

JOINT WORKSHOP WITH BORDER GUARD

On 4 October 2013, a joint workshop with the Border Guard Commands was organised in Bac Giang province for providing knowledge and information about the anti-TIP Hotline for leaders of Department of Drug-related Crime Prevention and leaders of task force team on preventing and combating drug related crime. The last day of the five-day training workshop was dedicated to the anti-TIP Hotline. In all, 121 Border Guard officials from 24 provinces in the north and central areas attended.

Five people from Hanoi, including 2 project staff, 2 counsellors (Ms Thuy and Mr Cuong) and Mr Pham Long Bien from the Border Guard Commands (Working Group member) attended the workshop. The workshop started at 8 am with an opening speech by Colonel Tran Van Phuong – Head of General Staff Division. Chief Advisor to the Project introduced the Project and the anti-TIP Hotline, experiences of hotlines in Japan, and solicited the views of participants on mutual cooperation between the Border Guard and the anti-TIP Hotline. The counsellors made presentations on skills such as active listening necessary to deal with trafficking victims, and planning and implementation of communication activities.

In the afternoon, representatives of three provinces with a large number of trafficking cases (Lao Cai, Ha Giang and Lai Chau provinces) presented the current trafficking situation in each province and responded to the question posed in the morning. Ha Giang, a target province of the Project, saw 56 kidnapping cases since 2012. All of them emphasized the importance of communication activity and recommended direct communication in communities, utilizing networks of relevant agencies. The importance of ethnic minority languages was reiterated with respect to communication activities and counselling because in Northern provinces there are many ethnic minorities who do not speak Kinh language (official language of Vietnam). The critical role of the Hotline in emergency cases was also noted.

For effective cooperation with the Border Guards, who protect the vast area along long border lines, we need to understand what information is useful to them, and what service of the Hotline can support their work while building experience and learning from Hotline operation. Continuing dialogue with the Border Guard through the Working Group will bring invaluable ideas from the front line to the anti-TIP Hotline project.



Top: Presentations by counsellors (Left: Ms Thuy, Right: Mr Cuong)

Below: The workshop audience

PROJECT COORDINATOR DEPLOYMENT

Ms Enomoto, who was with the Project since its inception in July 2012, left the Project at the end of September 2013. Ms Goda arrived in Hanoi on 23 September 2013 to take up the coordination work of the Project.

CONTENTS

JOINT WORKSHOP WITH BORDER GUARD	1
PROJECT COORDINATOR DEPOYMENT	1
LATEST NEWS FROM VIETNAM	2
ACTIVITY PLAN	2

“At the end of September, I left the Project. Though it has just been 14 months, I am happy that I had the chance to work for the start-up of the Project. I appreciate the cooperation and friendship I received from the Project team and relevant agencies. I am especially grateful to our counterparts. Working together daily for common goals was an invaluable experience for me. I wish the Project all success. Xin cam on!”
(Yuko Enomoto)

“I arrived in Hanoi to replace Ms Enomoto. Prior to this assignment, I was in charge of JICA’s anti-human trafficking projects at the JICA headquarters. It is a great opportunity for me to have field experiences in project management. I will definitely try my best to fulfill my responsibility and contribute to the effective implementation of the Project together with the Project team. I look forward to meeting all of you and working together!”
(Kayo Goda)



Top left: Ms Enomoto
Below: Ms Goda (second from the left), Mr Hieu, Project counterpart (centre), Project assistants and Chief Advisor

LATEST NEWS FROM VIETNAM

Selected news on Anti-TIP activities in Vietnam

1) Prime Minister’s Decision No. 1497 (27 August 2013)

The National Action Plan to implement the Agreement on Bilateral Cooperation for Counter Trafficking in Persons and Protecting Victims of Trafficking between Vietnam and Cambodia (Oct 2005; amended in Sep 2012) was approved by the Prime Minister’s Decision No. 1497. The action plan for the period from the signing date to the end of 2015 covers six areas such as information exchange and cooperation between the two countries, legal education, identification and protection of victims of trafficking and prosecution of perpetrators, capacity building of officials in relation to SOP signed in 2009, and strengthening international cooperation. A leading agency is specified for each area and agencies are to submit budget plan for implementation of the action plan.

2) Forum on women’s economic empowerment

Forum on Sharing of Experiences on Women Economic Empowerment was held on 2 Oct 2013 in Hanoi. After

opening speeches by the President of the Vietnam Chambers of Commerce and Industry (VCCI) and the Country Director of ILO, presentations were made by representatives from VCCI, the president of World Women Investors & Entrepreneurs Association in Korea, ILO, UN Women and a researcher. From Japan, Ms Kimie Iwata, Advisor, Shiseido, shared Shiseido’s experience in women’s empowerment and stressed the needs for change in the top, middle-management and women themselves. All presentations attracted many questions and the lively forum closed with wrapping up by Ms Hoko Ishikawa, UN Women Country Representative.

ACTIVITY PLAN

Working Group meeting and Model communication activity training (An Giang province)

Counsellor training (Hanoi)

Anti-TIP regional training (Japan)



Project for the Establishment of anti-Trafficking in Persons Hotline in Vietnam

This newsletter intends to present the progress of the Project and relevant information. Views and contents are those of the experts, Yoshiko Ogawa and Yuko Enomoto, and neither of JICA nor the Vietnamese government. This publication or parts of it may not be reproduced without permission.