



European Commission



CREATING A LEGAL AND SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT FOR TRAFFICKED HUMAN BEINGS FROM AND IN CAMBODIA (CETHCam) PROJECT

INTRODUCTION

The European Commission’s Aeneas programme to provide assistance to third countries in the field of migration and asylum awarded € 2,000,000 to the Interchurch Organisation for Development Cooperation of the Netherlands (ICCO) and its implementing partners NGO Coalition to Address (Sexual) Exploitation of Children in Cambodia (COSECAM), Chab Dai Coalition (CDC) and Ockenden Cambodia (OC) to execute the CETHCam Project during 3 years from 1 January 2008 until 31 December 2010 in Cambodia. Formal associates of this ambitious project are the Asia Foundation (TAF), in particular its Counter-Trafficking in Persons project (CTIP), the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth (MoSAVY), in particular its Anti-Trafficking & Migration Office (AT&M Office) and Cambodia MSME Project (MSME).

National Collaboration

Collaboration has or will be sought with other organisations working in the same field and based in the country, such as the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the International Migration Organisation (IOM) and the International Programme to Eliminate Child Labour (IPEC) of the International Labour Organisation (ILO). These agencies have or will be invited together with the partners and associates to join the Project Steering Committee. Because the CETHCam project will in fact function as the executive arm for victim assistance of the National Taskforce on Combating Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation (NTF), the government-lead response to human trafficking and exploitation, besides MOSAVY also in the NTF collaborating ministries of Interior and Women’s Affairs have or will be invited to join the Project Steering Committee (PSC).

There are several international organisations, abroad and in the country, working towards similar aims which have expressed interest to participate in, provide support to or collaborate with the CETHCam’s activities. The Project will welcome all organisations to join the national cooperation efforts in order to make the most effective use of limited resources but also to involve as many local organisations providing quality services for victims as possible. COSECAM, CDC and OC combine more than 80 member NGOs; together with others it will be possible to mobilise most local NGOs working for the assistance of victims through one national system ensuring minimum standards of care and a professional approach.

Target Groups

CETHCam’s target groups are formally defined as ‘*victims of trafficking or irregular migration, and those who are at risk of trafficking or exploitation*’, but for the operation we use a broader definition including street children and victims of rape, domestic or other kinds of violence, regardless their ethnicity or social background, who without assistance would be at risk of trafficking, exploitation or abuse. Although the Project has no age or gender limitation it is expected that the large majority of victims receiving assistance through the operation will be children and young women. There is also no geographical limitation as long as it concerns Cambodian citizens abroad or victims inside the country. The target aim is that in the course of the three project years a total of 3,500 beneficiaries will have received services resulting in their reintegration regardless were they came from or are living.

PROGRAM FOCUS

- Strengthening of the Institutional Framework
- Capacity Building
- Empowerment
- Protection
- Recovery
- Rehabilitation
- Reintegration

TARGET GROUPS

- Victims of trafficking and exploitation
- Irregular migrants
- Those who are at risk of trafficking or exploitation
- Victims of:
 - Rape
 - Domestic violence
 - Sexual abuse

Operation and Resources

COSECAM is the lead organisation responsible for the implementation of all three Actions of the Project. The partners Chap Dai Coalition and Ockenden Cambodia will take charge of specific activities, such as research or capacity building or for specific target groups. At a later stage other strengthening or system development activities could be assigned or commissioned to organisations which would have the required capacity and potential. However, the member organisations of the three partners will be the first group from which the victim assistance service providers will be selected, subject to capacity, experience and potential. Services will range from family tracing, legal assistance, residential and other alternative care, therapy, education or vocational training, job placement and other support.

THE PROJECT

The European Commissions' Aeneas grant of €2,000,000 covers 80% of the total project costs. 7% will be sponsored by ICCO as the Applicant agency. COSECAM and Partners have to bring up the remaining 13% or slightly more than US\$150,000 per year. A number of activities are existing projects of COSECAM – such as the victim empowerment project Girls Speak Out or the Training Programme – continued under the CETHCam project but in operational terms still executed separately.

Overall objective is to:

Stem irregular immigration and reduce human trafficking in Cambodia and in the region, in particular for children and youths by establishing a comprehensive approach amongst government and civil society key-stakeholders to address the problems.

Specific objective is to:

Strengthen institutions, procedures and systems to reduce trafficking in, and smuggling of human beings, in particular children and youths, in order to protect and enable trafficked and migrated individuals and families to return to their homes; generate sustainable income through decent work; and reintegrate fully in to their community.

