This *Human Trafficking Snapshot* was developed to provide background for practitioners who want to conduct counter trafficking activities in Thailand.

The *Human Trafficking Snapshot* serves the following purposes, to:

1. Identify key Trafficking in Persons (TIP) trends, including priority target audiences by geography, age, gender, ethnicity and so forth;

2. Provide media consumption data;

3. Provide an information resource for the counter-trafficking sector and local IOM X partners to ensure consistency of messaging across all related activities.
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WHAT IS IOM X?</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOW IS THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING SNAPSHOT USED?</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTRODUCTION</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◇ THAILAND DEMOGRAPHICS</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◇ MIGRATION INFORMATION</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN VIET NAM</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◇ OVERVIEW</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◇ HUMAN TRAFFICKING TRENDS</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◇ COUNTER-TRAFFICKING ACTIONS</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>◇ REPORTED CHALLENGES TO TACKLE HUMAN TRAFFICKING</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDIA CONTEXT</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KEY RESOURCES</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENDNOTES</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**WHAT IS IOM X?**

IOM X is the International Organization of Migration’s (IOM) innovative campaign to encourage safe migration and public action to stop exploitation and human trafficking. The campaign leverages the power and popularity of media and technology to inspire young people and their communities to act against human trafficking – the buying and selling of people for the purpose of exploitation – which is happening in every country in the world today. The campaign is produced in partnership with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and works closely with celebrities, private sector partners, government agencies, NGOs and youth groups across Asia Pacific.

**HOW IS THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING SNAPSHOT USED?**

The *Human Trafficking Snapshot* is a strategic document used by IOM X to guide the development of key messages and calls-to-action for the prevention of specific country-related TIP themes/issues of IOM X video programmes and activities.

IOM X’s process of creating video programmes and activities involves the use of the Human Trafficking Snapshot and in-country consultations with partners and IOM staff to identify the priority TIP theme/issue in the country. The identified issue and media consumption information is then further analyzed through the application of the Communication for Development (C4D) strategic planning tool. The key output of this process is a briefing document, which outlines key messages and specific calls-to-action to be shared both internally and with relevant partners (production houses and co-implementing organizations).

Not all information presented in this snapshot is IOM data. To compile this snapshot, IOM X conducted a desk review by consulting an array of sources, including information from governments, international organizations, (I)NGOs and local and international media sources. The snapshot uses the most up-to-date information available.
INTRODUCTION

Thailand has transformed into a ‘business-friendly’, upper middle-income country of about 70 million people, becoming an important regional economic hub in one of the most dynamic regions in the world.¹ Challenges to continued economic growth and social development include: gaps in policy design and implementation; growing inequality, including migrants, informal workers and displaced persons as those who are not benefitting from economic growth; corruption; and limited access to justice for the poor and vulnerable.²

Years of political instability have also impeded development. In May 2014, Thailand’s army seized power in a coup d’état after months of political unrest. A constitution drafted by the military government was passed after a referendum in August 2016. With this new constitution, the military aims to implement a controlled return to democratic governance.³

Thailand is widely recognized as a source, transit and destination country for trafficking in persons. Thailand enjoys higher wages and more economic opportunities than three of its neighbours: Cambodia, Lao PDR and Myanmar. Recent trends show Thailand increasingly as a destination country for trafficking victims from Myanmar, Lao PDR and Cambodia, and as a transit country for trafficking victims moving on to Malaysia, Singapore, the Middle East and elsewhere.⁴

In 2016, Thailand was upgraded from Tier 3 (the lowest tier) to Tier 2 Watch List in the US State Department’s Trafficking in Persons Report. The recent upgrade to Tier 2 Watch List indicates that after two consecutive years of being at the lowest tier, the United States government is confident that Thailand has met the minimum standards necessary to fight human trafficking.

