

TRAFCORD

Anti-Trafficking Coordination Unit
Northern Thailand



Area of Operations:

Northern Thailand

9 Provinces along the Thai-Burmese and Thai-Laotian Borders



Objectives

- To assist the victims of Human Trafficking in particular women and children from Thailand, neighboring and nearby countries (Burma, Laos, China) bought and sold, coerced or deceived into exploitative situations such as prostitution, slave labour or forced begging.
 - 1.1 By rescuing them from exploitative situations
 - 1.2 By providing care and shelter for the victims of trafficking through setting up a network of centres providing shelter and assistance as well as help-lines along trafficking routes.
 - 1.3 By enabling recovery for the victims of trafficking through counseling, education and skills training services.

Objectives (cont'd)

- 1.3 To enable the victims of trafficking to reintegrate back into their home environment by providing "half-way houses", safe avenues for return, job creation schemes and follow-up home visits.
- 2. To facilitate the arrest, successful prosecution and punishment of operators, agents and owners who buy, sell or otherwise traffic women & children against their will and/or for illegal acts.
- To improve the capacity of government and nongovernment organizations to mount effective antitrafficking operations in the Northern Thailand



Coordination Unit

Multi-Disciplinary Network

Government & Non-Government Stakeholders
involved with

Trafficking Issues

(Provincial Operation Center on Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking-POCHT)

Key Partners

Multi-Disciplinary Team

Law Enforcement (Police, Immigration, DSI)

Legal (Public Prosecutors)

Social Welfare (GO/NGO, Shelter)

Medical (Forensic, Psychologist)

Community Network

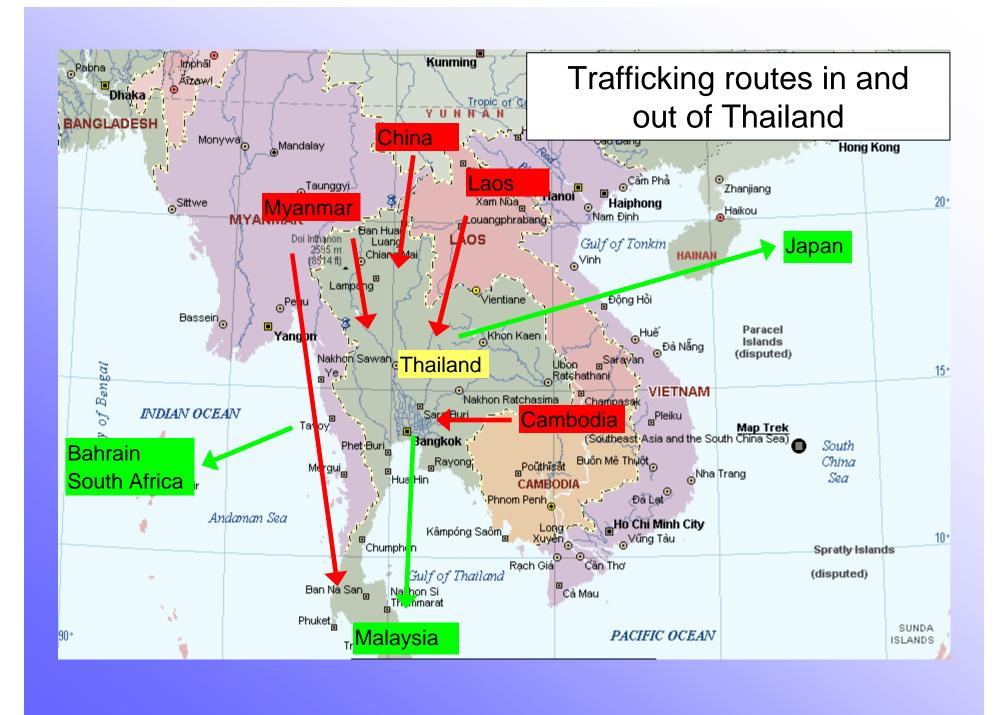
Community Volunteers in High Risk Areas many from ethnic tribal minorities in border areas

Key Strategies

- Victim Sensitive Case Interviews & Case Conferences with Multi-Disciplinary Teams
- Capacity Building of Multi-Disciplinary Teams
- Policy/Protocol Development

