STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES
TO COUNTER CROSS BORDER TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS: INDIA - NEPAL
For First Responders
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Disclaimer:
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FOREWORD

The crime of trafficking in persons (TIP) is clandestine, complex and globally very challenging. It is controlled by highly organized transnational and transcontinental criminal networks that profit from its US $150-$200 billion industry (over ₹10 trillion). In South Asia alone, it is estimated that the industry profits $52 billion annually (over ₹3 trillion) and is often referred to as one of the fastest growing transnational organized crimes.

According to the 2016 UNODC Global TIP report assessment, about 88 per cent of the detected victims in South Asia have been found to be trafficked domestically. This is not surprising as the region comprises vast countries with high levels of socio-economic inequalities, large populations and intense internal migratory flows. Although migration does not necessarily lead to trafficking, it can create conditions which make migrating women and children more vulnerable to being trafficked for labour and/or sexual exploitation. Desperation for survival and the lack of awareness of the possible risks involved have led migrants to increased vulnerability to human trafficking in the entire region. Natural calamities, such as floods or even the devastating earthquake that hit Nepal in 2015, have led to a spurt in human trafficking cases, transcending boundaries. More specifically, the countries of Bangladesh and Nepal serve as prominent origin countries for women, children and men being trafficked into and via India.

Recognizing the urgent need for collaboration between key officials and all the other stakeholders involved in dealing with cross border trafficking, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Regional Office for South Asia (UNODC ROSA) implemented a regional project titled “Strengthening service provision for protection and assistance to victims of cross-border trafficking between Bangladesh, India and Nepal” between 2014-2017.

This project was carried out in collaboration with relevant government counterparts and civil society partners from Bangladesh, India and Nepal, and aimed to:

- Establish/strengthen victim referral and protection mechanisms in these countries,
- Design and implement measures to prevent cross-border trafficking and
- Improve cross-border cooperation among relevant actors for rights based repatriation of victims

As an important part of this project, UNODC ROSA developed Standard Operational Procedures (SOPs) with assistance from Justice and Care, an anti-human trafficking organisation in India, to serve as a ready reckoner for First Responders to identify, rescue, and repatriate victims of cross-border trafficking at the Indo-Nepal and Indo-Bangladesh borders.

I am certain that these SOPs will go a long way in assisting law enforcement and border security officials, representatives from civil society organisations and the wider public in responding in a timely and victim-centred approach, when faced with a situation of cross border trafficking.

Sergey Kapinos (Mr.)
Representative
UNODC Regional Office South Asia
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

UNODC is grateful to the team of Justice and Care for developing these Standard Operating Procedures.

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## Abbreviations

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>APF</td>
<td>Armed Police Force (Nepal)</td>
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<td>AHTU</td>
<td>Anti Human Trafficking Unit (India)</td>
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<tr>
<td>BIT</td>
<td>Border Interaction Team</td>
</tr>
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<td>BOP</td>
<td>Border Out Post</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDO</td>
<td>Chief District Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>CWC</td>
<td>Child Welfare Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCCHT</td>
<td>District Committee for Controlling Human Trafficking</td>
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<tr>
<td>FIR</td>
<td>First Information Report</td>
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<td>GBV</td>
<td>Gender Based Violence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRP</td>
<td>Government Railway Police</td>
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<tr>
<td>HTTCA</td>
<td>Human Trafficking and Transport Control Act, 2007 (Nepal)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MHA</td>
<td>Ministry of Home Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PO</td>
<td>Probation Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGO</td>
<td>Non Governmental Organisation</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOP</td>
<td>Standard Operating Procedure</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSB</td>
<td>Sashastra Seema Bal</td>
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<td>WCDO</td>
<td>Department of Women and Children (Nepal)</td>
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</table>
Executive Summary

India is a source, transit and destination for human trafficking. It is a destination for individuals trafficked from Bangladesh, which shares a controlled or regulated border with India and from Nepal, which has an open border with India. As far as Nepal is concerned, the provision of an open border between Nepal and India implies that nationals of either country do not require a passport or visa to cross over into each other’s territory. Every day thousands move across some of the trade and transit routes of the international border between the two Countries. Some of the important routes used by human traffickers include the Saunali border in the Maharajganj district of Uttar Pradesh (UP) and the Bairgania, Raxaul and Narkatiaganj borders in Bihar.