Thailand is also an active member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Trafficking (COMMIT).
### THAILAND DEMOGRAPHICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population</th>
<th>67,959,360 (2015 est.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Urban vs. Rural</td>
<td><strong>Urban:</strong> 55.4% of total population</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Rural:</strong> 44.6% of total population (2015 est.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demographic Trends</td>
<td>About 32% of the population is under 25 years old (2015 est.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty</td>
<td>7.2% live below the poverty line (2015 est.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment</td>
<td>0.6% (2016 est.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Unemployment</td>
<td><strong>Total:</strong> 3.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(ages 15-24)</td>
<td><strong>Male:</strong> 2.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Female:</strong> 3.5% (2016 est.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religions</td>
<td>93.2% Buddhists (official religion), 5.5% Muslims, 0.9% Christians (mainly Catholics), 0.1% Hindu, 0.3% other (2010 est.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnic Groups</td>
<td>Predominantly Thai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Languages</td>
<td>Thai (official language), ethnic and regional dialects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literacy</td>
<td><strong>Total population:</strong> 93.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Male:</strong> 95.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Female:</strong> 92.6% (2015 est.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sources:** Asian Development Bank, Pew Research Center, Thailand National Statistical Office, UNESCO, World Bank
Thailand’s migration profile has evolved over the last 20 years. Until the early 1990s, “hundreds of thousands of Thai workers left the country to work abroad.” Income disparities among countries in the region have generally widened, generating a stronger incentive to migrate. Thailand has now become a migration hub: it is a transit and destination country for international migrants, with about one million documented and undocumented workers coming to Thailand and taking up skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled work annually. As both outbound and inbound international migration has increased, private recruitment and placement agencies have been established to promote and facilitate migration. The Government of Thailand has promoted the country as a destination for international tourism, medical care, retirement and secondary and tertiary education, each of which leads to an increase in international migration.

Since 2014 there have been significant efforts by the Royal Thai Government to register migrant workers and reduce the possibility and prevalence of human trafficking. While the military’s National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) formally dismissed rumours of forced deportations, there were accounts of raids on shelters and places of employment and over 122,000 Cambodians returned from Thailand in a rapid mass exodus in June 2014, fearing a crackdown on migrant workers. In 2016 there was another report of around 50,000 Cambodians being deported, as they were working in Thailand without documentation.

Estimates suggest that there are between 3.5 and 4 million persons without Thai nationality living in the country, including many long-term residents and children of migrants born in Thailand. About 3.25 million of them are working in the country. In addition, there are over 506,000 ‘stateless’ persons residing in Thailand.
## OVERVIEW

### United States Trafficking in Persons Report Tier Ranking

Tier 2 - Government does not fully meet the US Trafficking Victims Protection Act’s (TVPA) minimum standards, but are making significant efforts to meet these standards. The TVPA is based on implementing policies concerning the 3Ps (Prosecution, Protection and Prevention).

### Global Slavery Index

23 of 167 – This index ranks 167 countries based on the proportion of population that is estimated to be in modern slavery. Low ranks indicate a higher prevalence and risk of modern slavery in the country.

### Source

Thai victims have reported being subjected to trafficking for sexual exploitation or forced labour in Australia, Bahrain, Brunei, Canada, China, Germany, India, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Kuwait, Libya, Malaysia, the Maldives, Qatar, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Taiwan Province of China, Timor-Leste, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom, the United States, Viet Nam and Yemen.

### Transit

Thailand is a transit country for victims from North Korea, China, Lao PDR, Cambodia, Viet Nam, Pakistan, Bangladesh, India and Myanmar destined for third countries such as Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, Russia, South Korea, the United States and countries in Western Europe.

### Destination

Thailand is a major destination country for men, women and children from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Viet Nam.

Additionally, people from China, Viet Nam, Russia, Uzbekistan, India and Fiji who migrate willingly to Thailand in search for economic opportunities, have become victims of trafficking.

