

Forced Labour Action in the Asian Region (FLARE)



AT A GLANCE

→ Partners

Ministries of Labour, Justice and Public Security, workers' and employers' organisations, industry associations and human rights institutions

→ Donor

Irish Aid

→ Duration

2014-2015 (Phase I: 2013)

→ Target beneficiaries

Women, men and children in forced labour in different economic sectors and persons performing forced labour in prisons and detention centers

→ Geographical focus

Target countries: China, Viet Nam and Mongolia
Knowledge sharing and tools development in East and South-East Asia



'At least three in every 1000 people in the Asia-Pacific region are in forced labour, trapped in jobs into which they were coerced or deceived and which they cannot leave.'

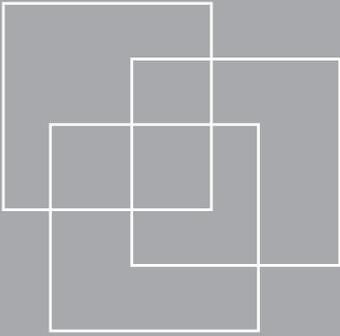
PROJECT OBJECTIVES

According to ILO's most recent estimate, at least 20.9 million people are victims of forced labour globally and Asia and the Pacific accounts for 56 per cent, or about 11.7 million. Among the eight ILO member States that have not ratified ILO Forced Labour Convention No. 29, seven are in Asia and the Pacific. And the 11 countries that are yet to ratify the Abolition of Forced Labour Convention No. 105 are all in Asia and the Pacific. These figures highlight the importance of strengthening efforts to combat forced labour in the region.

The FLARE project aims to strengthen the capacities of the national institutions to prevent and address forced labour in East and South-East Asia. The project addresses both forced labour in the private economy and state-imposed forced labour within the broader framework of promoting fundamental principles and rights at work. Its strategy is built on the notion that greater involvement of strong labour market institutions, including labour inspectorates, is a prerequisite for upholding rights at the workplace and preventing violations that may lead to forced labour.

The project focuses on supporting legal and policy reforms, capacity building and knowledge sharing. The main objectives are:

- Strengthen law and policy frameworks to prevent and address forced labour and human trafficking.
- Increase knowledge sharing and strengthen the capacity of law enforcement officers to identify and prosecute forced labour and human trafficking cases.
- Work with employers and workers' organizations to ensure effective action against forced labour in vulnerable sectors and global supply chains.



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MAIN ACTIVITIES

Country-level activities in China, Viet Nam and Mongolia:

- Strengthen national law and policy frameworks to prevent and address forced labour and trafficking through technical support for national legal reforms.
- Promote ratification and implementation of forced labour Conventions No. 29 and No. 105 through workshops and assessments. Activities include technical support to review of laws and policies imposing forced labour on individuals in prisons and detention centers.
- Strengthen national capacity to enforce compliance with laws against forced labour and human trafficking through training and tools development.
- Support employers' and workers' organizations in combatting forced labour in vulnerable sectors and global supply chains through studies, consultations and tools development.

Sub-regional activities:

- The promotion of knowledge sharing through the AP-Forced Labour Net online platform. Activities include online discussions, e-learning, and sharing of resources, experiences and ideas among practitioners.
- The development of guidance, advocacy and training materials to promote a labour approach to preventing and addressing forced labour and human trafficking in East and South-East Asia. The target audience consist of policy makers, labour inspectors and other law enforcement authorities, as well as employers' and workers' organizations.

PROJECT OUTCOMES

- National legislation and policy frameworks to prevent and address forced labour and human trafficking strengthened.
- Forced labour Conventions No. 29 and No. 105 ratified, or progress made in their implementation.
- Capacity of labour inspectors and other law enforcement officials to enforce compliance with laws against forced labour and human trafficking improved.
- The role of Employers' and workers' organizations in combating forced labour in vulnerable sectors and global supply chains enhanced.
- Membership, services and resources available on the AP-Forced Labour Net expanded, and experiences and ideas shared among practitioners in East and South-East Asia.
- Guidance, advocacy and training materials developed to promote a labour approach to preventing and addressing forced labour and human trafficking in East and South-East Asia.

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