

PREVENTING AND MITIGATING THE IMPACTS OF TERRORISM, TRAFFICKING AND TRANSNATIONAL CRIME THROUGH WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

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URGENT INTERVENTIONS TO RAISE AWARENESS OF THE DANGERS OF TRAFFICKING IN AT-RISK BORDER COMMUNITIES REACHED CLOSE TO 25,000 WOMEN IN MYANMAR, CAMBODIA AND THAILAND



Photo: UN Women/ Stephanie Simcox



Photo: UN Women/Pathuumporn Thongking

Overall, **145 at risk border communities** in Myanmar (Kachin State), Cambodia (border with Thailand), and Thailand (border with Myanmar and Laos) were engaged:

- **24,659 women** became more aware of their rights in the context of safe migration. They better understand the modus operandi of traffickers in their region, and how to report potential cases and access existing services.
- **372 women** in Myanmar (129), Cambodia (185) and Thailand (58) increased their knowledge of financial management and marketing and/or benefited from vocational skills training. Cash and in-kind support were provided to **207 women** in Myanmar (129) and Cambodia (78).
- **81 women survivors** of trafficking in Myanmar (24), Cambodia (55) and Thailand (2) were supported directly through legal aid, court representation or access to health services. In Myanmar, **5 perpetrators were sentenced for 10 years of imprisonment** in December 2018.

THE FIRST EVER TRAINING MODULES DEVELOPED ON HOW TO MANAGE TRAFFICKING CASES FROM A GENDER AND VICTIM-CENTERED PERSPECTIVE FOR ASEAN LAW ENFORCEMENT INSTITUTIONS



Photo: UN Women and UNODC



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The modules include:

- Module 1 'Gender Awareness for Front-line Officers and other Enforcement Teams'.
- Module 2 'Gender-Informed Investigations Practice for Front-line Officers and Enforcement Teams'.
- Module 3 "Team Building, Self-Development and Gender-Informed Self-Care, for Front line Officers and Enforcement Teams".
- Modules on data disaggregation standards in consideration of all pertinent transnational organized crime threats, and variables most relevant to women

A pocket guide on sex trade crime for front-line officers has been developed by UNODC with support of UN Women.

All modules are being translated to ASEAN member states languages to facilitate their integration into police academy curricula.

Pilot testing involving **185 frontline officers** (including 34% female officers) in Thailand, Cambodia, Lao PDR, showed an increase in knowledge on how to provide services to female victims of transnational organized crime. Pilot testing of the data disaggregation modules involving **94 law enforcement officers** (including 38% female officers) showed an increase in knowledge on how to establish credible data collection systems that produce data that is disaggregated by age and gender.



Photo: UN Women and UNODC

200 frontline officers (AHTD, DSI) increased their knowledge of the ASEAN Gender-sensitive Guideline for Handling Women Victims of Trafficking as a result of a partnership between the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) and UN Women.

These modules will be rolled out to maritime ASEAN Member States (Indonesia, Philippines and if possible, Singapore, Malaysia and Brunei) in the coming months.

Lao PDR, Cambodia and Thailand expressed interest in promoting women in their national law enforcement institutions.

Overall, 741 law enforcement representatives and partners have increased their knowledge of gender issues relevant to trafficking and border management.

IN A FIRST OF ITS KIND COLLABORATION, UN WOMEN, UNODC AND INTERPOL WILL WORK WITH ASEAN GOVERNMENTS TO DETERMINE THE STATE OF WOMEN IN LAW ENFORCEMENT IN SOUTHEAST ASIA REGION



Photo: UN Women/ Stephanie Simcox



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A new regional study on Women in Law Enforcement in ASEAN is being developed in collaboration with INTERPOL and UNODC. The research will focus on (i) women in law enforcement in ASEAN and how they have contributed to strengthen policing efforts; (ii) the good practices and the challenges in the recruitment, retention, deployment and promotion of female police officers; and (iii) the institutional framework relevant for gender equality that contributes to (or hinders) women's participation in law enforcement in ASEAN.

This builds on the UNODC and UN Women **assessment of Women in Law Enforcement Institutions in the five countries** of the Greater Mekong Subregion namely Lao People's Democratic Republic, and Myanmar, Cambodia, Thailand, and Viet Nam.

A **national consultation on women in law enforcement in Lao People's Democratic Republic, Cambodia, Thailand** gathered 104 people representing law enforcement agencies, including women officers, civil society organizations and UN and bilateral partners. These events were strategic as the government expressed interest in this thematic and will enable UN Women and UNODC to continue their advocacy to promote women in law enforcement in ASEAN.

Research on the Gender Dynamics of Trafficking in Cambodia, Myanmar, and Thailand was finalized. The research was conducted in Cambodia, Myanmar, and Thailand. 37 survivors of trafficking (including 4 men), family members, border management/frontline officers and facilitators in the border area were interviewed. The research found that **gender is a significant factor in influencing the marginalisation, inequalities, push and pull factors and experiences of women, men, girls and boys with regards to trafficking**. Yet, the approaches to prevention, response and return and reintegration across Cambodia, Myanmar and Thailand are often gender blind. This provides evidence that UN Women and UNODC approach is effective and needed.