Consequently, it is extremely difficult for the First Responders on both sides such as border guarding forces, civil police and NGOs working at the border, to identify / distinguish between a migrant and a victim of trafficking. Since parts of the Indo-Nepal border are extremely vulnerable to cross border trafficking, particularly from Nepal to India, it is critical to develop Standard Operating Procedures for the First Responders.

To this end, the following document begins by outlining indicators and identification of a trafficked victim. It focuses on interception of possible victims of human trafficking and suspected traffickers at the border by First Responders including Border Guards, Police / Anti Human Trafficking Units, Non Governmental Organisations, Airport and Land Transport authorities, Immigrations authorities, Shelter Homes and Civilians. The document also outlines existing formal and informal repatriation processes between India and Nepal. This document also takes into account possible interceptions in the form of Case Examples, for an easy understanding of each of the procedures to be followed by First Responders at the border.

The document thus aims at being straightforward in its approach of apprising First Responders of victim friendly procedures of interception along with best practices, to combat human trafficking across the Indo-Nepal border.
India shares a 1751-kilometer long border with Nepal. The Indo-Nepal Treaty of Peace and Friendship, 1950, provides for an open border between the two countries. Consequently, there has been a long tradition of free movement of people across the borders. It is critical to note that the Indo-Nepal border is also vulnerable to threats such as trafficking in persons, drugs, fake currency and arms.

While the Government of India has mandated the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) to guard the open border with Nepal, the Government of Nepal has deployed the Armed Police Force (APF) to watch over its border. However, procedures relating to the interception of victims or suspected traffickers of cross border human trafficking are not institutionalised. This gap is exploited by traffickers on both sides of the borders, who go unidentified.

**Indo-Nepal Border Management**

The Indian states that share a land border with Nepal are Bihar, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh (UP), West Bengal and Sikkim. As far as the terrain of the Indo-Nepal boundary is concerned, the mountainous portions of the boundary lie in the Indian state of Sikkim and West Bengal (Darjeeling) in the east, while the rest of the boundary runs along the plains in the south and along the Mahakali River in the west.

The border areas of Bihar, UP, and West Bengal are the regions most vulnerable to cross border human trafficking from Nepal. Human trafficking mostly takes place from different districts of Nepal into India. The border districts of these Indian states mostly serve as a transit or destination for Nepalese nationals.

**Indo-Nepal Friendship Treaty 1950**

The Indo-Nepal Treaty of Peace and Friendship, signed in July 1950, provides for an open border between the two countries. The Treaty agreed to grant, on a reciprocal basis, to the nationals of one country in the territory of the other, 'the same privileges on matters of residence, ownership of property, participation in trade and commerce, movement and other privileges of a similar nature'1.

The provision of open border between the two countries implies that nationals of Nepal or India do not require any Passport or Visa to cross over into each other's territories. They may freely move across, reside or work in either country. While Indian nationals are not permitted to own land, property or work in government institutions in Nepal, Nepalese nationals in India are permitted to work in government institutions in India barring some states and some civil services.

It may be pointed out that although boundary demarcation pillars exist all along, none of these borders can be fenced2. This has facilitated free movement of people across the border. While strengthening social, economic and cultural ties between the two countries, the open and porous border also makes stretches susceptible to non-traditional security threats such as trafficking in persons, arms, fake currency and drugs.

**Research Methodology**

For the purpose of drafting this SOP, field research was carried out in parts of India and Nepal. The research was carried out in two border districts (Lakhimpurkheri and Maharajganj) in the state of Uttar Pradesh in India and two adjacent border districts in Nepal (Dhangadi and Rupendehi), as well as Panitanki, West Bengal (India) and Kakaribitta in Jhapa district of Nepal. Besides this, interviews were also conducted in Lucknow (India) and Kathmandu (Nepal). The SOPs are based on semi-structured interviews, observation field notes and group discussions with the SSB, the APF, the Nepal Police, the Indian Police and NGOs in India and Nepal.

