

# SOMTC CONSULTATION WORKSHOP ON THE ASEAN-AUSTRALIA COUNTER TRAFFICKING (ASEAN-ACT) WORK PLAN 2020-2023

## REGIONAL TIP TRENDS

Country Presentation: Brunei/Cambodia (Each country to present separately for 10 minutes maximum)

# REGIONAL TIP TRENDS

- BORDER CONTROL

- ❖ TIP Victims approached and lured through social networks in which victims are guided to enter/exit border/country illegally.
- ❖ Illegal entry/exit to and from countries has become an organized, transnational and syndicated operations that aid in the recruitment process of TIP victims.

# Statistics- Globally

- UNODC- In 2018, out of 10 victims, 5 were adult women and 2 were girls. About one-third of the overall detected victims were children, with 19% girls and 15% boys, while 20% were adult men.
- As unemployment rate increased with current economic crisis, TIP is likely to increase particularly from countries experiencing the fastest and most persistent drops in employment.
- Job seekers are likely to be more willing to take high risks in the hope of improving their opportunities.

# EFFECTS OF COVID19 IN BRUNEI

- Due to strict restrictions for inbound travellers coming into Brunei Darussalam during the pandemic, it has affected recruitment of foreign workers into the country. This shortages in foreign labour provides opportunity for traffickers to exploit workers that are currently in Brunei Darussalam by sub-contracting them illegally to other companies for work.
- Brunei Darussalam monitors closely of this situation to make sure the workers are not exploited.

- Workers in the construction industry and domestic workers are viewed as vulnerable groups that have higher chances of being exploited in Brunei Darussalam.
- The Department of Labour actively conducts routine checks on foreign workers at their workplaces to ensure they are properly documented.

# KEY EFFECTS OF COVID-19 ON ASEAN REGION

- RISE OF UNEMPLOYMENT

- ❖ Due to the pandemic which resulted in economic crisis, countries affected with highest drop in unemployment are likely to experience job seekers in taking high risks jobs, increasing opportunity for traffickers.

- RISE IN POVERTY

- ❖ Covid-19 is a temporary shock for some countries that has faster rate of recovering in economic growth. However, for majority of countries, the economic damage might be long-lasting preeminently in poorer countries, giving the opportunity to traffickers in preying on the poor and vulnerable.

# Pandemic Impact on Justice Sector in Brunei – (Consequences on ACTIP Implementation)

## Article 16 – Law Enforcement and Prosecution

- With the restrictions for inbound travellers in place, this provides higher risk for migrant smuggling cases to occur. Due to our porous border, justice sector, law enforcement officials in particular, have been vigilant in monitoring and taking effective steps to detect and deter such offences.
- Inbound travellers are required to provide their information details prior to entering the country as part of the application process required for entry approval. With the reduced inbound travellers coming into the country, Brunei Darussalam was able to screen foreign nationals more effectively to detect signs of exploitation with the use of this early information obtained.

## Article 11- Prevention of Trafficking in Persons

- Restrictions on public gatherings have resulted TIP campaign awareness to scale down and to be limited.



Thank you!

Contact details:

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