Vietnam Anti-TIP Hot Line News

Newsletter for the Project for strengthening the operation of hotline for counseling and supporting trafficked survivor

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Evaluation of implementation of Decree No.9 at Social work center

Impact of COVID 19 on the project activities



Anti-TIP Hotline has Facebook site. Users can make phone call, chat, and inform location without direct

Please tell your friends about the Anti-TIP Hotline Facebook site!

Search with "Tong Dai 111" (Hotline 111) or scan the QR code to access to our face book page.



This newsletter lists the progress of the project, the surrounding information, and the views of JICA experts. It is not an official view of JICA and counterparts

The new coronavirus disease, COVID-19 continues to expand around the world. In such an emergency, Vietnam is one of the countries where the countermeasures against COVID-19 have been effective with fewer infected people and no deaths (as of June 2020). Preventive measures against the infection have been taken from the early stages and restrictions on economic activities and social isolation have been widely implemented. The counterpart of the Project, Department of Child Protection (DCA), had used its hotline capabilities to temporarily act as a contacting point for inquiries about government support packages for needy people.

Meanwhile, the COVID-19 crisis has increased the workload of the counterparts and forced Japanese experts to postpone their dispatch.

Even in this situation, the Anti-TIP hotline has continued their operations. Although the number of TIPs case and incoming calls are slightly fewer than in the second half of 2019, these numbers increased over the same period last year. According to the Ministry of Public Security, there were 33 TIP case, 45 suspects and 49 victims nationwide in the 1st quarter of 2020. Compared to 2019, the number of TIP case, suspects and victims decreased by 32.6 %, 40.7 % and 14 % respectively. However, the reason for this decrease could be due to the impact of COVID-19 and there are concerns that TIP crimes will rise again after the crisis has passed.

There is no prospect of dispatching Japanese experts at this point, however the Project will keep close contact with counterparts and continue activities as much as possible.

Evaluation of implementation of Decree No.09 (detailing articles of the Anti-Trafficking Law) was done!

Decree No.09 is the decree detailing a number of articles of the Anti-Trafficking Law and stipulates the detail measures and supports which TIP victims can receive. The Project has supported revising this decree to make it more effective for TIP survivors' social reintegration.

To evaluate the effectiveness of Decree No. 09 which has been implemented for 6 years since its constitution in 2013, evaluation survey has been done from September to November 2019. Survey was done to TIP survivors and government officials working directly with victims in Lao Cai and Yen Bai Province in the north and An Giang and Tay Ninh Province in the south. In addition, we also conducted

interview to NGOs and international organizations for their opinions.

39 TIP survivors participated in questionnaire survey, and among that, 10 survivors participated in in-depth interview. 98 government officials participated in questionnaire survey and among that, 19 officials participated in in-depth interview.

The results are summarized in the next page. The number of survivors counted officially from June 2013 to June 2019 nationwide are as follows:

- •Survivors verified by police: 3,476
- Survivors verified by Border Guards: 1.154
- •Survivors received by MOLISA sector: 2.961

97.6% of the 2,961 survivors who were received by LISA sector were female and 2.4% were male. 82.2% were over 18 years old and 17.8% were children under 18 years old. Among those received by LISA sector, 2,216 survivors (75%) received some supports from the government.



Questionnaire survey of survivor support Staff

The Results of Evaluation of Decree No.9~Opinions of Survivors~

Basic information of 39 survivors who participated in the survey are as follows:

<u>Destinations</u>: ①China (28 persons), ② Malaysia (11), ③ Thailand (2), ④ Cambodia, Singapore, Saudi Arabia (1 each).

<u>Iraffickers</u>: ①Friends, acquaintance (41.0%), ② Strangers (23.1%), ③Brokers (17.8%), ④Family members (10.3%), ⑤ Marriage brokers (7.7%)。

<u>Did you know risks of TIP before</u> <u>trafficked?</u> :

① I didn't know about risks of TIP (41.0%), ② I knew, but I didn't think that I would be trafficked (25.6%), ③ I partially knew, but didn't know in details (12.8%), ④ I knew but I still had to go (no option) (2.6%).

