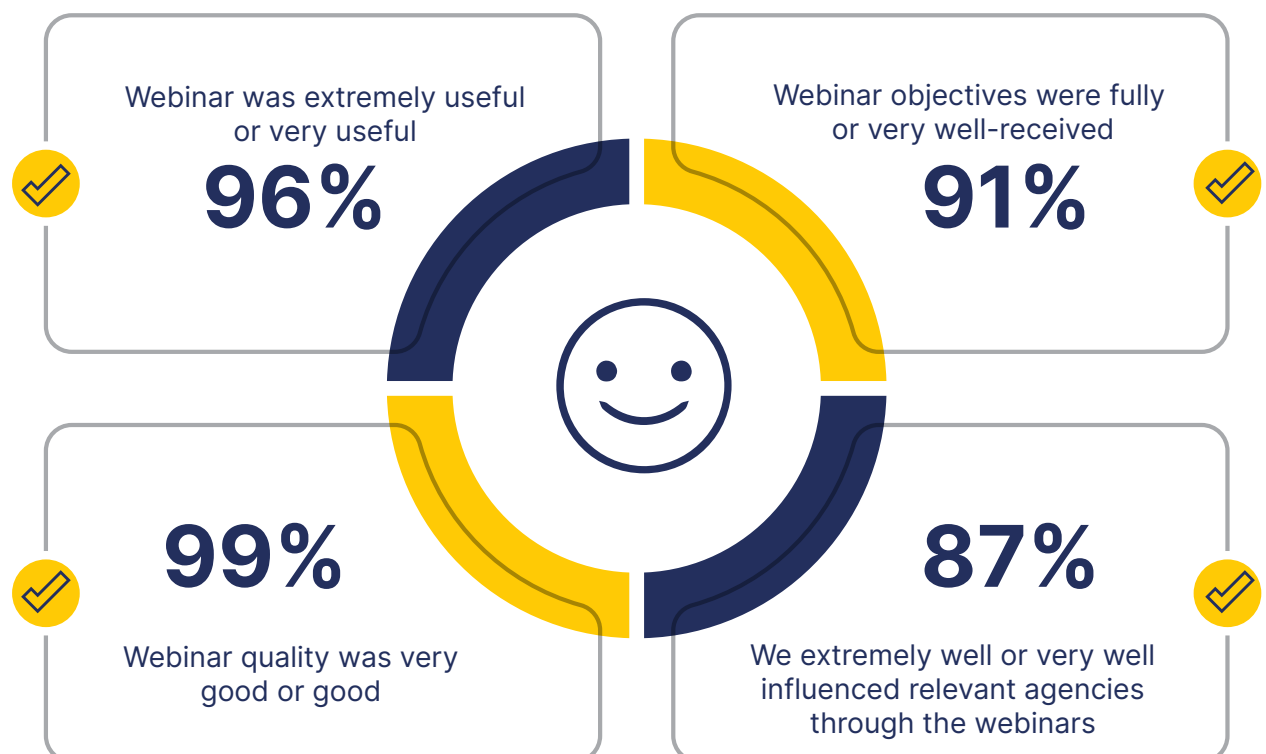


Source: ASEAN-ACT annual survey of partners results database, 2021.

Figure 3 Summary responses to feedback collected after webinars in 2021



Figure 4 Summary responses to follow-up survey of webinar participants, May 2021



Abbreviations and acronyms

AAPTIP	Australia–Asia Program to Combat Trafficking in Persons
ACTIP	ASEAN Convention against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children
ACWC	ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children
AICHR	ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights
AIPJ2	Australia Indonesia Partnership for Justice Phase 2
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
ASEAN-ACT	ASEAN–Australia Counter Trafficking
CNP	Cambodian National Police
CPD	Criminal Police Department (Ministry of Public Security, Vietnam)
CSO	civil society organisation
CSP	Comprehensive Strategic Partnership
CTIP	counter-trafficking in persons
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Australia)
DILG	Department of the Interior and Local Government (Philippines)
DSI	Department of Special Investigation (Thailand)
DTIPL	Department of Trafficking in Persons Litigation (Office of the Attorney General, Thailand)
EOPO	end-of-program outcome
GESI	gender equality and social inclusion
HRDF	Human Rights and Development Foundation (Thailand)
IACAT	Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking (Philippines)

INP	Indonesian National Police
Lao PDR	Lao People's Democratic Republic
LPN	Labour Protection Network (Thailand)
LPSK	Witness and Victim Protection Agency (Indonesia)
LSCW	Legal Support for Children and Women (Cambodia)
LWU	Lao Women's Union
MFA	Migrant Forum in Asia
MoSVY	Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (Cambodia)
MSDHS	Ministry of Social Development and Human Security (Thailand)
NBI	National Bureau of Investigation (Philippines)
NCCT	National Committee for Counter Trafficking (Cambodia)
NGO	non-government organisation
NPSC	National Program Steering Committee
OFW	overseas Filipino worker
PDIA	problem-driven iterative adaptation
PNP	Philippine National Police
RMP	Royal Malaysia Police
RPSC	Regional Program Steering Committee
RTP	Royal Thai Police
SOMTC	Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime
SR Law	Social Responsibility Law Office (Thailand)
TIC	transnational investigative cooperation
TIP	trafficking in persons
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
VFI	Village Focus International (Lao PDR)
VSEA	Verité Southeast Asia
VWU	Vietnam Women's Union