### Routes

Lao PDR – Udon Thani or Nong Khai – Songkhla
Myanmar – Ranong – Songkhla or Surat Thani or Chumphon or Samut Sakhon
Myanmar/Internal/Stateless/Hill Tribe – Mae Sot – Kamphaeng Phet or Nakhon Sawan – Samut Sakhon
Myanmar/Internal/Stateless/Hill Tribe – Chiang Rai – Songkhla or Bangkok
## HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN VIET NAM

### OVERVIEW

| **Hubs**                  | Udon Thani and Nong Khai (source and transit)  
|                           | Songkhla (destination and transit)           
|                           | Ranong (destination and transit)             
|                           | Samut Sakhon (destination and transit)       
|                           | Mae Sot/ Chiang Rai (transit and source)     
|                           | Samut Prakan (destination)                   |

| **Hubs**                  | Udon Thani and Nong Khai (source and transit)  
|                           | Songkhla (destination and transit)           
|                           | Ranong (destination and transit)             
|                           | Samut Sakhon (destination and transit)       
|                           | Mae Sot/ Chiang Rai (transit and source)     
|                           | Samut Prakan (destination)                   |

| **Internal**              | The majority of identified trafficking victims in Thailand are Thai nationals. Men, women and children from northeastern Thailand are trafficked into Bangkok, Phuket, Pattaya and Phang Nga for forced work and sexual exploitation. In the northern areas of Thailand (Chiang Rai, Mae Hong Son and Chiang Mai province), the lack of citizenship makes highland women and girls particularly vulnerable to being trafficked. |

| **Industries involving trafficking** | Commercial fishing, fishing related industries, low-end garment production, manufacturing, agricultural industries, domestic work, forced begging and the commercial sex industry. |

| **Victims**                | Men, women and children trafficked into Thailand experience the withholding of travel and identification documents (such as passports, migrant registration cards and work permits). Employers withhold wages and deduct salaries illegally and use physical and verbal abuse as well as threats of deportation. Irregular migrants remain particularly vulnerable to trafficking as traffickers and/or unscrupulous employers will take advantage of their lack of legal status, low economic position, lack of education, language barriers and lack of understanding of Thai law. |

| **Traffickers**            | Traffickers (including labour brokers) who bring foreign victims into Thailand generally work as individuals or in unorganized groups, while those who exploit Thai victims abroad tend to be more organized. Brokers are reportedly of both Thai and foreign origin and work in networks, collaborating with employers and, at times, with corrupt civilian and military officials. |

**Sources:** US TIP Report (2018; 2017; 2016; 2014), Global Slavery Index (2018; 2014), UN-ACT (2014), IOM
HUMAN TRAFFICKING TRENDS

TREND #1: TRAFFICKING OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN FOR SEXUAL EXPLOITATION WITHIN THAILAND AND CROSS-BORDER INTO THAILAND

WHAT?
There are an estimated 140,000 sex workers in Thailand, 10 per cent of which are male. Not all of these women and men are victims of sexual exploitation.11 Most women fall into trafficking situations after voluntarily entering the commercial sex industry.12 Traffickers and establishment owners control migrants working as sex workers through debt bondage and by placing restrictions on their freedom and ability to safeguard their own health, including how many clients they should ‘entertain’ and whether or not condoms are used.13 Children who are being sexually exploited in the sex trade are using false identification in karaoke or massage parlours.14

WHERE?
Victims are internally trafficked from Chiang Mai, Chiang Kham, Chiang Rai, Mae Hong Son, Northern Region to Pattaya and Bangkok. Victims are trafficked across borders, into Thailand, from Lao PDR, Myanmar (Yangon, Mawlamyine, and Dawei), Cambodia, Viet Nam to Ranong, Songkhla, Narathiwat, Yala, Bangkok, Phuket, Pattaya and Chiang Mai. They often transit in Mae Hong Son, Mae Sai, Nong Khai, Nakhon Phanom, Mukdahan, Three Pagodas Pass, Mae Sot and Trat.