Return & Reintegration

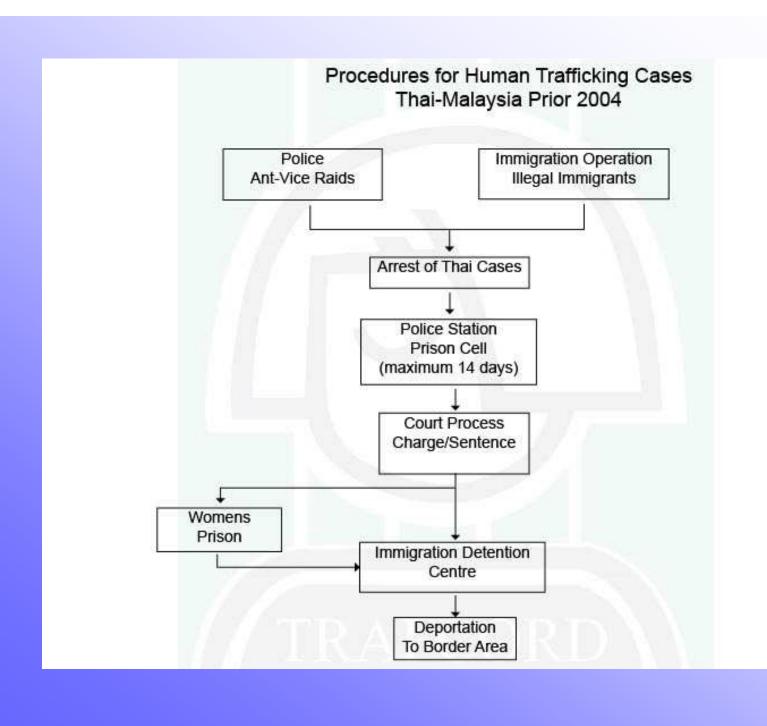
- Return of Thais to Thailand from countries of destination
- Return of non-Thais from Thailand to countries of origin



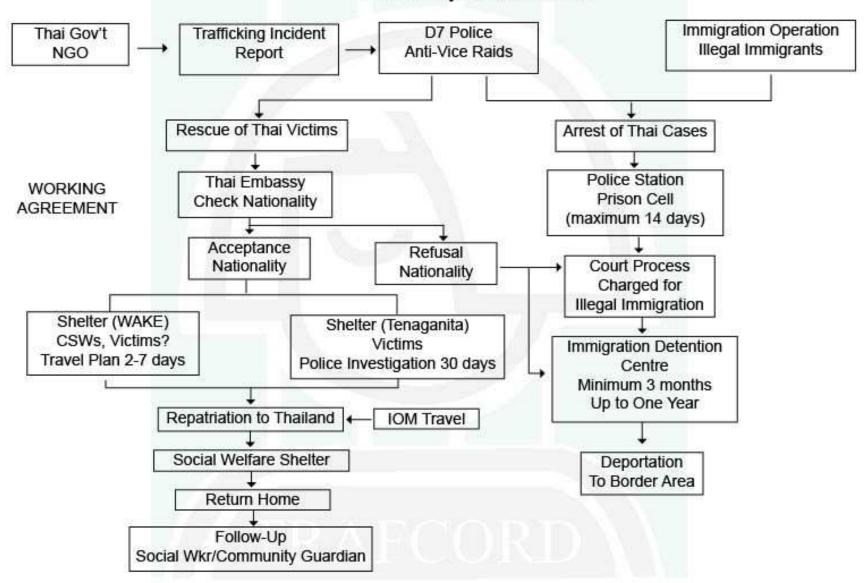
Thai Women returned from trafficking situations abroad

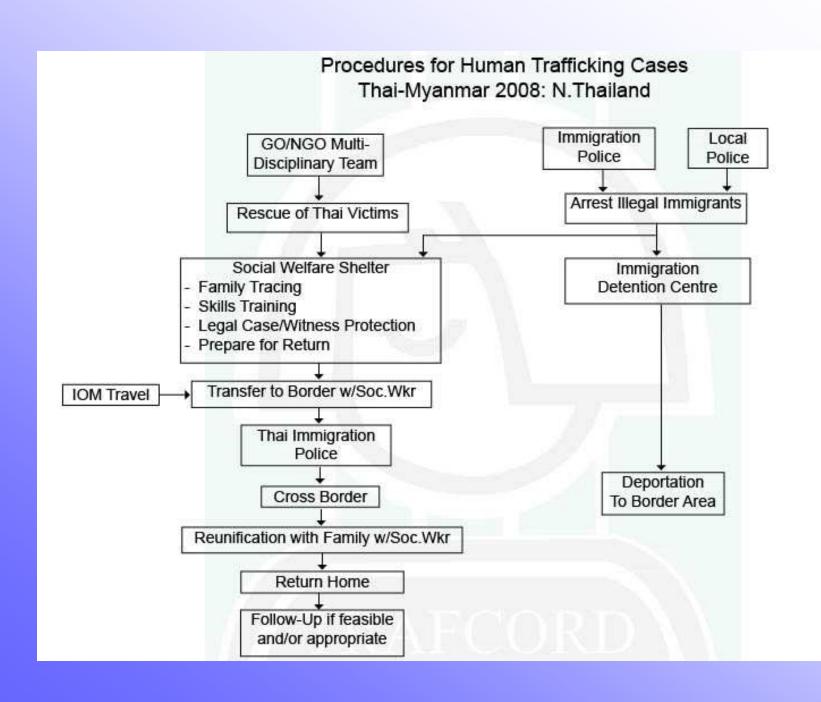
Country	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	TOTAL
Malaysia	49	32	79	60	0	1	221
Bahrain	8	14	4	3	204	30	263
Japan	57	53	45	9	14	2	180
South Africa	25	8	14	43	32	23	145

