

EUROPEAN RESOURCE CENTER FOR THE PREVENTION OF TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS AND OTHER FORMS OF EXPLOITATION - EURC



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EMMAUS Actions on the Prevention of THB in Asia and Identified Needs



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Introduction

The last Newsletter focused on the global level of EMMAUS actions on fighting trafficking in human beings worldwide. A new, amended concept with a focus on regional actions of the EMMAUS international communities was presented, announcing the pattern of future Newsletters, which will be focused on the problem of THB continentally, including EMMAUS actions and needs of their representative countries devoting one Newsletter per continent.

This Newsletter will focus on displaying the

extent and dimensions of the problem of THB in Asia.

We will provide information, facts, statistics and all available data on the problem of THB on the Asian continent, present the measures taken by IFS-Emmaus, through European Resource Center, in combating this problem, as well as the precautions and steps taken by governments to prevent and reduce trafficking in human beings and other forms of exploitation.

International Forum of Solidarity EMMAUS celebrates its first year of membership within ECPAT International—an expanding global network of local civil society organisations, coalitions and with individuals working together on one common goal – to end the sexual exploitation of children around the world, to eliminate child prostitution, distribution of child sexual abuse material and the trafficking of children for sexual purposes. ECPAT supports protection of children and empowerment of 95 members in 86 countries, including IFS-EMMAUS, BiH since 2016. Within the ECPAT network, The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Regional Education campaign promotes the message 'Child Sex Tourists - Don't Turn Away, Turn Them In' and encourages responsible tourists and local citizens to join the fight against child sex tourism by reporting suspicious behaviour to hotline numbers in Asian countries.



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The most common forms of THB in Asia

Asian countries are estimated to have the highest level of victims the phenomenon of the Modern Slavery, which is a term used for different types of trafficking in human beings and other forms of exploitation, such as forced labour, sexual exploitation, child labour, etc. Within countries, whether or not particular forms of work are regarded as child labour depends on the child's age, the type and hours of work performed, the conditions under which it is performed and the laws enacted by individual countries. The answer varies from country to country, as well as among sectors within countries. As such, the data is not fully comparable. Nonetheless, in the absence of specific child labour statistics that are consistent across countries, the findings are indicative of the scope and nature of the child

labour problem in and across the countries of Asia. It is estimated that 45.8 million people in the world are in some form of modern slavery, and 66,4% of the global number is found to be enslaved on the Asian continent (30 435 300 people).

Child labour refers to work undertaken by children below the appropriate legal minimum working age.

Exploitation of children in Asia

The largest number of child labourers is concentrated in the Asia and the Pacific region.



An estimated 168 million children worldwide are in child labour, accounting for almost 11 per cent of the child population (5-17 years old).

More than half of these, about 85 million are in hazardous work, which jeopardises the physical, mental or moral well-being of a child, either because of its nature or because of the conditions in which it is carried out.

Not all work done by children is classified as child labour. Children's or adolescents' participation in work that does not affect their health and personal development nor interferes with their schooling is generally regarded as being something positive.

(www.globalslaveryindex.com)

Emmaus - The beginnings

In **November 1949**, Abbé Pierre set up the first Emmaus community in Neuilly-Plaisance, on the outskirts of Paris. At almost exactly the same time, people were setting up similar initiatives in other countries, including Belgium, Argentina and Japan.

These people knew nothing of Abbé Pierre or Emmaus in France until the Abbé's call for action on 1st February 1954, which caught the world's attention. They saw their own values reflected in Abbé Pierre's work and got in touch with him. Wherever they are in the world, Emmaus organisations almost always grow from initiatives set up by local people in response to local needs, using local resources and expertise. They are never imposed on communities from outside.

Emmaus Asia Today

In Asia, there are seven Emmaus organisations that are developing an **ecotourism** initiative.