HOW ARE VICTIMS RECRUITED?
Recruiters can be male and female, and they work in individual capacities or as part of organized networks that are able to produce or buy fake documents, avoiding immigration requirements through brokers and facilitators.15 Victims who are migrant women and children are often forced, coerced or tricked into forced sex work.16 In many cases, workers from the same place of origin as other migrants are sent by sex establishment operators or owners to deliberately recruit girls. To lure the prospective victims, brokers or agents present themselves as successful sex workers.17

WHO IS AT RISK?
Women and children from the northern hill tribes (such as Akha, Lahu, Lisu, Thai Yai, Thai Leu and Luwa) in Thailand are at risk because of statelessness, low education and few viable means of income. Women and girls from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Viet Nam and particularly Myanmar18 are also at risk.
HUMAN TRAFFICKING TRENDS

TREND #2: TRAFFICKING OF MEN AND BOYS FOR FORCED LABOUR IN THE FISHING INDUSTRY

WHAT?
The total value of Thailand’s fish exports is ranked fourth globally, constituting a USD 7.3 billion industry.\(^\text{19}\) With many Thai workers in the fishing industry moving to better-paid and safer jobs during the country’s economic boom, men and boys from Myanmar, Cambodia and Lao PDR, who are often trafficked into the industry, have replaced them.\(^\text{20}\) However, there are still reports of Thai males trafficked into the fishing industry and placed on boats going overseas to Malaysia and Indonesia.\(^\text{21}\)

Working conditions on the fishing boats are extremely difficult. Fishers face 18-20 hour workdays, live in cramped quarters, face drinking water shortages, and are required to work even when they are ill.\(^\text{22}\) Infrequent payments and wage deductions are common, more so for Myanmar and Cambodian fishers than Thai fishers.\(^\text{23}\) Wage deductions could be for any of the following reasons: repayment of wage advances, food and drinking water, worker card fee, leave days or accommodation.\(^\text{24}\)

Boat owners and managers prevent fishers from leaving by using physical violence or threatening victims with financial penalties.\(^\text{25}\)

WHERE?
Victims are trafficked from Thailand, Cambodia (Svay Rieng, Prey Veng, Kandal, Kampong Cham), Lao PDR and especially Myanmar to Samut Sakhon, Ranong and Pattaya.

HOW ARE VICTIMS RECRUITED?
Recruitment takes place through brokers who charge workers a fee (leading to bonded labour) and through friends and acquaintances that have worked in the fishing industry before and have contacts in the industry.\(^\text{26}\) Sub-contracting, an absence of written contracts and deception or a lack of transparency in terms of wages and conditions of work characterizes recruitment practices.

It is common practice for trafficking victims to be promised work on a ship, only to find once they are out at sea that they will not be getting paid.\(^\text{27}\)

Broker fees can range from THB 2,000-20,000, which is often withheld from fishers’ salaries.\(^\text{28}\) Many victims of trafficking also take loans to make payments to the broker, underlining the poverty of the communities from which the fishers are recruited and pushing them into increasing cycles of debt that their meagre salaries cannot support.\(^\text{29}\)

WHO IS AT RISK?
Men and boys from north and northeast Thailand; migrant men and boys, primarily from Myanmar, Cambodia and Lao PDR.

The combination of economic pressures, language and legal status constraints, and a lack of information on the risk of trafficking put migrant populations at especially high risk of labour exploitation and trafficking.\(^\text{30}\)
TREND #3: TRAFFICKING OF WOMEN AND GIRLS FOR DOMESTIC WORK TO THAILAND

WHAT?
Migrant women and children are more vulnerable to being trafficked for domestic work. The majority of migrant domestic workers in Thailand are from Myanmar, Cambodia and Lao PDR. Attitudes towards migrant domestic workers in Thailand are generally negative; media reports often associate migrant workers with crime. This is dangerous as negative attitudes towards migrant workers can lead to their exploitation. The vast majority of migrant domestic workers in Thailand do not have a written contract.

Based on a recent survey, migrant domestic workers work 11.89 hours per day on average. Less than half of surveyed domestic workers get a weekly day off, although they are legally entitled to this. Furthermore, they might experience non-payment or underpayment of wages and restricted freedom of movement. Younger domestic workers are at greater risk of experiencing sexual and verbal abuse.

