“Protection” – for Victims of Trafficking (VoTs)

Bali Process Workshop on “Victim Protection”
12-13 January 2012, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Bali Process Progress to Date

- **At the 2003 Bali Process Legislation Workshop it was reported:**
  - 19 countries had criminalization legislation in place for people smuggling and/or TIP legislation;
  - 12 countries were considering implementation of criminalization legislation or were in the draft stage of implementing such legislation;
  - 18 countries had made use of the model legislation
  - 9 countries have established national action plans, prevention strategies or inter-agency cooperation mechanisms

- **Since the 2003 workshop...**
  - at least 27 Bali Process countries have made changes and/or amendments to their legislation to more comprehensively address TiP
  - some 34 countries have legislation in place addressing trafficking
  - at least 24 Bali Process members have National Action Plans and/or have established inter-agency cooperation mechanisms
“Protection” for VoTs

What Does “Protection” Mean in the Trafficking in Persons Context?

Protection is a Conceptual Framework that recognizes the inherent vulnerability of Victims of Trafficking and puts in place specialized support measures to ensure safety, security and well-being.
The Goal of putting in place a protective framework is to implement a victim-centered “rights-based” approach that removes victims from a process of detainment, imprisonment, deportation or expulsion, and moves them to an environment of protection and assistance that ensures their safety and provides for their recovery.
“Protection” for VoTs

What does that entail?

Creating the **social, political** and **legal** environment that protects the rights of potential victims of trafficking.

- **Keeping victims safe from threat, violence, abuse**;
- **Providing for basic needs** – shelter, food, medical and psychological care;
- **Providing legal protection that upholds individual rights, and provides for judicial redress**
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How is this achieved?

• Raising social awareness and understanding about the crime of trafficking in persons

• Prioritizing anti-trafficking on the national political agenda

• Enacting anti-trafficking legislation and national protocols

• Establishing national action plans, adopting standard operating procedures (SOPs), coordination and referral networks

• Providing specialized training to law enforcement, social welfare and other service provider personnel
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Key Principles

- Decriminalizing victims of trafficking
- Adopting Victim-Centered, Victim Friendly approaches
- Establishing national action plans, coordination and referral networks
- Enacting anti-trafficking legislation, policies and protocols that assure victim rights and that facilitates access to support services
Victim Protection

Sphere of Protection: 
Victim Safety and Security

Victim Identification → Shelter, Recovery, Redress → Voluntary Return
(Re) Integration & Recovery