The SOP that is outlined below essentially focuses on institutionalisation of procedures that are to be followed by first responders at the borders including the border guards, the police, NGOs on both sides and other authorities, within the scope of existing mandates.

**Limitations**

The rationale for selecting UP (Sanuali and Gauriphanta borders) and West Bengal (Panitanki) and the adjacent areas in Nepal of these two Indian states was the magnitude of cross border trafficking along these areas. However, it may be noted that other regions such as Banbasa-Mahendranagar border (Uttarakhand) and particularly Raxaul-Birganj border (Bihar) are also quite vulnerable to cross border trafficking. Given, the limited time and resources, research was not carried out in the regions of Bihar and Uttarakhand.

Interactions with the victims of trafficking along the Indo-Nepal border were not feasible. During the time of designing the field plan, shelter homes were outlined as a critical stakeholder for the study. However, considering the limited time period of the field study it was not possible to bring these interactions into fruition.

Given the limited time to frame a regional SOP, the inclusion of all stakeholders was not possible to make it a comprehensive and representative document.
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II. Definitions

i. Trafficking

a. United Nations

Article 3, paragraph (a) of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons - “Trafficking in persons” shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring 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. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs.

Components of Trafficking

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACT</th>
<th>MEANS</th>
<th>PURPOSE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recruitment</td>
<td>• Forms of Coercion (threat, use of force, etc.)</td>
<td>Exploitation:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transporting</td>
<td>• Abduction</td>
<td>• Prostitution of others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer</td>
<td>• Fraud</td>
<td>• Sexual exploitation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harbouring</td>
<td>• Deception</td>
<td>• Forced labour/services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receipt of persons</td>
<td>• Abuse of power or position of vulnerability</td>
<td>• Slavery/practices similar to slavery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Giving or receiving of payments or benefits</td>
<td>• Servitude</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>to achieve consent</td>
<td>• Organ Removal</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

b. India

Section 370 Indian Penal Code - Whoever, for the purpose of exploitation, (a) recruits, (b) transports, (c) harbours, (d) transfers, or (e) receives, a person or persons, by—using threats, or using force, or any other form of coercion, or by abduction, or by practising fraud, or deception, or by abuse of power, or by inducement, including the giving or receiving of payments or benefits, in order to achieve the consent of any person having control over the person recruited, transported, harboured, transferred or received, commits the offence of trafficking.

c. Nepal

The Muluki Ain (General Code of Nepal), in Chapter 11, Numbers 1 to 3 describes trafficking to mean the following:

- To lure and take another person outside the territory of Nepal with intention to sell him or her nor shall sell another person outside the territory of Nepal.
- To separate or lure to separate a minor below the age of Sixteen years or even a major who is mentally unsound, from his or her guardianship without the consent of his or her legal guardian.
- To make any other person a Kamara, Kamari (sub-servant), slave or bonded labour.

The Democratic Republic of Nepal also has an exclusive legislation that deals with the offence of Human Trafficking named the Human Trafficking and Transportation Control Act, 2007. The said Act in Section 4 describes the offence of Trafficking to include the following:


Definitions
- To sell or purchase a person for any purpose,
- To use someone into prostitution, with or without any benefit,
- To extract human organ except otherwise determined by law,
- To go for in prostitution.

Clause 2 of the above Section considers the following acts to fall under the offence of transportation:
- To take a person out of the country for the purpose of buying and selling.
- To take anyone from his / her home, place of residence or from a person by any means such as enticement, inducement, misinformation, forgery, tricks, coercion, abduction, hostage, allurement, influence, threat, abuse of power and by means of inducement, fear, threat or coercion to the guardian or custodian and keep him/her into ones custody or take to any place within Nepal or abroad or handover him/her to somebody else for the purpose of prostitution and exploitation.

The Trafficking Supply Chain

- **Recruitment**
- **Transportation**
- **Exploitation**
- **Interception / Detention**
- **Repatriation**

**ii. “First Responder”**
First responders are agencies, organisations or individuals, with a responsibility to identify and interview a potential adult or child victim of human trafficking.

