



Tool 6.7 Checklists to facilitate victim identification

Overview

This tool showcases checklists and screening forms which have been used in various situations by entities which have come into contact with victims. For the IOM screening interview form, see Tool 6.6.

Law enforcement officers involved in situations where trafficking is suspected are encouraged wherever possible to involve members of local non-governmental organizations who may be helpful in approaching, contacting and interviewing suspected victims. Clear follow-up procedures must also be in place in order to ensure the safety of individuals identified as victims and place them within a support system.

Victims of trafficking may reach out for support to informal or non-official contacts. For example, a person trafficked into sexual exploitation may develop a relationship with and confide in a sympathetic client, who, in turn, may assist the victim to escape and disclose the crime. Various approaches should be explored to extend information to ensure that victims can be identified as such by as many people as possible who come into contact with them.

Standardized checklist of the Philippine Centre on Transnational Crime

Standardized checklists are useful tools to facilitate the identification of trafficked persons and their use by all professionals who may come into contact with victims should be encouraged. The Philippine Centre on Transnational Crime developed one such simple checklist that can be used as an example. It lists the facts that ought to be ascertained by the official coming into contact with a potential victim.

Victim

1. Demographics (sex, current age, age at departure, education, occupation, nationality).
2. Does the victim possess false documents?
3. Does the victim allege kidnapping or admit travelling voluntarily?
4. Did the victim approach the offender or vice versa?
5. Was payment made to the victim or the victim's family?
6. Was payment made prior to departure or has debt or debt bondage occurred?
7. Did the victim make any payment to the offender?
8. Does the victim allege deception or violence on recruitment?
9. Does the victim allege exploitation or violence at the place of reception?
10. Was the victim involved in illegal activities at the place of reception?
11. Were other victims involved in the same recruitment, transport and exploitation?

Offender

1. Demographics (sex, age, nationality/ethnic background, profession, education).
2. Is the offender integrated in the community of recruitment?
3. Does the offender have a criminal background?
4. Is the offender suspected of or have convictions for trafficking?
5. Is there evidence of involvement in a criminal organization?
6. Is there evidence of contact or involvement with corrupt officials?
7. Were false documents provided to the victim?
8. Was a recognized trafficking transit route used?
9. Were non-standard transport modes used?
10. Were safe houses used?
11. Were documents withheld from the victim?

Other

1. How was contact made?
2. Through whom was recruitment made?
3. If deception is alleged, what was the nature of the deception?
4. If violence is alleged, was the violence actual or threatened?
5. Was the violence against the victim or the victim's family?
6. If false documents were used, what documents were falsified?
7. How long was the victim abroad?
8. Were other suspects involved in recruitment, transport, transit or reception?

Anti-Slavery International checklist**Recruitment**

- A third party arranged the travel and work documents.
- The fees and/or interest rates charged by the recruiter(s) are excessive.
- The person is in debt and the family and/or loved ones back in the country of origin have been guaranteed re-payment of the debts.
- False, inaccurate or misleading information was provided by the recruiter or by the employer to the worker.

Personal documents and belongings

- The person's passport and/or other travel or identity documents were confiscated.
- The person's personal belongings were confiscated.
- The person has a false identity, work and/or travel documents.
- The person is prohibited from possessing and/or transferring earnings and savings.

Freedom of movement

- The person is not allowed to move freely without permission and/or control.
- The person is physically confined to his or her place of work or his or her location.
- The person has not been allowed to choose his or her place of residence.
- The person is subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his or her right to privacy, family, home etc.

Violence or threat of violence

- The person faced psychological abuse (this includes verbal abuse).
- The person shows fear or signs of depression.
- The person faced physical abuse, including beatings and/or forced drug consumption (he or she has bruises or other signs of physical abuse).
- Sexual abuse and/or harassment, including rape.
- The person faced threats of violence or abuse, including threats to others, for example family at home.

Working conditions

- The terms of the employment contract or verbal agreement are not respected by the employer or the person was forced to sign a new contract upon arrival in the receiving country.
- The person is forced to perform tasks for which he or she was not recruited and/or which are not stipulated in the employment contract.
- The person is working excessive or irregular hours. The person is given no/insufficient leisure time.
- The person is exposed to occupational risks which compromise his or her health and safety. The worker is not provided with protective gear or equipment.
- The person is not provided with occupational health and safety information or training in his or her own language. The information and training provided are inadequate.
- The person is not paid for the work he or she does or the payment is delayed.
- The person is underpaid compared to wages promised or to the national minimum wage, where applicable.
- Significant deductions are made from the salary (i.e. to pay for placement fees or in the form of “compulsory savings”).
- The person is denied benefits which he or she is entitled to (i.e. paid holiday, sick leave, maternity leave).
- Medical care is not provided or is inadequate (health-care information and services are inaccessible or do not meet the person’s needs).
- Mandatory medical testing, pregnancy tests, forced abortion have been performed on the person/contraceptives were given by force.
- The person was dismissed without cause, notice and/or benefits.
- The person is accommodated in the same place as he or she works, against his or her will.

Living conditions

- The person is denied the right to choose or change his or her place of residence.
- The person pays an excessive amount of money for substandard accommodation.
- The person is denied the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion/expression.
- The person is denied the freedom to seek and receive impartial information and ideas of all kinds.



This checklist is contained in the Anti-Slavery International “Protocol for identification and assistance to trafficked persons and training kit”, available at:

www.antislavery.org/homepage/resources/PDF/PDFtraffic.htm

Screening interview questionnaire used by the Counter-Trafficking Information Campaign, Cambodia

(Ministry of Women’s Affairs, Cambodia, in conjunction with IOM)

Part 1. General information

- Province/district/village
- No. of years in village
- Before you were living here, where were you?
- Were you born in this village?
- Gender/age
- Marital status
- Language: can you read/speak/write/understand Khmer?
- What language do you use on a daily basis?