WHERE?
Cross-border trafficking happens from Myanmar, Cambodia, Lao PDR and Viet Nam to Mae Sot, Bangkok, Nakhom Pathom, Nonthaburi, Patum Thani, Samut Prakan and Samut Sakhon.

HOW ARE VICTIMS RECRUITED?
Recruitment often takes place through friends or relatives and informal recruiters. Brokers or “carriers” accompany women and girls across the Thai border for which large sums of money are paid in advance or incurred as debt to the “carriers.”

WHO IS AT RISK?
Women and girls from Myanmar, Cambodia, Lao PDR and Viet Nam migrating in search for economic opportunities.
HUMAN TRAFFICKING TRENDS

TREND #4: TRAFFICKING OF CHILDREN FOR BEGGING

WHAT?
Children are trafficked and forced to beg, sell flowers or other small items on the streets of Bangkok and other tourist hubs in Thailand. Child beggars can earn up to THB 1,000 (USD 29) per day. They beg both in areas frequented by tourists and areas with only Thai passers-by. The children are forced to hand over all their earnings every day. In return they are usually provided with some sort of shelter and occasional meals. The majority of children found begging in Thailand are from Cambodia.

WHERE?
Children are internally trafficked from northeast Thailand to Bangkok, Chon Buri, Phuket and Pattaya. Victims are also trafficked across borders from Myanmar (border areas), Cambodia (Poi Pet, Battambang, Siem Reap, Banteay Meanchey) to Mae Sot, Bangkok, Chiang Mai, Pattaya, Phuket and Aranyaprathet.

HOW ARE VICTIMS RECRUITED?
Cambodian children sold to traffickers (usually by their parents), are offered between THB1,500-3,000 (USD 42-84). Traffickers often offer parents ‘rent’ for their children. Parents agree to send their children away for six to twelve months, as they are usually offered monthly payments in exchange. However, parents sometimes only get paid for a few months or not at all and usually their children do not return after the agreed time is up.

WHO IS AT RISK?
Children from broken homes and a dysfunctional family environment are at the greatest risk. Children from poor families and those incurring high household debt are also at risk.
The Royal Thai Government has taken steps over the last decade to address the issue of human trafficking from a prevention, protection, prosecution and policy perspective, such as:

**National and local actions**

- Established Thailand’s Anti-Trafficking Division in 2006 to focus solely on prosecuting human trafficking cases, including those affecting male victims.
  - Established a specialized anti-trafficking division within the Bangkok Criminal Court and the Office of the Attorney General in 2015 to allow faster judgements and an increase in trafficking expertise among judges and prosecutors.


- Launched the Master Plan to Combat Human Trafficking in February 2013, with the aim to gain better control of human trafficking in the labour market, related laws and law enforcement, and identification of perpetrators and victims.

- Created the Thai Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force in 2015, which assists in prosecuting child trafficking cases that involve digital elements.

- Amended the 2008 Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act and other laws concerning forced labour in the seafood and fishing industry, to increase the penalties for traffickers, allowing for the closure of businesses complicit in forced labour and providing legal protection to whistle blowers in 2015.

- In 2015, funded training of 2,640 police, prosecutors, judges, labour inspectors, social workers and navy personnel on anti-trafficking regulations. Additionally, separate trainings were held to better implement the amendment of the 2008 Anti-Trafficking Act.

- Amended the Anti-Money Laundering Act in October 2015 to allow the freezing of assets of companies complicit in trafficking during investigations. Also allows the allocation of a portion of the seized assets to victims for compensation.

- In November 2015, the “New Fisheries Act and Thailand Roadmap on Eliminating an Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing” was accepted, which addresses stronger fishery registration and management including a passage on forced labour and trafficking.