**iii. Missing person**
A “missing person” is anyone whose whereabouts are unknown, whatever the circumstances of disappearance. He / she will be considered missing until located and their well-being or otherwise established.

**iv. Missing Child**
A missing child is defined as a person below 18 years of age whose whereabouts are not known to the parents, legal guardians or any other person who may be legally entrusted with the custody of knowing the whereabouts / well being of the child whatever may be the circumstances / causes of disappearance. The child will be considered missing and in need of care and protection, until located and / or his / her safety / well-being is established.

*MHA India Advisory on missing children-measures needed to prevent trafficking and trace the children regarding, dated 31st January, 2012 and Rule 92(1) of Juvenile Justice Model Rules (India) 2016. Since Nepal does not have a clear definition for “Missing Child,” this definition is being referred to. However, it is to be borne in mind that in Nepal, the Children’s Act, 1993 and the Child Labour Prohibition and Regulation Act, 2000, defines a “Child” to be a minor who has not completed 16 years of age, whereas the Human Trafficking and Transportation Control Act, 2007, defines a “Child” to be a person who has not reached the age of 18 years.*
To take anyone from his / her home, place of residence or from a person by any means such as
Clause 2 of the above Section considers the following acts to fall under the offence of transportation:
- To go for in prostitution.
- To extract human organ except otherwise determined by law,
- To use someone into prostitution, with or without any benefit,
- To take a person out of the country for the purpose of buying and selling,
- To sell or purchase a person for any purpose,
- abroad or handover him/her to somebody else for the purpose of prostitution and exploitation.


v. Found Child
Any child i.e., a person below 18 years of age who had been missing and is found:
- by the police either on their own or on information of any third party;
- by the police during investigation pursuant to an existing FIR / complaint filed by any third party such as school authorities, social workers, local leaders, passersby, NGOs, Childline, etc. (excluding parents / guardians / family or children's institutions);
- by the police during rescue operations conducted against organised crime groups like traffickers, child labour cartels, kidnappers etc.;
- When the child himself / herself reaches the police station.

vi. Non Governmental Organisation (NGO)
A non-profit organisation that operates independently of any government, typically one whose purpose is to address a social issue. In this SOP, NGOs refer to registered organisations working in the field of human trafficking / human rights / child protection.

vii. Repatriation
The legal process of sending / bringing people back to their place / country of origin, in a time-bound and humane manner is known as repatriation. Repatriation is not the same as push-back or deportation.

viii. Push-back
The process followed when a person, who intentionally or unintentionally enters a foreign country and is immediately expelled, without having the opportunity to explain his / her personal circumstances or the possibility to claim asylum. Push-backs are illegal and prohibited under international human rights law.

ix. Deportation^6
The forced displacement of persons by expulsion or other coercive acts for reasons not permitted under international law from an area in which they are lawfully present to an area under the control of another party.

x. Smuggled migrant
A person whose illegal entry or stay in a country of which he or she is not a national or permanent resident has been facilitated by another person for the purpose of deriving financial or other material benefit.

REMEMBER
If any payment (cash or kind), is made to a person before crossing the border, it could be a case of migrant smuggling


Definitions
### Trafficking in Persons and Migrant Smuggling

The following table helps understand the difference between Trafficking in Persons and Migrant Smuggling with respect to the consent, exploitation and transnationality involved in both offences.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Consent</th>
<th>Exploitation</th>
<th>Transnationality</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The smuggling of migrants, while often undertaken in dangerous or degrading conditions, involves migrants who have consented to the smuggling. Trafficking victims, on the other hand, have either never consented or, if they initially consented, that consent has been rendered meaningless by the coercive, deceptive or abusive actions of the traffickers.</td>
<td>Smuggling ends with the migrants’ arrival at their destination, whereas trafficking involves the ongoing exploitation of the victim in some manner to generate illicit profits for the traffickers. From a practical standpoint, victims of trafficking also tend to be affected more severely and to be in greater need of protection from revictimisation and other forms of further abuse than are smuggled migrants.</td>
<td>Smuggling is always transnational, whereas trafficking may not be. Trafficking can occur regardless of whether victims are taken to another state or only moved from one place to another within the same state.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
People often exhibit certain physical signs that serve as primary indicators of being victimised. Listed below are some actions that can be adopted by first responders to observe indicators of potentially trafficked persons. However, it should be borne in mind that, these indicators are not exhaustive and only serve as a guide, in addition to the existing hands-on experience of first responders at the ground level.

