



# STRENGTHENING SURVIVOR ENGAGEMENT IN COUNTER TRAFFICKING: ASEAN AND ASEAN MEMBER STATES' ROLE

Proactive Approaches for Enhanced Survivors' Involvement and Support

# Introduction

## Overview of Human Trafficking in ASEAN Region

The ASEAN region faces significant human trafficking challenges due to migration, labor demands, and cross-border issues. ASEAN's commitment to countering trafficking aligns with international conventions.

## Importance of Survivor Engagement

Survivors bring invaluable insights into the process, methods, and impacts of trafficking. Engaging survivors improves anti-trafficking policies, rehabilitation, and community support systems.





# Objectives

To explore strategies ASEAN and ASEAN Member States can adopt to:

- Empower survivors to play an active role in counter-trafficking efforts.
- Enhance survivor-centered support services.
- Improve policy-making through survivor input and lived experiences.

# Challenges in Engaging Survivors

Stigma and Discrimination  
– Survivors often face societal stigmas that hinder their reintegration.

Lack of Resources and Support – Limited financial, mental health, and vocational support resources.

Trauma and Trust Issues – Many survivors experience PTSD and may distrust authorities due to past experiences.

Policy Gaps – Inconsistent policies across ASEAN countries may hinder unified survivor support mechanisms.

# ASEAN's Role in Survivor Engagement

1. Implementation of Bohol Work Plan 2.0
2. Regional Coordination Facilitate collaboration and resource-sharing among ASEAN member states.
3. Promote common standards for survivor support and reintegration.
4. Create protocols that support survivor-centered approaches in all member states.
5. Advocate for member states to implement laws that mandate survivor protection, rehabilitation, and participation.
6. Encourage Survivor Input in Policy-Making
7. Monitoring and Evaluation
8. Support and fund survivor-led NGOs to facilitate peer-to-peer support and empower survivors to lead anti-trafficking initiatives.

# Enhancing Survivor Support Services

1. Holistic Rehabilitation Services
2. Provide psychological, legal, vocational, and educational services to aid survivor recovery and reintegration.
3. Job Placement and Economic Empowerment Partner with businesses to provide survivors with job opportunities and financial independence.
4. Accessibility of Services
5. Ensure services are accessible to survivors in urban, rural, and remote areas.

# Promoting Survivor Advocacy and Public Awareness

1. Public Campaigns with Survivor Stories
2. Collaborate with survivors to create awareness campaigns that humanize trafficking issues and reduce stigma.
3. Survivor Testimonies in Training Programs
4. Use survivor stories in training for law enforcement, healthcare providers, and social workers to increase understanding and empathy.
5. Community-Based Initiatives Encourage community programs that engage survivors to educate local populations on the dangers of trafficking

# Cross-Border Cooperation and Safe Migration

1. Regional Support Networks Establish ASEAN-wide support systems for survivors repatriated to their home countries.
2. Safe Migration Initiatives Develop programs that educate migrants on safe migration practices and trafficking risks.
3. Trauma-Informed Repatriation Protocols
4. Ensure repatriation policies are trauma-informed and support survivors' mental and emotional well-being.



# Case Study: Best Practices from the Philippines



## Recovery and Reintegration Program for Trafficked Persons

The Recovery and Reintegration Program for Trafficked Persons is a comprehensive program that ensures adequate recovery and reintegration services provided to trafficked persons. It utilizes a multi-sectoral approach, delivers a complete package of services that will enhance the psychosocial, social and economic needs of the clients. It also enhances the awareness, skills and capabilities of the clients, the families and the communities where the trafficked persons will be eventually reintegrated. It also improves community-based systems and mechanisms that ensures the recovery of the victim-survivors and prevents other family and community members to become victims of trafficking.

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## IACAT TIP Center for Trafficked Persons

The TIP center is the first IACAT shelter and one-stop-shop that caters to victims of trafficking in persons (TIP). According to IACAT Undersecretary-in-Charge Aglipay-Villar, the T.I.P. center will serve as a temporary shelter for rescued trafficked victims while they wait for the arrival of their documents, trial date, or their transport back to their home, among others. It also serves as a one-stop-shop where complaints on trafficking in persons may be reported, where victims can avail of counseling services and where all their other concerns may be addressed - without having to go to the different agencies.

A background image showing two hands, one from a person in a blue shirt and one from a person in a red shirt, holding a small red object together. The image is dimmed to serve as a backdrop for the text.

# END OF PRESENTATION