

ANTI-TIP HOTLINE NEWSLETTER

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SUPPLY CHAIN CSR SEMINAR (HCMC)

On 16 June 2015, following the first CSR Seminar in December 2014, Japanese companies organized a CSR Seminar in Ho Chi Minh City. There were about 50 attendees from Vietnam and Japan, mostly those who work with Teijin Frontier (Vietnam) Co., Ltd. This Seminar aimed to facilitate improvement of working environment in factories by providing information on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), Vietnamese labour laws, etc.

Mr Sugimoto from Teijin Frontier gave an opening speech and screened an interesting video related to CSR (see the link below). Then, a representative of an NGO, Business for Social Responsibility (BSR) presented the global trends of CSR, including an online mapping of negative consequences of business activities, a boycott of products involving child labour, BSR's project to support female workers in Vietnam, etc.

Mr Doan Trung Bui from the Department of Work Safety, MOLISA, provided comprehensive and practical information on laws on labour safety and working conditions. Ms Ogawa, Chief Advisor of the Project, talked about human trafficking and child labour. Interestingly, an attendee showed an accurate understanding of human trafficking, which was a pleasant surprise to us.

On 16 and the morning of 17 June 2015, we observed inspection of garment factories in the Ho Chi Minh City area. The inspection team looked into various points to make sure, for example, that the corridor leading to an emergency exit is not blocked, and that extinguishers' expiry dates have not passed. Preparation for emergency tends to be neglected until when an actual emergency case occurs. Thus, regular inspection is important to maintain safe working environment for workers.

On the afternoon of 17 June 2015, we visited the Vietnam-Japan Human Resources Cooperation Centre. Mr Wakabayashi, a JICA expert at the Centre shared his insights on Japanese language study in the HCMC area and study and work in Japan, and showed us the facility in the Centre. We also visited Alliance Anti Traffic (AAT), an NGO working on counter human trafficking for many years, and learned about their recent activities.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KfANs2y_frk&feature=youtu.be
(video link)

<http://www.bsr.org/> (BSR HP)



*Above: Mr Trung making a presentation at the CSR Seminar
Middle: Participants of the CSR Seminar
Below: A garment factory on the outskirts of Ho Chi Minh City*

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HOTLINE TV SPOT BROADCAST ON VTV1

The Hotline TV spot was broadcast on VTV1 (channel 1 of Vietnam Television, the national television broadcaster) either from 17:40 or 19:55 for 10 times in May and June. This nationwide broadcast would inform the wider public of the Hotline number. VTV also plans to produce a special programme on human trafficking and we are in discussion for cooperation in order to raise awareness on human trafficking and inform the public of the Hotline number and its services.

PROJECT EXTENSION

The Hotline project, a three-year project started in July 2012, has been extended for 8 months until 15 March 2016, given the delay of project activities due to late arrival of Hotline equipment. This is to secure more time for project activities for better results. For the rest of the period, we will do our best to enhance the Hotline system and would like to request your continuing support to the Hotline.

LATEST NEWS FROM VIETNAM

1) Regional Conference on ICT to Combat Human Trafficking

On 23 and 24 June 2015, the Regional Conference above was organized by Microsoft and several UN agencies (IOM X, UN ACT, UN Women, UNICEF, USAID and UNODC) in Bangkok. The conference attracted more than 200 participants from 25 countries who discussed and exchanged views on the situation and challenges of counter human trafficking. During the conference, IT specialists presented applications software for prevention of human trafficking and protection of trafficking victims and a cloud funding page, 6 Degree was launched.

<http://www.ict4tip.com/index.html> (Conference HP)

<http://www.6degree.org/> (6 Degree HP)

2) Facebook use in Vietnam

According to a recent statistics by Facebook (FB), Vietnamese FB users spend 2.5 hours per day on FB, twice as long as their time for watching TV. This is longer than the global average by 13%. About 74% of the FB users are in the age bracket of 18 to 34. As many of the human trafficking victims are young, and perpetrators often use SNS to deceive victims, we need to pay attention to the future trends.

ACTIVITY PLAN

July : Hotline visit by the winners of high school student essay contest (28 July)

Development of a promotion video and a casebook



Above and below: Hotline TV spot broadcast on VTV



An Giang
1800 8077

Ha Giang
1800 1282

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 Kayo Goda, and neither of JICA nor the Vietnamese government. This publication or parts of it may not be reproduced without permission