

# Training first responders to enhance support for victims of human trafficking



## Introduction

The Meeting Targets and Maintaining Epidemic Control (EpiC) project is collaborating with the Ministry of Labor, Invalids, and Social Affairs (MOLISA), and its Department of Social Vices Protection (DSVP) to improve services for people who have experienced trafficking. EpiC and the DSVP have leveraged funding from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to co-create a training program that will build knowledge and skills on person-centered care for survivors of trafficking. The program focuses on first responders from a variety of backgrounds.

The curriculum employs a learner-centered approach, where participants engage in self-examination, plenary discussions, group activities, and roleplays to break down misconceptions and build empathy and understanding. This combination of techniques and exercises will help ensure that learners can effectively reflect on newly acquired knowledge, and employ appropriate skills, including counseling, referral, and follow up, in their daily work. The training program will be piloted in 11 provinces/cities (An Giang, Bac Lieu, Ba Ria-Vung Tau, Cao Bang, Dong Nai, Lang Son, Lao Cai, Long An, Ha Giang, Tay Ninh and Ho Chi Minh) and adjusted based on feedback and local needs.

## Training of trainers



The training of trainer curriculum will capacitate provincial and district-level focal points to share knowledge with frontline workers at the local level, increasing the potential reach of the training.



An interconnected set of visuals, prompts, activities, and discussion guides are used to explain key concepts while modeling an engaging and participatory training approach.



Trainees will have the opportunity to learn from experienced trainers by observing, conducting exercises, and then practicing the delivery of content to fellow participants.

### First responders involved in support services include



## Tools and resources

The package incorporates a comprehensive facilitators' guide, and a guidance on supporting survivors and associated tools to help learners understand the knowledge and skills covered each section including:

- Detailed training agenda
- Pre- and post-test evaluations
- PowerPoint presentations
- Video clips, case scenarios, and practice exercises
- References to relevant guidance and legal documents

# The training program in four modules

## Module 1: Understanding trafficking in persons and the basic ethical principles of survivor assistance

### Objectives

- Identify the root causes of human trafficking
- Understand the victim concept and groups at high risk of trafficking
- Identify push and pull factors that lead to becoming a trafficked victim
- Understand key ethical principles of victim assistance

### What is human trafficking?

*"Recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation."*  
Palermo Protocol, 2016

What action?

What means?

What purpose?

**Session 1:** Understanding trafficking in persons and survivors of trafficking

**Session 2:** Push and pull factors for survivors of trafficking and high-risk groups

**Session 3:** Basic ethical principles of survivor outreach and assistance

## Module 2: Understanding trauma and trauma-informed care

### Objectives

- Understand the concept of trauma and its consequences
- Practice psychological first aid
- Understand re-trauma and re-trauma prevention



### Topics:

- Trauma and its consequences
- Psychological first aid
- Re-trauma and re-trauma prevention

## Module 3: What to know when working with survivors

### Objectives

- Explore essential skills when working with survivors
- Practice survivor support skills through case studies and role-playing situations

**Session 1:** Planning before working with survivors

**Session 2:** Treating survivors with empathy

**Session 3:** Questioning and Reflective listening skills

**Session 4:** Some notes on gender



## Module 4 (for social workers): Case management in reintegration support

### Objectives

- Explore the benefits of case management skills in survivor support
- Understand the case management process

### Topics:

- Case management
- Elements of consideration for reintegration
- Case management at key stages of reintegration



Successful reintegration