Thanapara Swallows (Bangladesh)

FHF (India)

Kudumbam (India)

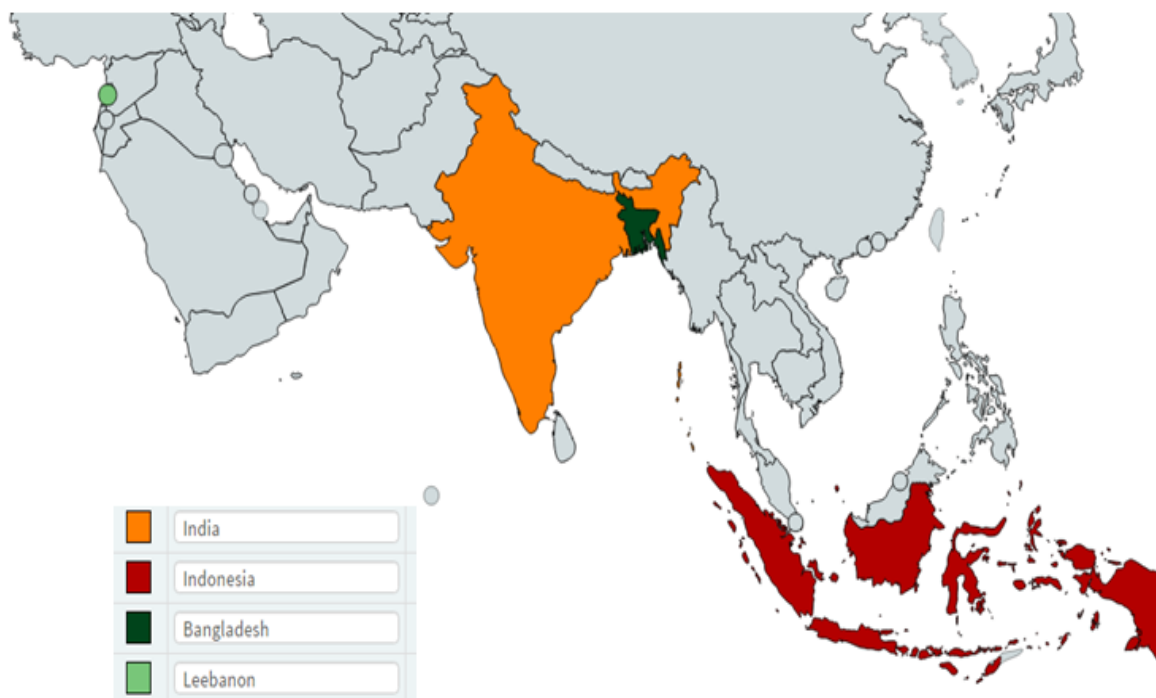
Tara Projects (India)

VCDS (India)

Yayasan Penghibur (Indonesia)

AEP (Lebanon)

The solidarity resources have helped make improvements to guests' accommodation, set up discovery programmes and produce communications materials.



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Children in Employment

Recent national surveys from seven South Asian countries put working children at more than 29 million – a low estimate as it excludes many children in a number of countries and all children in employment in Afghanistan.

Involvement in employment increases as children get older, from below 4 per cent for 7 year old in all countries where data are available (with the notable high exception of Bhutan) to variations of over 20 per cent by the time they turn 17 years.

A substantial share of employment of 15-17 years old is hazardous in nature – 75 per cent in Bangladesh, 72 per cent in Sri Lanka, 41 per cent in Pakistan, 30 per cent in Nepal, 20 per cent in India and 6 per cent in Bhutan.

Family labour accounts for a significant percentage of employment, declining as children get older. A majority of working 7-14 years old in Bhutan, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka and 10 -14 years old in Pakistan are engaged in family work.

Girls continue to lag behind boys in school attendance in many South Asian countries. In Pakistan, school attendance for 10-17 years old girls is almost 15 per cent below boys of the same age.

National surveys from seven South Asian countries estimate 30 million children in employment, almost 17 million in child labour and 50 million children out of school. These findings have limitations, key ones being: not all children in employment can be considered as being in child labour; not all forms of child labour are being captured by these statistical surveys; and there are considerable variations in the survey methodologies and scope across the countries.

Child Labour



felixfeatures.photoshelter.com

There are 16.7 million (5-17 year old) children in child labour in South Asia, according to conservative estimates, and of these 10.3 million are in the 5-14 year age range. The young, 5-11 year-old children, make up about one-fifth of all child labourers in South Asia.