Most of the survivors participated in the survey experienced mental

problems such as anxiety, fear, "Don't want to meet anyone", distrust etc.

On the other hand, the survivors could receive the support which they wanted and the contents were ① psychological support (53.9%) ② loan support (51.3%), ③ medical support (46.2%), ④ initial difficulty support (41.0%), ⑤ essential needs support (35.9%), followed vocational training, travel expenses and legal assistance.

Regarding the assistance which TIP survivors nationwide received from 2013 to 2019 were: ① Essential needs (74.8%), ② Psychological counseling (71.%), ③ Medical support (45.5%), ④ Legal assistance (33.9%), ⑤ Initial difficulty support (27.6%). Thus, the high percentage of the survivors who could receive loan support was one of the characteristics of the interviewees.

Free writing opinions of 39 interviewees on Decree No. 09 are as follows:

Reasons of satisfaction: Relieve of financial difficulty and have money to spend for daily living (6 persons), Skill/Experience in raising farm animals (3), Being sympathized, less stressful and stabilizing (3) etc.

<u>Reasons why survivors could not receive the support:</u>

Troublesome procedure, the survivor could not receive initial difficulty support because not certified as poor household (1 each).

[Opinions from in-depth interview]

- √They did not understand clearly what support they could receive. (7)
- ✓Perpetrators cannot pay compensation (2).
- ✓Want to work rather than training (1).

The Results of Evaluation of Decree No.9~Opinions of Officials and Future Direction~

Officials who have directly supported TIP survivors (MOLISA, police, Border Guard, Women's Union) evaluate the support positively contributed the survivors social integration, but founds following issues: (Multiple choices and free writing answers of 98 officials)

- ✓ Victims do not want to share information or make unclear requests (61.2%).
- ✓ Low support level for survivors (45.9%)
- ✓ Lack of officers (41.8%)
- ✓ Officers lack professional knowledge to work with victims (25.5%)
- ✓ Dossiers and procedures are complicated and confusing (17.3%)
- Limited facilities (15.3%)
- ✓ The coordination between authorities is not good yet (14.3%)

- ✓ The language barrier (5.1%)

 The Project plans to support revising

 Decree No. 09 as follows:
- ☆ Revision of the support amount for essential needs support and medical assistance which now fixed to the original amount.
- ★ Psychological support from the initial reception, utilization of Anti-TIP Hotline, and deployment of staff who studied psychological counseling.
- ★ Revision of condition and amount of Initial Difficulty Support
- ★ Training for officials of trauma of survivors
- ★ Strengthening PR of Decree No.9
 and Anti-TIP Hotline

The Project continue the support to revise Decree No.9.



Interview with a survivor

Coming activities

- IAWT Meeting
- · Pavision of Decree No 9
- Training for hotline counselor
- · Mekong Regional Workshop
- · Training for installed equipment
- Communication activities

Upgrade of Anti-TIP Hotline equipment

The installation work of a new system Anti-TIP Hotline has been implemented under the Project. The hotline provides the information to prevent the human trafficking and protect the victims of human trafficking. The government of Vietnam established the call centers of the hotline in the north area (Hanoi), the central area (Da Nang), and the south area (An Giang) to cover the whole area of Vietnam. However due to the deterioration of the system, the Project had a plan to support to procure the equipment and upgrade the system.

The Project faced various troubles and challenges until the start of the works. But the Project overcome these troubles and challenges one by one in the cooperation with the members of the Project. However, we could not join the works in Vietnam because of COVID-19. So far, it was reported that the works have been implemented smoothly. We hope that the work is completed without any troubles and the system is utilized for the support of the victims. And we wish to listen the impression of the new system from the counselors after COVID-19

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