Workers forced to scam online trafficked victim or not?

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1. About LSCW

Found in the years 2002, in Cambodia

Our main goal is to protect the rights and benefits of Cambodian migrant workers and trafficked person

Our intervention focuses on community empowerment, legal protection, advocacy, and partnership

2. Rational and Scope

Understand situation human trafficking, forced labor in the scams

Develop the policy recommendations for the improvement

Conducted by an independent consultant (Khmer and foreign lawyer)

Based on the case files, return survivors, NGOs and authorities

2. Key Findings Profile of the victims

Age: 18 to 29 years old, recently graduated from the university

Education: High school and University

Gender: Male and Female

Skill: Computer literacy, IT, and Language: English

2. Key Finding: Recruitment Process

Online: advertise a job through various online such as websites, social media, and messaging apps: telegram, WhatsApp..

Offline: through broker, employment agency, friends or family members

Job advertisement: IT person, financial analyze, Human Resource, Translation, call center or Casino

Benefit: high paid job, free accommodation, free documentation, free transportation.

2. Key Findings Transportation

Type of transportation: By Air, By land, and also By Sea, direct or transfer through another country

Arrangement: By local agency or by victims and the family

Pick up has been arranged at the border area and transfer to the compound

Travel by using tourist visa or some do not have any visa to enter

2. Key Findings Working and living conditions

Retention of documentation: passports and other documents were kept

Restriction of movement: live and work in the scams compound which is strictly guarded or anyone can access outside

Intimidation, threat, and coercion by the manager (physical violence)

Debt bondage and wage withheld: Did not receive wage or work to release debt

Abusive working and living condition and excessive working hours

2. Key Findings Rescue or Round-Up

Lack of basic need or necessity support while in the immigration centers

Retraumatized during the interviewing process

Lack of psychosocial support

Lack of support for the return or repatriation to the home country

Fine for overstay or other crimes

3. Recommendation What do ASEAN member states do to help the victims?

Decriminalized the victims through the enforcement of the non-punishment principle

Regional Victim Identification and cross border referral system

Increase access to information, consular support, other social support

Ensure potential victims' right to access a remedy

Improve support to identified victims prior to, during, and after the repatriation process

3. Recommendation What can AMS do to prevent the crimes?

Streamline victim identification among law enforcement

Increase public awareness both in the country of destination and origin

Work with social media companies to track recruitment online

Information and date sharing to among AMS

3. Recommendation What can AMS do to tackle the crime

Forced labor needs to be criminalized, and prosecuted under AMS national

Cross-border cooperation between the law enforcement among AMS

Increase coordination between the cybercrime unit, border guards, immigration officers, and anti-human trafficking police

Regional capacity building among law enforcement and service providers to develop a common understanding of TIP and Forced labor in Scams Compound

Enforcement of Bilateral, or regional agreements on trafficking such as MLAP

THANK YOU!