

'The Path': A Documentary on Human Trafficking in Egypt

IOM Egypt raises awareness amongst at-risk communities, government and civil society

30 August **2012**: IOM in close collaboration with the Government of Egypt has recently produced an awareness-raising documentary on the issue of human trafficking in Egypt. It can be found on You Tube at the following link: http://youtu.be/x0CQ8jtGFco.

The film, entitled 'The Path: A Documentary on Human Trafficking in Egypt,' focuses on the most prevalent forms of human trafficking in Egypt as well as the government's efforts to combat such crime. It shows the various forms of human trafficking in Egypt, such as forced marriage (for sexual exploitation), forced labor, and organ trafficking.

In 2010, the Government of Egypt issued a comprehensive anti-trafficking law. It also set up the National Coordinating Committee on Preventing and Combating Human Trafficking to collaborate with all governmental and non-governmental agencies working in the field of human trafficking.

Since then, IOM Egypt has been working with the government to raise awareness about the new anti-trafficking law amongst at-risk communities, as well as amongst government and civil society.

The purpose of the documentary is to contribute to these efforts, and to raise awareness about the issue and nature of human trafficking in Egypt. It is a valuable resource that can be utilized as part of an information campaign and a training tool for workshops and other similar events. The film was produced in Arabic and has English subtitles and was made with the financial support of the Government of Finland.

Since 2008, IOM Egypt has been working closely with the



government, civil society and UN partner to assist the Egyptian government in combating human trafficking. In line with national priorities, IOM is currently assisting key government entities through complementary and varied activities focused on prevention, prosecution and protection. At the same time, IOM continues to support research and policy development in this field.

In particular, IOM offers tailored assistance to trafficked migrants and Egyptians. Based on individual needs, and in cooperation with its government and NGO partners, IOM provides secure, temporary accommodation, health and mental health care, legal aid, livelihood assistance, as

well as return and reintegration assistance. With a view to strengthening the overall sphere of protection in Egypt, IOM worked in partnership with the National Council for Childhood and Motherhood to establish Egypt's first shelter for victims of trafficking. IOM and the Ministry of Health have also set up a medical recovery unit, which to date has served over 160 Egyptian and foreign victims of trafficking. To compliment this and to support Egypt in implementing its 2010 Law to Combat Human Trafficking, IOM has provided training to over 800 police, prosecutors and judges, enhancing their capacities to investigate and prosecute trafficking-related offences and protect vulnerable victims and witnesses.

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