- In December 2015, enacted legislation on the criminalization of possessing and distributing child pornography, which aids in the prosecution of cases related to child trafficking for sexual exploitation.
REPORTED CHALLENGES TO TACKLE HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Despite the actions being taken by the Royal Thai Government to tackle internal and cross-border human trafficking, several challenges remain. These include the following:

- **Fear and lack of trust:** The central data collection systems remain inadequate, and trafficking-related statistics and information are often unreliable. Further, a lack of coordination among provinces and across enforcement agencies working on trafficking hampers overall law enforcement progress.\(^43\)

- **Fear and lack of trust:** Victims are often too scared to go to the police, as they are aware that law enforcement employees are sometimes involved in trafficking networks and/or are likely to deport them. The lack of trust in the assistance offered can be borne out of past trafficking-related experiences and the fear of being cheated again.\(^43\)

- **Stigma:** Trafficking victims lack incentive to cooperate in the investigation and prosecution of traffickers, in large part due to the negative repercussions of being identified as a trafficking victim.\(^44\) Being identified as a trafficking victim could mean that the individual had failed at migration when others in their community had succeeded, leading to shame and embarrassment.\(^45\)

COUNTER-TRAFFICKING ACTIONS

- Established the Thailand Anti-Trafficking in Persons Task Force (TATIP) under the Royal Thai Police in early 2018. The TATIP consists of law enforcement, social workers and NGOs, which act together to increase coordination to enforce trafficking laws.

Regional and global actions

- Adoption of bilateral Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) on combating human trafficking with Myanmar, Lao PDR, Cambodia and Viet Nam (2004), as well as domestic MOUs to increase coordination and cooperation among state agencies and with civil society.

- In 2014, signed on to the UN treaty on forced labour, aimed to advance prevention, protection and compensation measures against forced labour and modern slavery.

- Ratified the ASEAN Convention against Trafficking in Persons, especially women and children in 2016.
REPORTED CHALLENGES TO TACKLE HUMAN TRAFFICKING

- **Discrimination**: Migrants, especially undocumented migrants, face widespread discrimination, and Thai people are less likely to report suspected cases or respect the rights of undocumented migrants.46

- **Victim identification and reintegration**: Forced labour and debt bondage victims are often not identified due to lack of screenings and poor inspection standards.47 Those identified might receive some assistance but not the full package they require to move on from their trafficking experience and reintegrate into society.48 As a result, there is a high likelihood of the victims returning to the same (or similar) situation that made them vulnerable to trafficking in the first place.

- **Law enforcement capacity**: Even specialized law enforcement sometimes lack understanding of law and policy frameworks, fail to perform their legal duties and have coordination gaps with other relevant agencies.49

- **Legal migration is expensive and restrictive**: Thailand’s migration laws restrict the type of work people can migrate for, and the costs involved with legally migrating are prohibitive. The costs for visas and work permits are high, especially when unscrupulous agents charge well above the actual costs involved. Employers are reluctant to pay the fees involved with legally employing migrant workers and will often transfer the financial burden to the migrant. Legal migrants also face restrictions on their movement: many require permission from employers, in writing, to be able to travel even to another province.

- **Language and cultural limitations**: Migrant workers who do not speak Thai are vulnerable to human trafficking if they struggle to conform to Thai cultural norms and do not understand their rights under Thai law.50