Part 2. Socio-economic, in-migration and out-migration

Socio-economic

- What are your main income-generating activities? (rice farming/chamkar [non-rice farming]/fishing/cutting wood/charcoal making/hunting/forest subproduction/animal husbandry/handicraft/mine work/tapping resin/domestic servant/farming and fruit collection/beer and karaoke servant/other)
- Has your family’s income changed in the last 10 years?
- How has it changed?
- Why has your income changed?
- How much land for growing rice or chamkar do you own?

- Do most people enjoy living in their village?
- If No, why? (landlessness/debt/flooding/land conflict (including grabbing)/lack of food/drought/not secure in village/domestic violence/problem with neighbours/lack of education and training opportunities/other)

In-migration

- Are there any in-migrants in your village?
- Where do they move from? (other village/other commune/other district/other provincial capital/other province/Phnom Penh/other country)
- Do you enjoy the new settlement of in-migrants?
- If Yes, why? (can earn money/more job opportunities/access to training and education/access to food and products/other)
- If No, why? (lose land/land issues/debt bondage/environmental pollution/not secure/increase in incidents of rape/disturb spirit forests/robbery/tricks/impact on living/other)
- Are there any other problems relating to in-migration?

Out-migration

- Do people migrate from your village?
- What sex are the people who mostly migrate?
- What is the age range of migrants? (5-15/16-20/21-25/26-40/41 and above)
- Have any of your family members migrated?
- If Yes, who migrates? (father/mother/sister/brother/yourself)
- Why do your family members migrate? (for seasonal work after the harvest/landlessness/debt bondage/flooding/drought/personal security/problem with family, neighbours/domestic violence/opportunities for income generation/study and training/other)
- Where do people migrate to in the short term? (other village/other commune/other district/provincial capital/other province/Phnom Penh/Thailand/Lao People's Democratic Republic/Viet Nam/other)
- What type of work do they generally do?
- How long do they normally migrate for?
- Where do people migrate to in the long term? (other village/other commune/other district/provincial capital/other province/Phnom Penh/Malaysia/Thailand/Lao People's Democratic Republic/Viet Nam/other)
- Do villagers generally return to the same place of work?
- How do people travel when they migrate? (car/boat/taxi/plane/motorbike/bicycle/foot/other)
- Who arranges the travel for these migrants? (themselves/neighbours/relatives/friends/recruiter/other)
- Is the person that arranges the migration known and trusted within the community?
- Does this person receive payment? Generally how much?
- If not in cash, how is this payment made? (loan/bonded labour/other)

- Do migrants generally travel alone or in groups?
- Do the migrants ever do different work from what was promised?
- Do people generally benefit from migrating?
- If Yes, what benefit? (can earn money/food security/pay debts/pay for health care/buy land/send children to school/other)
- If No, why? (placed in brothel/forced labour/low wages/cheated/long working hours/bad treatment/physical abuse/health and medical problems/other)
- Did your family encounter any problems whilst you or a family member were away?
- What kind of problems did/does your family encounter? (cheated by others/poor living conditions/personal security/health problems/medical problems/financial problems/other)
- How did you solve this problem?

Part 3. Trafficking

- What do you understand by trafficking? (cheating/selling a person/selling of a woman or a child to a brothel/forced labour inside Cambodia/forced labour outside Cambodia/renting or selling children for begging/kidnapping/don't know/other)
- Is trafficking ever acceptable?
- Why is trafficking ever/never acceptable?
- Is trafficking illegal?
- Do any of the following happen in your village or area? (selling women or children to brothels/selling women or children inside Cambodia/selling women or children to labour outside Cambodia/kidnapping/recruitment of women, children, orphans, disabled persons as beggars/rape/abuses (human rights, sexual, land grabbing, other)/drug abuse)
- Who is most at risk of being trafficked within your community? (women in general/men/teenagers/girls/boys/orphans/disabled/elderly/other)
- Where are people most at risk of being trafficked? (village/travelling to destination/at the destination/other)
- Have you ever personally witnessed trafficking? If Yes, describe what you witnessed.
- If Yes, did you report it? Who did you report it to? If you didn't report it, why didn't you report it?
- If you or your family encounters trafficking, who would you report it to? (village or commune chief/police/non-governmental organization/women's affairs/social affairs/other)
- Who do you trust to help you if you have a problem with trafficking? (village chief/commune chief/police/community leader/non-governmental organization/women's affairs/social affairs/monks/teachers/achaar [former monks]/no one/other)
- If you or a member of your family migrate to work, would you worry about trafficking?
- What precautions would you take to protect yourself or a family member? (inform friends/relatives/neighbours/village chief/verify the promise)
- Have you ever seen or heard any information on trafficking?
- If Yes, what type of information? (poster/radio/television/video/non-governmental organization campaign/newspaper/comedy drama/family/friends/out-migrants/in-migrants/local authority/self-help group/ministerial department/other)

- Do you want more information about trafficking?
- If Yes, why? (to improve knowledge/to increase protection/to avoid problems/to share with others/other)
- If No, why?
- What kind of information on trafficking would you like? (picture/story book/help card/explanation by village focal point/poster/radio/television/video/non-governmental organization campaign/newsletter/comedy drama/village meeting/self-help group/other)



The above checklist has been extracted from the 2007 IOM/ASEAN report *ASEAN and Trafficking in Persons: Using Data as a Tool to Combat Trafficking in Persons* (Annex 3). This publication is available at: www.iom.int/jahia/Jahia/cache/offonce/pid/1674?entryId=14477