

IOM X FACTSHEET

Human Trafficking



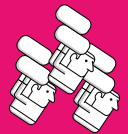
Human trafficking is the buying and selling of men, women and children within countries and across borders in order to exploit them for profit through deceptive or threatening means for purposes including sexual exploitation, forced labour, forced begging, illegal adoption, organ removal and forced marriage.

The average profit made by traffickers per victim of human trafficking in Asia Pacific is around USD 5000.⁴



Forced labour is more common in occupations such as agriculture, fishing, domestic work, manufacturing and other work requiring low levels of education and skills. Informal sector workers are more vulnerable to forced labour than workers who possess enforceable employment contracts.

Three out of every 1000 people in Asia Pacific are victims of human trafficking.⁵



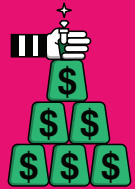
It is estimated that there are more than 20.9 million men, women and children living as victims of human trafficking around the world. More than half of these are in Asia Pacific (11.7 million).¹

Men, women and children trafficked experience the withholding of travel documents, migrant registration cards and work permits, as well as withholding of wages (debt bondage) and illegal salary deductions by employers.⁶



In Asia Pacific, there are 7.9 million victims of forced labour, 2.5 million victims of forced sexual exploitation, and 1.2 million victims of other forms of exploitation.²

A combination of economic pressures, language, legal status constraints and lack of information puts migrants at high risk of labour exploitation and trafficking.



Human trafficking is one of the fastest growing industries in the world, generating USD 150 billion per year in illegal profits. The highest profits are made in Asia Pacific because of the high number of victims, generating USD 51.8 billion in illegal profits.³

It is estimated that there are around 30 million migrant workers in Asia Pacific.⁷ Migration can increase vulnerability to human trafficking and exploitation.



You can help end human trafficking and exploitation.
For a list of local helpline numbers, visit IOMX.org/FINDHELP

IOM X is the International Organization for Migration's (IOM) innovative campaign to encourage safe migration and public action to stop exploitation and human trafficking. The campaign is produced in partnership with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Visit IOMX.org or contact IOMX@iom.int to learn more.
Tell us what you think online, using #IOMX

**YOU
CAN
HELP!**

¹ International Labour Office. (2014) Profits and Poverty: The Economics of Forced Labour. p. 17

² Ibid. p. 17

³ Ibid. p. 13

⁴ Ibid. p. 22

⁵ 21 million people are now victims of forced labour, ILO says. (2012, June 1). Retrieved March 25, 2015, from http://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/WCMS_181961/lang--it/index.htm

⁶ *Thailand. U.S. Department of State. U.S. Department of State, 1 Jan. 2014. Web. 25 Mar. 2015.

⁷ International Organization for Migration. (2014) Migration Initiatives 2015: Regional Strategies. p. 149



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