Annex 1: Theory of change



BROADER GOAL



END-OF-PROGRAM OUTCOMES (year 10)



INTERMEDIATE OUTCOMES



IMMEDIATE OUTCOMES

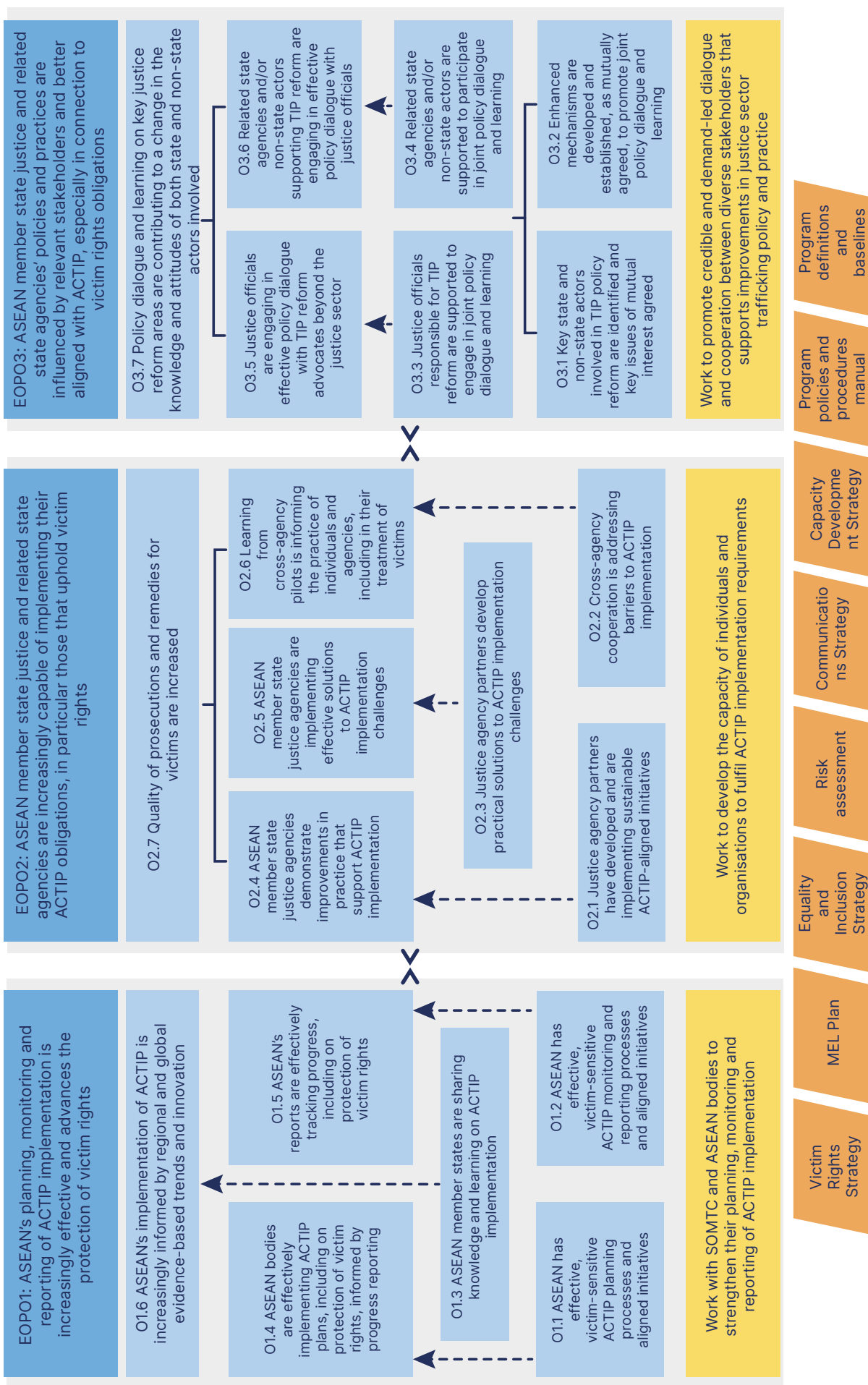


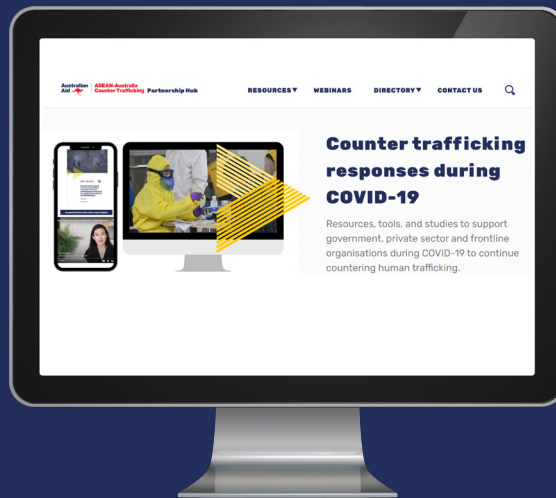
PROJECT CLUSTERS



FOUNDATIONAL ACTIVITIES

ASEAN member states have effective justice systems that provide just punishment of traffickers and protect the human rights of victims





Contact

Visit our website **aseanact.org**, and access the portal **aseanactpartnershiphub.com** to download further resources to support counter trafficking responses.

For further information, please contact **info@aseanact.org**