Substantial variation in child labour estimates exists across the South Asian countries. In absolute terms, child labour for the 5-17 years age range is highest in India (5.8 million), followed by Bangladesh (5.0 million), Pakistan (3.4 million) and Nepal (2.0 million).

In relative terms, children in Nepal face the highest risk of being in child labour than elsewhere in South Asia, with over one-quarter (26 per cent) of all 5-17 year old engaged in child labour.

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Statistical findings on THB in Asia

Trafficking in human beings in regions such as Asia-Pacific has been a big problem for the area and still is prevalent today.

It has been observed that as economies continue to grow, the demand for labor is at an all-time high in the industrial sector and the sex tourism sector. A mix of impoverished individuals and the desire for more wealth creates an environment for human traffickers to benefit on this continent.

Asia is the most populous continent in the world.

Two thirds of the globally estimated 45.8 million people in modern slavery are identified in the Asia-Pacific region. All forms of modern slavery were noticed including forced labour in brick kilns, agriculture and the garment sector, childsoldiers, forced begging, and commercial sexual exploitation. Men and women experience forced labour in manufacturing, agriculture, food production and construction.

Women are also vulnerable to sexual exploitation, forced marriage and domestic servitude.

This table and the following charts, presents to you the latest updated statistics obtained from the most recent researches and surveys conducted in 2016, on trafficking in human beings and other forms of exploitation, on the Asian continent.

	ASIA	
Estimate number enslaved	30 435 300	
Regional proportion of global number	66,4%	
Average vulnerability score	40,2/100	
Average government response rating	34,8/100	
Number of victims	1644	
Percent of IOM global total	33,8%	
Average age of victims	30,7	
Gender	Male	Female
	82,9%(1363)	17,1%(281)

Unemployment and craving for better living conditions are the main reasons that push men, women and children into risky migration practices that, more than often, lead down the path of trafficking in human beings.

In Asia, people are often lured by fake promises of employment, education, better life, promises that are just covers and lies for what is waiting for them on the other side of the "promised land" : exploitation, torture, slavery and inhumane treatment in general.

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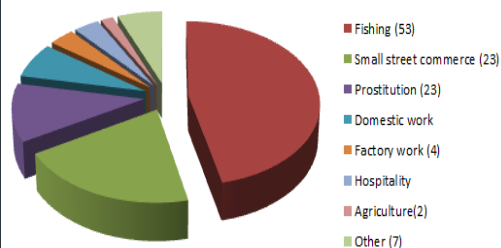
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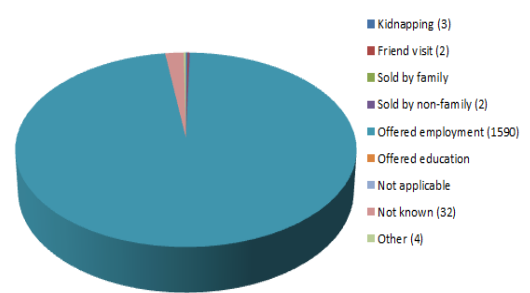
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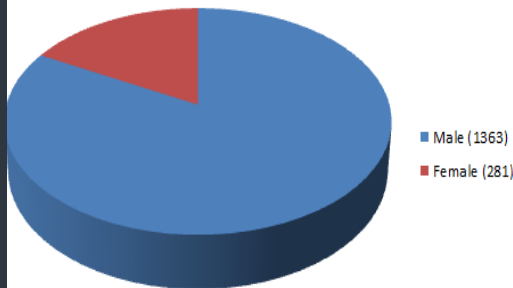
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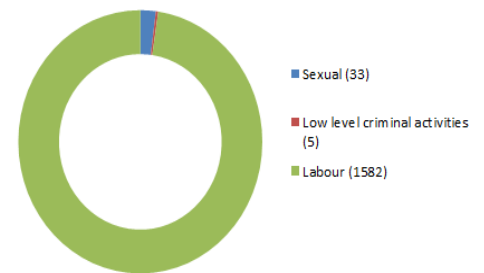
Sector of exploitation of victims trafficked in 2016



Mode of entry into trafficking of victims trafficked in 2016



Percentual display of the male and female victims trafficked in 2016



Type of exploitation of victims trafficked in 2016

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What can be done ?