The main beneficiary groups targeted for providing services are trafficked or (irregular) migrated children, youth, women and men, or at risk of exploitation, and their immediate family members: approximately a total of 3,500 primary and 15,250 secondary beneficiaries. Other groups targeted for capacity building and empowerment are Government & Civil Society Organisations staff, community leaders and active persons, and small and medium enterprises which provide job opportunities to the primary target group.

Three major Actions are foreseen in the Project:

Action 1: Strengthening of the Institutional Framework

The intended results will be:

- A better adjusted and improved legal framework to facilitate the return of trafficked and migrated persons and families and their sustainable reintegration into society.
- Apprehension and prosecution of traffickers and exploiters will have been increased through an improved legal framework and better law enforcement.
- A core of studies describing and analysing the situation of the beneficiaries before and after reintegration.

The Action's strategy to achieve the results is: *'Strengthening institutions, systems and procedures to facilitate law enforcement and protection, return and reintegration of trafficked and irregular migrated persons, in particular children and youth.'* This will be achieved through lobby and advocacy, participation in the institutions of the national Task Force on Combating Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation (NTF) established by the Government, promotion of recommendations for improvement of work conditions for migrants, strengthening of systems for community anti-trafficking mechanisms through sensitization and motivation, and studies and research to obtain information about the target group's situation before and after intervention or in new areas.

The main activities to achieve the results will be:

1. Cooperation with the National Task Force
2. Lobby for improvement of working conditions of migrants
3. Conducting studies
4. Strengthening protection mechanism systems.

Action 2: Capacity Building and Empowerment

The intended result will be:

- Awareness of and capacity to deal properly with migrant issues will have been enhanced.

The Action's strategy to achieve the result is: *'Capacity building to assist and empower trafficked and migrated persons in need of recovery and rehabilitation support for reintegration.'* This will be achieved through two activities:

- 1- Leaders, program officers and professional personnel from service providers and NGOs will receive organisational management, project implementation or technical skill training through COSECAM's training programmes.

- 2- The Girls Speak Out empowerment project for young female victims of trafficking and sexual assault, which offers victims opportunities to meet peers, to ‘speak out’, to regain confidence and learn how to earn a sustainable income through decent work – from peers and professional trainers.

The main activities to achieve the results will be:

1. Training programmes
2. Empowerment of victims
3. Support of community response systems

Action 3: Protection, Recovery, Rehabilitation & Reintegration

The intended results will be:

- Mechanisms and procedures will be in place on a national scale to target and select trafficked and migrated persons in need of support for reintegration;
- A national coordinated reference system for services to victims, such as care, counselling, legal assistance, vocational skill building and reintegration follow-up will be established to increase the capacity of beneficiaries to re-enter society and find decent and sustainable income sources.

The Action’s strategy to achieve the results is: ‘*The establishment of a national coordinated system for protection and victim assistance*’ through a centralised coordination with decentralised case management and case conference method (CCM)¹. The CCM will build upon existing coordination systems and only introduce new systems if no appropriate coordination exists. However, existing systems will be adapted to fit to the centralised coordination system. The Action will pilot the CCM in some areas and after review cover more parts of the country.

Through the CCM the required services for victims will be determined and victims will be referred to the most appropriate service providers or reintegrated directly into their communities where they will continue to receive support if needed. The Action will enable service providers with adequate capacity to deliver professional services to at least 3,469 beneficiaries, including after reintegration follow-up support.

The main activities to achieve the results will be:

1. National coordination system for victim assistance
2. Protection and victim assistance

POLICY FORMULATION

The Applicant ICCO and the lead implementing Partner COSECAM have agreed that the Project will have a broad and transparent policy-making structure in order to facilitate collaboration with the government, in particular with the National Task Force on Combating Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation (NTF) and international organisations. It should be kept in mind that a period of three years is not very long to establish a well-functioning national child-youth victim protection and assistance system. Efforts will need to be made from the beginning to assure a concerted and harmonious operation. A Project Steering Committee (PSC) will be formed chaired by COSECAM with a vice-chair for the Chab Dai Coalition and one vice-chair for the Ministry of Social Affairs. The Ministries of Interior and Women’s Affairs – important players as well in the NTF – the Asia Foundation, MSME, UNICEF, IOM and ILO-IPEC will be offered a seat in the PSC. Its mandate will be policy formulation and guiding the direction of the Project within the approved framework, the further development and introduction of the Coordinated Case Management (CCM) system, furthering cooperation and collaboration with relevant organisations and agencies, and assuring sustainability after the termination of the Project. This latter part of the mandate might already become important during the second year transferring responsibility to government agencies and attracting donors for continuing the efforts after 2010. The PSC will meet regularly, during the start-up phase every 2 months but later twice a year.

