



RSO NEWSLETTER

Edition Nine—April, 2015



Participants of the Policy Guides Consultation Workshop



Members of the Policy Guides Drafting Committee

Message from the Regional Support Office

In February and March the RSO hosted drafting committee meetings for the Policy Guides on Identifying and Protecting Victims of Trafficking, and review committee meetings for the development of a frontline border officials curriculum. The RSO also organised a large consultation workshop for the Policy Guides in late March which was held back to back with the Bali Process Symposium on Trafficking for the Purposes of Labour Exploitation and the first meeting of the Working Group on Trafficking in Persons.

In April and May, 2015, the RSO will be focused on preparations and presentations for the 9th Bali Process Ad Hoc Group Senior Officials' Meeting to be held on 6 May in Wellington, New Zealand. During this period the RSO will continue delivering project outcomes in support of the membership including, an Expert Workshop on Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration, a curriculum framework for frontline border officials, finalizing a Handbook on Information Campaigns and finalising the

Policy Guides on Identifying and Protecting Victims of Trafficking.

Policy Guides Consultation Workshop

The RSO hosted a consultation workshop on 23-24 March, 2015 regarding Policy Guides on Identifying and Protecting Victims of Trafficking in Bangkok, Thailand. The workshop was attended by more than 70 participants from 34 Member States, observers and international organizations.

Draft policy guides were developed by a Drafting Committee co-chaired by the Government of the Republic of Indonesia and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and comprised of experts from the Governments of Australia, Indonesia, Maldives, Philippines, and Thailand.

The policy guides aim to provide an overview of international and regional standards for the identification and protection of victims of trafficking, drawing on





Participants discussing the Policy Guides at the consultation workshop

examples of good practices from Bali Process Member States.

This workshop finalized the consultation process on the guides with participants emphasizing the guides' usefulness. Participants also shared several examples of effective identification processes and good practice examples of cooperation to enhance protection for victims of trafficking.

The Drafting Committee is now revising the Policy Guides and incorporating key changes discussed at the workshop. Once completed, the guides will be submitted to the Senior Officials Meeting of the Ad Hoc Group and the next Bali Process Regional Ministerial Conference.

The RSO will work to promote the use of the guides following their completion through translation and distribution of the guides and potential training workshops.

Call for Nominations: Training Workshop on Enhancing a Victim Centered Approach

A training workshop, Enhancing a Victim Centered Approach: Identification, Assistance, and Protection of Trafficking Victims in the Asia-Pacific Region, will be held from the 22-25 of June, 2015 and is now open for nominations from interested Bali Process Members.

The Victim Centered Approach training will be the third training of its kind held by the RSO in partnership with the



Participants of the 2014 Enhancing a Victim Centered Approach Training

Centre International de Formation des Acteurs Locaux/ International Training Center for Local Actors (CIFAL) and IOM.

The upcoming workshop, which will be held in Jeju, Republic of Korea, aims to advance an understanding of human trafficking among local stakeholders, including: trafficking trends in East Asia; available international legal tools to combat trafficking; international/national standards of assistance and referral systems for victims of trafficking; and the role of government agencies, NGOs and civil society. The workshop also seeks to equip participants with appropriate and up-to-date tools to protect and assist victims of trafficking, including women, children and refugees.



Participants of the 2014 Enhancing a Victim Centered Approach Training

The RSO and CIFAL are now seeking candidates for the training workshop. Participants will consist of a mix of senior officials, civil society NGOs, community-based organizations, and trafficking victim support groups.

If you would like to nominate yourself or a colleague for the training workshop please contact info@rso.baliprocess.net.



Meeting of the Working Group on Trafficking in Persons

RSO Presents Policy Guides to the Working Group on Trafficking in Persons

The Bali Process Working Group on Trafficking in Persons (Working Group) met in Bangkok, Thailand on March 27, 2015 to discuss its forward work plan. At the meeting, the RSO presented the draft Policy Guides on Identifying and Protecting Victims of Trafficking .

The Working Group is a network of experts on trafficking from Bali Process Member States and organisations, led by the Bali Process Ad Hoc Group. The meeting was co-chaired by the Governments of Indonesia and Australia and established the Working Group as a forum through which Bali Process members can share information on key initiatives, trends and issues related to trafficking in persons, and identify opportunities for cooperation and capacity building needs.

The Working Group was established following a recommendation of the Fifth Bali Process Regional Ministerial Conference held on 2 April 2013.

Regional Biometric Data Exchange Solution

On 19-20 February 2015, the Biometric Data Exchange Review Committee met for a second time in Bangkok, Thailand. The Review Committee met to review the draft documents for the policy framework to support the Regional Biometric Data Exchange Solution (RBDES), explore technical approaches related to biometric data exchange, and discussed the next steps for further

development of the RBDES.

The policy framework developed by the RSO to support the RBDES is now ready for wider consultation. The draft documents for the policy framework are available on the RSO website at <http://www.baliprocess.net/regional-support-office/regional-biometric-data-exchange-solution>. You may also ask for a copy by contacting info@rso.baliprocess.net. All Bali Process members are invited to provide comments on the draft documentation before the next meeting of the Review Committee, which is currently scheduled for the third quarter of 2015.

Expressions of Interest for Government Secondees to the RSO

The RSO is seeking expressions of interest from Government officials from Bali Process Member States to second a representative to the RSO to participate in short term project based assignments.

The assignments present a unique opportunity for qualified junior to mid-level government representatives from Bali Process Member States to contribute to a range of key RSO projects in support of the implementation of the Regional Cooperation Framework (RCF), in advance of the 6th Regional Ministerial Conference proposed for mid-2015.

For further information on the projects and how to apply, please contact the RSO via info@rso.baliprocess.net with reference to "RSO Secondment".

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