The Study on Prevention Initiatives on Trafficking in Human Beings, by Deloitte for European Commission has shown that it is not generally possible to rank the effectiveness of different types of initiatives, as all types potentially generate results and contribute to preventing THB, provided that they are designed adequately and implemented efficiently. Each type of initiative produces different types of effects, which may only materialise in the medium to long term, but which are equally useful in tackling THB:

- **Information and awareness raising initiatives** are crucial to inform potential victims about the risk of trafficking — and to raise public awareness and encourage policymakers to do more.
- **Research** is vital to understand and monitor the size and nature of THB, which is a constantly evolving phenomenon.
- **Victim assistance initiatives** are of primary importance to ensure that victims are assisted when they are identified or when they reach out to NGOs or public authorities, and that re-trafficking and re-victimisation is prevented.
- **Capacity-building initiatives** are fundamental to identify and then prosecute traffickers, and thus prevent or reduce future crimes.
- **Training social workers, nurses, doctors, people working in schools or juvenile facilities and other first-responders to identify victims.** These stakeholders are often the first ones to come into contact with victims, but are sometimes insufficiently aware of the phenomenon of THB and not trained to identify victims.
- **Training the judiciary** on the nature of the crime and available legal possibilities at hand. In some cases prosecutors may not be up to date with the most recent national anti-trafficking legislation.

(<http://ec.europa.eu/>)

Real Life Stories

These following stories illustrate only some of the many forms of trafficking and the wide variety of places on the Asian continent in which they occur. Victims' names have been changed and uncaptioned photographs are not images of confirmed trafficking victims. Still, they illustrate the myriad forms of exploitation that comprise trafficking and the variety of situations in which trafficking victims are found.

Philippines

Dalisay signed a contract with an employment agency in the Philippines to work as a housemaid in Qatar for \$400 a month, plus room and board. But when she arrived, her employer said he would pay her only \$250 a month. She knew her family back in the Philippines depended on her earnings and felt she had no choice but to stay to help her family. She quickly realized that her low pay was not the only unexpected condition of her work situation. She was fed one meal a day, leftovers from the family's lunch: "If no leftovers, I didn't eat."

She worked seven days a week. When she was finished working in her employers' house, she was forced to clean his mother-in-law's house, and then his sister's without any additional pay. After eight months, Dalisay tried to leave but her boss just laughed and said "You can't quit."

As a domestic worker not covered under the labor law, Dalisay was subject only to the restrictive kafala, or sponsorship system, meaning that she could not resign without her employer's permission, change jobs, leave the country, get a driver's license, or open a checking account without the permission of her employer. She also learned that her employer could withdraw sponsorship at any time and send her back home, so she fled and joined 56 other women who sought shelter at the Philippines Overseas Labor Office.

(<https://2009-2017.state.gov>)



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India

Naveen was 14 years old when a placement agency found him a job as a domestic worker for a couple with two children. For the two years he served the family, Naveen was confined to the house, never allowed to leave. He was beaten regularly for trivial matters and, on several occasions, branded with hot tongs. Unable to endure his situation anymore, he ran away. Naveen is living in a children's home and receiving counseling. The couple, meanwhile, have been charged and are out on bail awaiting a court date.

(<https://2009-2017.state.gov>)



Thailand

Tola was seven years old when she was lured away from her parents by a couple who owned the field her family worked. While enslaved, she was forced to take care of cats and dogs for the couple's pet grooming shop. For five years, Tola's parents hoped to see her again, never knowing how she disappeared or where she might be. They never imagined that Tola was close, enduring torture and abuse. If Tola did not do her job properly, she was kicked, slapped, and beaten with a broom. Sometimes the couple locked her in a cage and poured boiling hot water over her. On one occasion, the traffickers cut off her ear lobe with a pair of scissors. One day, she climbed a concrete fence of the house while chasing a cat and realized she was free. A neighbor called the police and she was taken to a nearby shelter where her mother identified her. The couple was arrested and charged with various charges, including torture, detaining a person against their will, enslavement, and kidnapping. The couple posted bail and escaped. As for Tola, injuries on her arms affected her muscles; she can no longer move her left arm. For now, she is safe with her family and is beginning her mental, emotional, and physical journey to recovery.