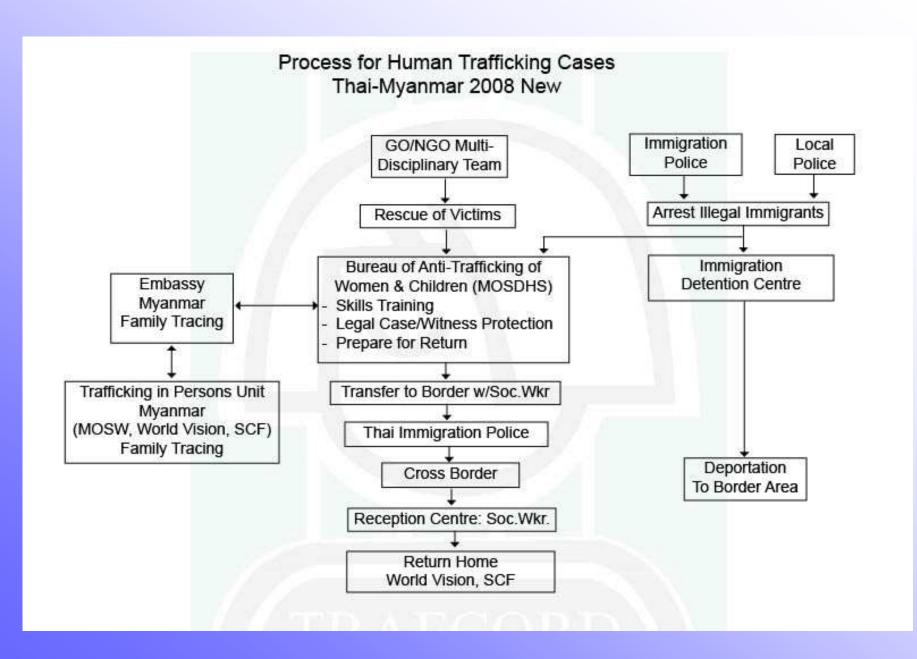
(Bureau Anti-Trafficking Women & Children Ministry of Social Development & Human Security)



Process for Human Trafficking Cases Thai-Malaysia 2004-2008







Steps in Return & Reintegration

- Tracing of Family & Assessment of Home Situation
- Vocational & Life Skills Training
- Determine that victim has recovered from physical and psychological trauma
- Determine safety of home situation
- Prepare victim for reintegration
- Contact organizations in country of origin
- Rendezvous at border crossing and transfer care for victim.
- Follow-up and Home Visits where feasible and appropriate

Case Study Thai-Malaysia Human Trafficking

CASE SYNOPSIS

Young girls trafficked through Northern Thailand via Bangkok and Had Yai to Johor Bahru in Malaysia where they were confined and forced to provide sexual services to customers from Singapore.

KEY FACTORS FOR CONCERN

- 1. Very young age of the girls (13yrs -18yrs)
- 2. Drug use (methamphetamine)
- 3. Confinement
- 4. Low condom use in area with area high HIV/AIDS prevalence
- 5. Frequent physical abuse, beatings and other punishments