- **Statelessness and xenophobia**: In northern Thailand, where 30 per cent to 60 per cent of highlanders are without Thai citizenship, populations are at increased risk of trafficking. The relationship between lack of citizenship, xenophobia and vulnerability to trafficking is becoming increasingly clear. UNESCO research shows that statelessness is the ‘single biggest risk factor’ in being trafficked.51
The media context in Thailand is more developed than in neighbouring markets in Southeast Asia. Television penetration, both free-to-air terrestrial and pay TV, is essentially universal in Thailand. High mobile penetration rates and growing Internet access provide extensive opportunities to utilize media platforms to engage a multitude of audiences on the issue of human trafficking. Media platforms, including television, radio and online social networks have been utilized to address political and social change, but little research has been done concerning impact.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Media</th>
<th>Penetration Rate</th>
<th>Relevent informaiton</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Television</td>
<td>99.6%</td>
<td><strong>Top broadcasters:</strong> Channel 7 and Channel 3 (est. reach: 76.5% of television viewers)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>43.7% (Pay TV)</td>
<td><strong>Genres:</strong> Soap operas, entertainment shows, news and miniseries. The Broadcasting Business Act of 2008 requires channels to air 25% public service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pay TV (Rural 43%, Urban 74%)</td>
<td>content (news and documentaries). This does not apply to satellite and cable channels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td><strong>Demographics:</strong> 84% of Internet users are between the ages of 13-25.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Social Media:</strong> 56% of the population is on social media. Most popular social platforms are Facebook, Line, Facebook Messenger, Google+, Instagram and Twitter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radio</td>
<td>60.3%</td>
<td>Radio stations are regionalized and tend to be specialist stations such as music, entertainment or news focused. Thailand has the most community radio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>stations in the region with about 5,000 channels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile phones</td>
<td>122%</td>
<td>64% of the adult population owns a smartphone.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Usage:</strong> On average, Thais spend 3 hours and 53 minutes per day accessing the Internet via their mobile phone.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Print</td>
<td>73.7%</td>
<td>Thais spend an average of 37 minutes reading newspapers per day. About 46% read magazines. Television remains the main source of information by far, followed by radio, the Internet and the press.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IOM Thailand – Established in 1951, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) is the leading inter-governmental organization in the field of migration and works closely with governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental partners. In Thailand, IOM is active in a number of different areas including Labour Migration, Counter-Trafficking, Migration Health, Resettlement and Movement Management, Emergency and Post-Crisis, and Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration. Website: http://th.iom.int/

United Nations Action for Cooperation Against Trafficking in Persons (UN-ACT) – It was established in 2014 to ensure a coordinated approach to more strategically and effectively combat trafficking in persons in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS) and beyond. The project builds upon the work previously undertaken by the United Nations Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking (UNIAP). Website: http://un-act.org/

ILO TRIANGLE II Project: UN project in Thailand, Lao PDR, Cambodia, Viet Nam, Myanmar and Malaysia focused on promoting fair migration and improving governance and rights of migrant workers. Website: http://www.ilo.org. Telephone: +662 288 2245

Asian Research Centre for Migration (ARCM) – Functioning within the Institute of Asian Studies (IAS) at Chulalongkorn University, ARCM monitors, conducts research, and provides policy recommendations and related services to the government, non-government, and private sector on cross-border migration trends and processes in Southeast Asia, with a particular emphasis on Thailand. Website: www.arcmthailand.com. Telephone: +66 218 7462, 218 7415

1300 Helpline – Toll-free Thai and English language TIP hotline operated by the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security to receive complaints and information about trafficking in persons.

Project Issarat: 24-hour toll-free nationwide migrant worker hotline in Thailand. Provides information for migrant workers on labour rights, government registration, and processes, as well as a platform to report cases or request assistance. Website: http://www.projectissara.org.

Myanmar language: 1-800-010-180
Khmer language: 1-800-010-181
Lao and Thai language: 1-800-010-182
ENDNOTES


17 Schuster Institute, Human Trafficking (2013)./ P. Wongboonsin et al., Trafficking for Sexual Exploitation in Southern Thailand (2008), pg. iii.
19 Food and Agriculture Organization, The State of the World Fisheries and Aquaculture (2016), pg. 7.
37 S. Punping et al, Migrant Domestic Workers: From Burma to Thailand, Institute for Population and Social Research, Mahidol University (2004), pg. 11.
43 R. Surtees, UNIAP/Nexus Institute, After Trafficking: Experiences and Challenges in the (Re) integration of Trafficked Persons in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (Bangkok, 2013), pg. 60.
45 R. Surtees, UNIAP/Nexus Institute, After Trafficking: Experiences and Challenges in the (Re) integration of Trafficked Persons in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (Bangkok, 2013), pg. 65.
56 Media Partners Asia, Asia Pacific Pay-TV & Broadband Markets, 555 (2013).
57 Media Partners Asia, Asia Pacific Pay-TV & Broadband Markets, 555 (2013).


