

Protecting the rights of migrant women and victims of human trafficking in Mongolia (2013-2015)



The initiative was funded by the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) of the European Union and co-funded by Oyu Tolgoi Mining Company. It was implemented collaboratively with local civil society partners, the Mongolian Gender and Equity Centre (MGEC) and End Child Prostitution and Trafficking (ECPAT).

Launched in 2014, the 18-month project was designed to support efforts to protect and promote the human rights of migrant women and victims of trafficking in Mongolia. It was the first action implemented by IOM in Mongolia co-funded by the European Union.

The overall objective of the Action was to enhance the institutional capacity of governmental authorities and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to protect the rights of migrant women and victims of trafficking (VoTs) in Mongolia, as well as to improve migration management, support the prevention of sexual exploitation and gender-based violence in the Southern mining impacted areas of Mongolia.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- (i) Protect the rights of victims of trafficking in Mongolia through direct assistance
- (ii) Promote the rights of vulnerable migrant women in the Southern mining impacted areas of Mongolia, particularly in four *soums* in Umnugobi Province, and promote initiatives against human trafficking, sexual exploitation and gender based violence
- (iii) Strengthen capacity of civil society to protect the rights of migrant women and victims of human trafficking.



PROJECT DURATION

October 2013 – April 2015

PROJECT SUPPORT

The initiative is funded by the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) and co-funded by Oyu Tolgoi Mining Company. EIDHR is the concrete expression of the EU commitment to support and promote democracy and human rights in third countries. <http://www.eidhr.eu/>

PROJECT PARTNERS

Mongolian Gender and Equity Centre (MGEC) and End Child Prostitution and Trafficking (ECPAT).

COUNTERPARTS

Key Mongolian counterparts include the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Justice, the Anti-Trafficking Sub-Council, Members of Parliament, Immigration of Mongolia, the National Human Rights Commission of Mongolia (NHRCM), Civil Society Organizations, Oyu Tolgoi Mining Company and other mining actors.

KEY PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS

1. Direct assistance to Mongolian victims of trafficking.

- IOM supported MGEC to deliver support and direct assistance, including shelter, legal assistance, psychological care and reintegration support to 49 VoTs. The victims were all female, including 13 children under the age of 18.
- Seventy percent of the victims were referred by law enforcement officials, showing an increased awareness on the phenomenon of trafficking and services available amongst government officials.

2. Training for government officials on migration rights protection.

- 50 government officials in Umnugobi Province were trained on strengthening social services for migrant needs. Seventeen of them became trainers and were given tasks to support the organization of other project activities.



3. Support young female migrants through pre-vocational training, counselling and small grants.

- 100 migrant women were trained on income generation and life skills including human trafficking risks
- 50 migrant women were trained on business plan development
- 20 selected migrant women were provided with a 'settlement support grant' to implement their business plans.
- In total it is estimated that 4000 migrants in Umnugobi Province benefited indirectly from a more enabling environment and an improved provision of services adapted to their needs.

4. Resettlement support grants for vulnerable migrant women.

- Four grants for four selected small business projects were disbursed in January 2015. *Soum* administrations, labor specialists and social workers were involved in supervising businesses' implementation, and providing advice to the women.

For more information on IOM activities in Mongolia please check our website:
www.iom.int/countries/mongolia

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