### A. Physical Indicators and Observations

- Shows signs of fear, anxiety, depression, submissiveness, tension, nervousness, distress, anxiousness, fidgetiness, emotional distress, especially in females;
- Appears to have physical / visible injuries from weapons, such as knives, guns, clubs resulting in scars, cuts, bruises, burns etc.;
- Appears uncomfortable in expensive/flashy clothes, accessories (like possessing a mobile phone) or shoes;
- Appears to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs;
- May have a distinct accent and language spoken;
- Unwilling to disclose information but seems confident in conversations that sounds scripted;
- Provides vague information on destination or home address;
- Appears particularly fearful of law enforcement officers and expresses a heightened sense of fear for family’s safety;
- Children may claim to be older than they appear;
- Considerable age disparity among couples;
- Within a group travelling together, there may be a stark cultural difference or disparity in appearance;
- Members of a group travelling together may not know the names or have any information about one another;
- The spokesperson of a group travelling together, who appears to have control over everyones money / identification documents, may be a trafficker.

### B. Enquiries to be made

- Possession of identity card
  - Do you have a national identity (ID) card or any other ID card?
- Intention to cross over
  - Why are you crossing the border?
  - Who are you going to meet on the other side? What is his / her name, address and phone number? How do you know him / her? *(If the presumed victim is crossing the border alone)*
- Details of person(s) travelling with the presumed victim
  - Who is the person you are travelling with? How do you know him / her?
  - What is his / her name, address and phone number?

### REMEMBER

- Use victim-friendly techniques in interviewing a presumed victim.
- Make sure the victim is not intimidated in any way.
- Unaccompanied children may be victims of human trafficking.

Never disregard a suspicion. It is always wise to act on such suspicion, rather than risking someone being trafficked.
B. Enquiries to be made

i. Possession of identity card
   - Do you have a national identity (ID) card or any other ID card?

ii. Intention to cross over
   - Why are you crossing the border?
   - Who are you going to meet on the other side? What is his / her name, address and phone number?
   - How do you know him / her?
   - (If the presumed victim is crossing the border alone)

iii. Details of person(s) travelling with the presumed victim
   - Who is the person you are travelling with? How do you know him / her?
   - What is his / her name, address and phone number?

REMEMBER

i. Separate the presumed victim from the person he / she is travelling with, who may be a victim or trafficker.
ii. Do not treat the presumed victim as a suspect. Be empathetic and converse in a friendly manner.
iii. Attend to the basic needs of the presumed victim like food, water or rest.
iv. Ask open ended or descriptive questions questions that evokes more than a “yes” or “no” answer.
v. If the victim is a child / girl / woman, ensure that woman police personnel are dealing with him / her.
vi. Try to provide assistance to any urgent medical need of the presumed victim.

vii. If travelling for employment
   - What is the name of the company or employer? What is their address?
   - Did you sign a contract with them? Do you have a copy of the contract?
   - What kind of job will you be doing ? How many hours do you have to work every day?

viii. Details of family and financial background
   - Where are your parents or family?
   - Are you or your family in any debt?
   - Do you have any savings? Who has access to your savings?

ix. Well-being of the presumed victim
   - When did you last eat?
   - Do you need some water?
   - Do you need medical help?

x. If there is suspicion regarding the luggage of a presumed victim or a suspected trafficker, ensure to check the luggage thoroughly. In case medicines are found in it
   - Why are you taking these medicines?
   - Who prescribed these medicines?