(<https://2009-2017.state.gov>)

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International Calendar of Anti-trafficking Events

April 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 <i>Jamaica</i> 2020 Vision: End Human Trafficking
2	<i>Vienna, Austria</i> Conference "Trafficking in Children and the Best Interests of the Child"	3 <i>Vienna, Austria</i> Conference "Trafficking in Children and the Best Interests of the Child"	4	5	6 <i>El Paso</i> International Workshop on Human Smuggling	7 <i>El Paso</i> International Workshop on Human Smuggling
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 Webinar "Why do law enforcement practitioners have to increasingly rely on new	21	22
23	24 <i>Teslic, BiH</i> Seminar "Understanding of Trafficking in Human Beings as business activity with special emphasis on forced begging and forced marriages"	25 <i>Teslic, BiH</i> Seminar "Understanding of Trafficking in Human Beings as business activity with special emphasis on forced begging and forced marriages"	26 <i>Krakow, Poland</i> 3rd International Congress on Ethics and Tourism	27	28 International Day for Safety and Health at Work	29
30						

International Calendar of Anti-trafficking Events

May 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1		2 <i>Columbus, OH, USA</i> She has a name, Anti-Human Trafficking Training	3 <i>California, USA</i> North County anti-Human Trafficking Collaborative Meeting	4	5
7	8 <i>Michigan, USA</i> Human Trafficking Panel Discussion <i>Panama City, Panama</i> Global Network of Religions for Children 5 th Forum	9 <i>Columbus, OH, USA</i> She has a name, Anti-Human Trafficking Training	10	11	12	13 <i>Ohio, USA</i> Run Against Human Trafficking
14 <i>Belgrade, Republic of Serbia</i> Reporting Human Trafficking and Modern Day Slavery	15	16	17 World Telecommunication and Information Society Day	18 Webinar Awareness raising and campaigning: what does social media contribute to identification and responses	19	20 <i>Lake Forest, USA</i> Freedom – Fighting Human Trafficking, Symposium
21	22	23	24 <i>Konjic, Bosnia and Herzegovina</i> Final Conference of the Project "Promoting a Victim Centred Approach in Trafficking Cases in Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina"	25 <i>Konjic, Bosnia and Herzegovina</i> Final Conference of the Project "Promoting a Victim Centred Approach in Trafficking Cases in Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina"	26	27
28	29 <i>Brussels, Belgium</i> EU Civil Society Platform Against Trafficking in Human Beings	30 <i>Brussels, Belgium</i> EU Civil Society Platform Against Trafficking in Human Beings	31			

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Are you interested in more information about trafficking in human beings? Send us your suggestion and questions by e-mail to info@eurcenter.net.

Is Your organization/community active in the combat against trafficking in human beings? Share with us your activities and experiences by e-mail: info@eurcenter.net.

If you would like to unsubscribe, please send us a notice to info@eurcenter.net.

Meet the staff

In one of the previous Newsletters we've introduced the IFS-EMMAUS staff at the European Resource Center, in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The newest member of our collective is Omerbegovic Ajla, project assistant who is the new Focal Point for Emmaus community and members around the world, and she will be, from now on, responsible for communication amongst the THB collective, publishing the Newsletters and updating on the most recent information on trafficking in human beings and measures taken in prevention of this crime.

Please address, write, call or contact Ajla by mail for any EURC, THB and related questions, or other issues you might have - we shall try to address them properly.



Contact e-mail :

ajla.omerbegovic@mfs-emmaus.ba

Related documents

[Global Slavery Index](#)

[Global Report: Marking progress against child labour](#)

[South-East Asia Fact Sheet : Children in labour and employment](#)

Sources and references:

www.childsafe-international.org

www.humantrafficking.org

www.inhope.org

www.prajwalaindia.com

www.savethechildrenindia.org

www.stophetraffik.org

www.terredeshommes.org

www.walkfree.org

www.youngmeninitiative.net

www.globallslaveryindex.org

www.ilo.org

Useful links:

EMMAUS international

www.emmaus-international.org

INHOPE network

www.inhope.org

ECPAT international

www.ecpat.net

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