

MEETINGS WITH HA GIANG DOLISA & WORKING GROUP

On 16 and 17 April 2015, we visited Ha Giang province with Mr Dzung, Director of CCCS, and had meetings with Ha Giang DOLISA and Ha Giang Hotline Working Group. On 16 April, we met Deputy Director of DOLISA, new Director of Social Protection Centre and 2 staffs of the Centre. The former Director of the centre was transferred before the Tet holiday and the new Director who started in March has just settled in. The implemented activities and current issues were presented by the Deputy Director of DOLISA, followed by discussions on the results of the IT training, hotline equipment maintenance and communication activities. Communication activities are of special importance to increase the number of calls. Taking into consideration the steep mountainous geography of Ha Giang and limited resources, we shared ideas on utilization of media and communication methods in order to conduct more effective communication activities using leaflets and the TV spot in two languages (Kinh and H' mong).

In the afternoon of 16 April, we discussed challenges and training needs with the two telephone counsellors. During the discussion, they talked about training in Hanoi and Hue with confidence. We were happy to see their marked positive change after the training as they were very shy during the previous meeting. They said that they organized their learning during the training to share each other. They also make efforts to keep data accurate by checking with hand-written notes and a logbook.

On 17 April, we held a Working Group meeting. The Deputy Director of DOLISA reported on implemented activities and the police informed us of the human trafficking situation in Ha Giang province. On average, there are 20–30 cases per year, of which organized cases using social media are increasing. In addition, there are domestic trafficking cases. Some difficulties faced are that victims tend not to report, being afraid of discrimination; and that it is not easy to establish evidence of potential trafficking cases. Women's Union proposed further cooperation with the Hotline. The Connecting Unit has already referred 6 cases to Women's Union and strengthening of referral network looks promising.



Above: Meeting with new Director

Middle: Working Group meeting

Below: Two Hotline counsellors

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COMMUNICATION ACTIVITY AT SCHOOL IN HANOI

On 13 April 2015, we conducted a communication activity at Quang Oai high school in Ba Vi district, 60 km from Hanoi. Our Hotline counsellors first attracted the attention of about 900 grade 11 and 12 students with games related to human trafficking, and distributed leaflets to introduce the Hotline and its services. One student shared a story of human trafficking which had happened in her community. After the counsellors showed a human trafficking case in a short performance, students called the Hotline number to experience how it works, and participated in a competition to make a song with the Hotline number. The curious and active students seemed to understand the trafficking cases and remember the number through games.

LATEST NEWS FROM VIETNAM

1) Workshop on Decree 95

On 23 April 2015, the Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs organized a workshop on amendment to labour export-related articles of the Decree 95/2013, in cooperation with ILO. This decree stipulates administrative punishment of employers and employees with regard to social insurance, employment practice such as work hours, working conditions and union activities, and overseas labour. The amendment will streamline related articles and give stricter penalty to address issues including overstay and running away of Vietnamese workers abroad. During the workshop, the status of violation and punishment of companies and individuals was reported along with explanation of the amendment. Workshop participants shared their views on difficulty in implementation as well as effects of regulations, consistency with the Penal Code, and interests of workers. The amendment will be approved in June this year.

Other articles of this Decree related to women workers,



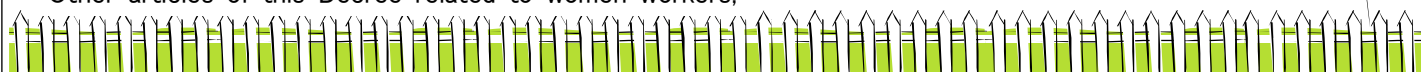
Above: Hotline counsellors in action
Below: Students reading the Hotline leaflet

Article 18, may be of interest to some of the readers. It sets fines where employers request women who are 7 month-pregnant or have a child under 12 months of age to go on a mission or overtime work, not give 60-minute break to women having a child under 12 months of age, or not or not assign them to the same job after their maternity leave.

ACTIVITY PLAN

May : Ha Giang mission by Informal Ambassadors and Heads of Agency Gender Policy Group (6-8 May)

Training of university students on communication activities to raise awareness about human trafficking (9 and 10 May)



An Giang
1800 8077

Ha Giang
1800 1282

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

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