Indicators and Identification

- Where does he / she work?
- Did he / she promise you a job or a better life?

iv. Details of journey
   - Where are you going?
   - How are you travelling to your destination?
   - What mode of transport are you using?
   - Who arranged your travel and what is your relationship with him / her? How much did they / you pay for your travel?

v. Details of destination
   - Where will you be staying? How did you find this place?
   - Who are you staying with? How do you know this person? What is their address and phone number?

vi. Mobile Phone
   - Do you have a mobile phone with you?
   - Who did you last call? Is this person in touch with your family? (Check last dialed number)

vii. If travelling for employment
   - What is the name of the company or employer? What is their address?
   - Did you sign a contract with them? Do you have a copy of the contract?
   - What kind of job will you be doing ? How many hours do you have to work every day?

viii. Details of family and financial background
   - Where are your parents or family?
   - Are you or your family in any debt?
   - Do you have any savings? Who has access to your savings?

ix. Well-being of the presumed victim
   - When did you last eat?
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x. If there is suspicion regarding the luggage of a presumed victim or a suspected trafficker, ensure to check the luggage thoroughly. In case medicines are found in it
   - Why are you taking these medicines?
   - Who prescribed these medicines?
IV. Interception at the Border

FIRST RESPONDERS

In the context of cross border human trafficking, a first responder is likely to be amongst the initial few people, within the first 24 hours, to initiate, assist, witness and arrive at the scene of interception.

The following diagram indicates who a likely first responder could be:

Detailed below are the roles of various First Responders (as indicated above) at the Indo-Nepal border upon the interception of a victim of human trafficking or suspected trafficker.


A. Mandate of the Border Guards

Sashastra Seema Bal, India (SSB)

The SSB is deployed along the international border across the states of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Sikkim, Uttarakhand, UP and West Bengal. The key responsibilities of SSB are the following:

i. Safeguard the security of assigned borders of India and promote a sense of security among the people living in border areas.

ii. Prevent trans-border crimes, smuggling and other illegal activities.

iii. Prevent unauthorised entry into or exit from the territory of India.

iv. Carry out civic action programme in the area of jurisdiction.

Armed Police Force, Nepal (APF)

The key responsibilities of the APF include the following:

i. To guard the borders of Nepal.

ii. To rescue any citizen from hostage captivity or in the event of occurrence of heinous and serious crimes or unrest of grave nature or of anticipation.

iii. Prevent cross border crimes, smuggling and other illegal activities
B. Involvement of partners

Involvement of partners is crucial in cases of trafficking

In India

- Police
- Childline
- NGO
- CWC
- Immigration authorities
- Medical Personnel
- Shelter Home
- Civilians
- Other first responders as necessary

In Nepal

- Police
- NGO
- Shelter Home
- Medical Personnel
- DCCHT
- WCDO
- Immigration authorities
- Civilians
- Other first responders as necessary

C. Action to be taken

Proactive Steps

i. Gather intelligence from informers
ii. Partner with Childline\(^6\), NGOs, CWCs / WCDOs and other local entities.
iii. Share information of potential human trafficking case from Border outposts (BOP) with:
   - Police, Childline, NGOs, CWCs (in India), DCCHT (in Nepal) and WCDO (in Nepal), Immigration Authorities;
   - Other first responders as necessary.

Identification

Refer to chapter on indicators and identification

Cross Verification

i. Based on the response of the presumed victim, check with the police if a missing person / child complaint has been lodged about the disappearance of the person.
ii. As far as possible, involve the family of the victim to cross verify the information given by the presumed victim.
iii. In case the intercepted person is a presumed victim of human trafficking, Childline or an NGO must be involved at the very first instance, to interview the presumed victim.
iv. Advice the presumed victim of dangers they may encounter, before letting him / her cross the border.
v. If the presumed victim is confirmed to be a victim of human trafficking, involve the police and place the victim in the care of the appropriate authority i.e., Childline or an NGO.
vi. If the need arises, i.e., if the victim is not immediately handed over to the family, intimate the nearest registered Shelter Home of the interception of such victim and lodge a request for housing the victim.

\(^6\text{Specific to India}\)
Border Guards: Sashastra Seema Bal, India and Armed Police Force, Nepal

**Documentation of the Interception**

**Presumed victim**

- Border Guards can work with Childline / an NGO in preparing case details of victims that have been intercepted.

- Even if the presumed victim is later allowed to cross the border by the Border Guard, the initial interception must be documented.