In order to link the Project closely with the national system developments will be reported to the National Task Force via COSECAM’s vice-chair of the Protection and Reintegration Working Group.



Signing Ceremony on “The Agreement on Guidelines for Practices and Cooperation between Relevant Government Institutions and Victim Support Agencies in Cases of Human Trafficking”

COSECAM aims at strengthening the capacity of local NGOs, aligning their programs to avoid gaps and overlaps and developing minimum standards for care in order to better prevent and combat trafficking, sexual and other exploitation or domestic abuse of children and young people. COSECAM also aims to develop policy in the area of child welfare and protection through cooperation with other networks, government agencies and international organizations.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

The Steering Committee of COSECAM will be responsible for overseeing financial and budgetary affairs, service contractual agreements, human resources, monitoring, reporting and other management issues. The execution of these tasks is delegated to the Director of COSECAM in order to assure compliance with the strict regulations by the grantee the European Commission of the European Union and to remain accountable towards the Applicant agency ICCO. Two coordination units and programme sections of COSECAM will be tasked with the actual implementation; in addition the project partners CDC and OC will implement a number of activities within the project framework.

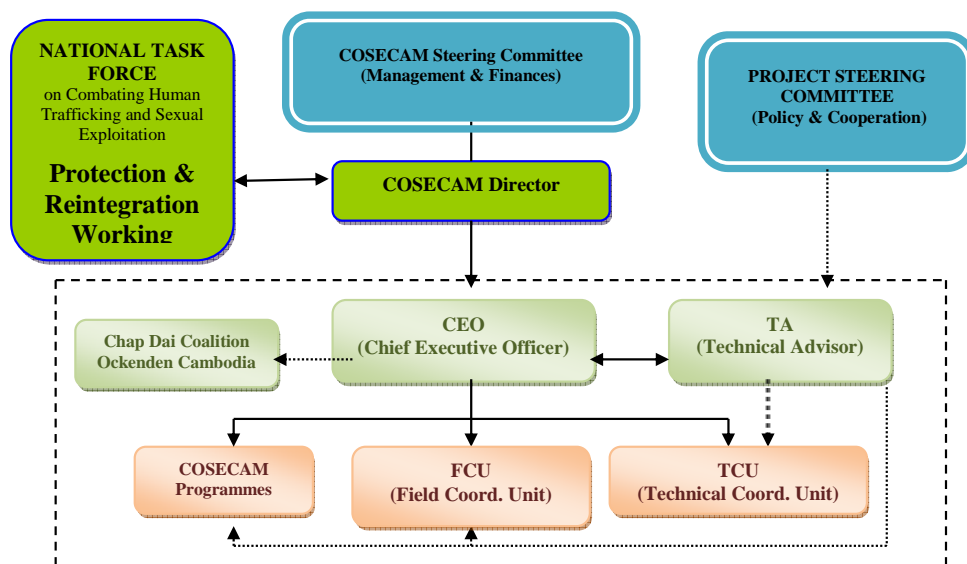
COSECAM and Partners will manage the Project through a two-pronged approach: a unit for the service provision (field cooperation unit or FCU) and a unit for the system development, cooperation and research (technical cooperation unit or TCU). The director of COSECAM will link the Project to the National Task Force and manage the Project as the chief executive officer (CEO), taking responsibility for management issues, such as finance, budget and human resource affairs. He will also head the Field Cooperation Unit, dealing with service providing organisations and victim services. The Technical Advisor will act as advisor for the whole Project and lead the Technical Cooperation Unit with a special focus on policy formulation and development of the protection and victim assistance system. The CEO and the Technical Advisor will jointly take care of the collaboration with the National Task Force, Government Ministries, cooperation with other organisations, and project monitoring and reporting.

A number of project activities will be implemented by the Advocacy or IHRD Programmes of COSECAM: The capacity needs assessment, training programs, the empowerment of victims (Girls Speak Out) and the strengthening of member organisations for support to local responses to address trafficking and irregular migration.

COSECAM Programs

- Advocacy Program
- Research Program
- Institutional and Human Resource Development Program (IHRD)
- Rehabilitation and Reintegration Program (R&R)
- Creating Legal and Sustainable Environment for Trafficked Human Beings From & In Cambodia (CETHCam) Project

ORGANIGRAM



Contact Us:

Room 594, Building F, Phnom Penh Center, corner Sihanouk & Sothearos Blvd., P.O. Box: 574, Phnom Penh, Cambodia.
Phone: (855) 23 224 801 / 993 675 | E-mail: office@cosecam.org | Website: www.cosecam.org

March 2008