Background & Objectives

In 2012, IOM Mission in Cambodia conducted three separate provincial 5-day comprehensive capacity building training sessions for 120 frontline border control officers from immigration, maritime police and land border patrol units. Officers were trained on several training modules covering topics on UN-TOC and Protocols, Protection, Document Examination, Smuggling Methods, Interview Techniques, Information Sharing, Health Protection, Detention and Return.

Based on the evaluation of these trainings and recommendations from government partners a need was identified to constantly update knowledge and technical skills to improve capability of staff through the establishment of a Training of trainers to enhance capacity of local trainers and to ensure sustainability.

The objective of the current Project is therefore to strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Interior to establish a pool of regular trainers and training programs on people smuggling to improve the capacity of frontline border control officers to effectively prevent, investigate and suppress migrant smuggling and related crimes in Cambodia.

Presently, IOM has conducted this training of trainers (ToT) at the national level for 20 training officials from the Departments of Immigration, Border Patrol, including Police Academy of Cambodia, and is roll-out provincial trainings.

Presently, IOM has conducted a comprehensive survey of Cambodia’s border checkpoints will be conducted to assess the institutional, technical and human resource capacity at the checkpoints, as well as to identify existing gaps in infrastructure to inform future actions.

Main Activities

- National level Training of trainer on People Smuggling modules for 20 National Trainers from the Departments of Immigration, Land & Maritime Border Police, Anti-Human Trafficking & Juvenile Protection and Police Academy of Cambodia.

- The five separate provincial three-day trainings designed by IOM’s Immigration and Border Management Unit, covering a range of border control topics and providing 125 frontline officers with practical tools and skills to effectively manage border checkpoints, examine documents and interview travelers prior to allowing or refusing entry into the country.

- A comprehensive survey of Cambodia’s border checkpoints will be conducted to assess the institutional, technical and human resource capacity at the checkpoints, as well as to identify existing gaps in infrastructure to inform future actions.

- To ensure training modules on people smuggling are integrated into National curriculum, IOM and the National Trainers will conduct q 2-day training for National trainers at the Police Academy of Cambodia (PAC).

TRAINING TOPICS

- United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime
- Migrant Protection & Human rights
- Basics of Border Control
- Document Production (substrates, printing techniques, personalization)
- Forgeries and Counterfeits
- Fraudulent Documents
- Smuggling Methods
- Identifying Smuggled Persons
- Interviewing Techniques
- Information Sharing
- Teaching Techniques

MINISTRY OF INTERIOR PARTNERS

Police Academy of Cambodia
Department of Immigration
Department of Maritime Borders
Department of Land Border Patrol
Department of Anti-Human Trafficking & Juvenile Protection
**PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS**

**CAPACITY BUILDING FOR FRONTLINE BORDER CONTROL OFFICERS**

**TO COMBAT PEOPLE SMUGGLING**

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**Key Results (July—March 2014)**

- 20 National Trainers from inter-departments (immigration, maritime, anti-trafficking and border patrol police) in Phnom Penh trained to deliver training to frontline officers to combat people smuggling.
- 77% of participants increased their knowledge on training topics by an average of 17.4%.
- 100% of participants found the training to be relevant to their daily work (more than 80% of rated the relevance of as 4 or 5 out of 5).
- Overall, the training received an average score of 4.5 out of 5 from participants.

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**PARTICIPANTS’ PERSPECTIVES**

“As a border police, I have never had the opportunity to participate in a training on people smuggling before, but all the topics are so relevant to my work that I wish more training was done in the past and will be conducted in the future.”

- Land Border Patrol Officer

“The training was valuable because it gave me a chance to talk to my border patrol colleagues, rather than just my peers in immigration. We need to work on sharing information”

- Immigration Officer

“Since I am a maritime police officer, I have never been involved in a training on trafficking or people smuggling, but now I see that it is relevant, especially since the border is so busy and many travelers pass through this area.”

- Land Border Patrol Officer

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**Recommendations**

- Conduct provincial trainings and organize refresher courses on specific topics throughout the year to enhance knowledge retention. Evaluations revealed participants felt the course was too short and further training was requested.
- Continue to Build the capacity of local trainers and MoI officials to deliver similar trainings in all border provinces. This would enhance overall sustainability and facilitate improved comprehension.
- Provide ongoing technical support to strengthen interdepartmental communication. Participants noted the training provided the opportunity to learn from colleagues in other departments. Strengthening networks between departments should be fundamental to future programs.
- Develop a simulation exercise to be conducted at the border. A table-top exercise would further enhance officers’ practical capabilities to respond to and prevent people smuggling and related crime in the field.
- Based on the outcomes of the border capacity assessment design a comprehensive immigration and border management program for Cambodia, including all international, bilateral and local checkpoints.

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**PROJECT ACHIEVEMENTS**

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Participants work together to identify security features in foreign passport using UV light equipment to assess whether or not it is a genuine or forged travel document in Kampong Provincial Training. (Photo taken by IOM on 12 March 2013)