VICTIMS

- 7 Thais
- 2 Burmese
- 1 Chinese



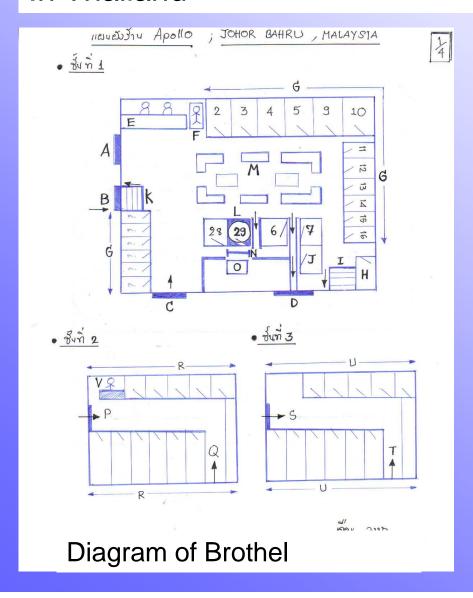


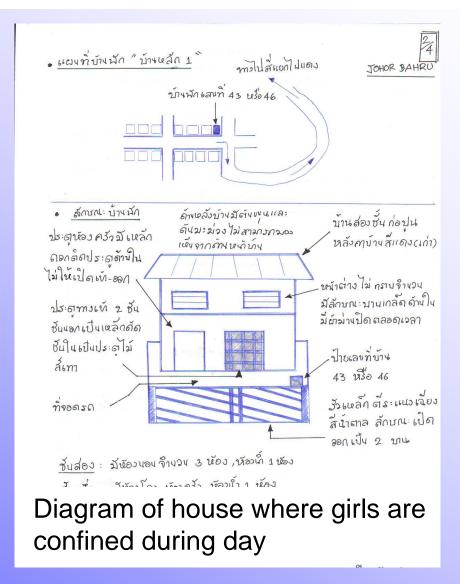
Operation

- Multi-Disciplinary Team in N.Thailand request assistance from TRAFCORD
- 2. TRAFCORD negotiate release of one of the girls and she is returned to Thailand
- 3. Thai gov. agencies report case through Bangkok to Malaysia.

 Malaysian NGOs are contacted but after over a month no result.
- TRAFCORD investigators sent to Johor Bahru to locate missing girls
- 5. TRAFCORD investigators maintain close contacts with Multi-Disciplinary Team and first victim in N.Thailand. Sketches and photos are exchanged leading to location of brothel and house where girls are confined.
- 6. Report is sent to D7 Special Unit, Royal Malaysian Police
- 7. D7 conduct raid at locations designated by TRAFCORD rescuing 6 girls. Victims are taken to Tenaganita shelter in Kuala Lumpur
- 8. D7 and Thai social workers interview victims
- 9. D7 conduct a second raid and rescue a further 3 girls

Diagrams drawn by Victim with help of Multi-Disciplinary Team In Thailand













Thailand Malaysia Human Trafficking Case Study Multidisciplinary Team Meetings in Thailand & Malaysia





- Thai Police
- Min.Soc.Dev, Social Wkr
- TRAFCORD Social Wkr



Malaysia

- D7 Malaysian Police
- Women & Child Unit Thai Police
- Thai Embassy Consular Officer
- Tenaganita Social Wkr (Mal)
- TRAFCORD Social Wkr (Thai)
- FACE Social Wkr (Thai)





Activities in KL Shelter organized by Thai & Malaysian Social Workers (Medical & Psychological Assistance, Family Tracing & Preparation for Return





D7 RMP interviewing victims in KL Shelter

Thailand Malaysia Human Trafficking Case Study Operation (continued)

- Multi-Disciplinary Teams working with victims in shelter in KL send details of family tracing back to Multi-Disciplinary Teams in Thailand who locate the Thai families.
- 2. 6 Thai girls travel back to Thailand accompanied by Thai police and government social worker.
- 3. Upon return to Thailand they are taken to government shelter for witness protection while criminal case is investigated and arrests are made. Three escape and three are collected by parents
- 4. Meanwhile the families of the girls remaining in the KL Shelter have been located in Burma and China. They are from ethnic minorities. Their families want to collect them at Thai-Burmese border in North Thailand
- 5. The girls are adamant in not wishing to be reported to the Burmese Embassy; NGOs in Thailand and Malaysia also advise against this.
- 6. Thai and Malaysian Immigration police agree to deport them back to Thai-Malaysia border where they are met by Multi-Disciplinary Teams from N. Thailand.

- 7. They are taken to shelter in N.Thailand and families are notified to collect them at Thai-Burmese border.
- 8. Girls are accompanied by Thai social workers and Immigration police and returned to Myanmar where they are met by their families and Burmese NGO social workers





Return & Reintegration Issues

- Reintegration
 - Lack of reintegration activities in countries of origin needed to prevent repeat trafficking
- Stateless Persons from ethnic minorities
 - No country willing to accept them as nationals
- Labour Migration
 - Employers apply for and awaiting approval for 1,392,000 workers from Burma, Laos, Cambodia
 - Burmese, Lao, Cambodian workers registered awaiting approval 1,269,000
 - Registered workers: 135,000

Way Forward

- Bilateral cooperation between neighbouring countries
 - MOUs Prevention Trafficking
 - Thailand-Cambodia (2003)
 - COMMITT (Greater Mekong Sub-Region) 2004
 - Thailand-Laos (2005)
 - Thailand-Vietnam (2008)
 - Thailand-Myanmar
 - Thailand-Malaysia
 - MOUs Employment of Workers
 - Thailand-Cambodia (2002)
 - Thailand-Laos (2003)
 - Thailand-Myanmar (2003)

Way Forward

Temporary Residence Permit

 As incentive to victims of trafficking to cooperate with competent authorities.

Harm Reduction

 In situations where it may not be possible to discourage labour migration to Thailand to provide counselling to avoid or reduce the danger associated with irregular migration



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