**Suspected Trafficker**

- Interrogate the suspected trafficker.

- The interception of the suspected trafficker must be documented to include all preliminary details, this must include their name and address, reason for interception, person travelling etc. (see the case detail sheet below).

- Handover the suspected trafficker to the local Police for further procedures, along with all information gathered from the initial interrogation and observations.

The case detail sheet should ideally contain the following details:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Presumed Victim / Suspected Trafficker</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>i. Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ii. Age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iii. Sex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iv. Father’s Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v. Mother’s Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vi. Photograph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vii. Address (Details with landmarks)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>viii. If possible, try to draw a map of the address</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ix. Phone numbers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>x. Visible birth marks, if any</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xi. Details of luggage carried (including money, jewellery or mobile)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xii. Details of incidents:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• The time when the person left home and when he / she tried to cross the border</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Reason for crossing the border</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Details of accompanying person(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Details of person(s) who brought / guided / escorted them to the border</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Whether their family was aware of such a crossing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Time of interception</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Documents on the person (ID card, visa, passport, employment contract) at the time of interception</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
D. Best Practices

i. Hold regular meetings between the local police, Childline, NGOs, CWCs, DCCHT and other first responders working on borders to discuss intercepted cases, patterns, trends, intelligence and new methods of interception of a presumed case of human trafficking, etc.

ii. Organise regular trainings and sensitisation workshops for border guards and officers deployed at international borders to help identify and support victims of cross border trafficking.

iii. Organise periodic joint patrolling of Border Guards of Nepal and India.

iv. Adoption of Border Interaction Teams (BIT). BIT comprises of plain clothed border security personnel, using people friendly methods of communication to avoid intimidation of any kind while on duty and to build the image of an approachable force, aimed to maximise operational achievements. This is done successfully by the SSB in India and has resulted in collaborating with civilians on interceptions.

E. Case Example

Sapna, aged 19, was promised a better life in New Delhi, India, by Mahesh, aged 25, who claimed he was in love with her and desired to marry her. Mahesh, in reality was a member of a criminal network in India and intended to sell Sapna to a brothel in Delhi. Mahesh convinced Sapna to go with him to Delhi, so that they could live a ‘peaceful life’ with no trouble from their families. Sapna agreed to go with Mahesh. The couple reached the Bhimdatta-Banbasa border, where they were stopped by the APF, who found the couple suspicious.

What happens next:
First responders involved

Border Guards  Police  NGO  Shelter Home

Key Takeaways

- Love and marriage were used as a pretext for luring a victim for trafficking.
- Separation of presumed victim from trafficker made it impossible for the trafficker to intimidate the victim.
- By asking the right questions and using a gentle / friendly interview technique, the police and NGO discovered the true facts of the case.
- Quick involvement of NGO helped gain the trust of the vulnerable and scared victim.
- Proactive and immediate cross verification with the victim’s family proved effective.
2. Police and Anti Human Trafficking Units

A. Involvement of partners

Involvement of partners is crucial in cases of trafficking

In India

- Border Guards
- Childline
- NGO
- Shelter Home
- Medical Personnel
- CWC
- Immigration authorities
- Civilians
- Other first responders as necessary

In Nepal

- Border Guards
- NGO
- Shelter Home
- Medical Personnel
- DCCHT
- WCDO
- Immigration authorities
- Civilians
- Other first responders as necessary

B. Action to be taken

Proactive steps

To strengthen intelligence and interception of potential cases of cross border human trafficking:

• Gather intelligence from informers;
• Share information with Border Guards and / or Border Outposts;
• Partner with Childline, NGOs, CWCs / WCDOs and other local entities.

Identification

Refer to chapter on indicators and identification

Cross verification

i. Involve Childline or an NGO at the very first instance while interviewing the victim. As far as possible, communicate the query to the Childline / NGO representative, who can in turn ask the same to the presumed victim.

ii. Based on the response of the presumed victim, check FIR records for a missing person / child complaint lodged about his / her disappearance.

iii. Photographs of the victim should be taken only for documentation purposes, once the FIR is filed.

iv. Do not keep a victim in the police station overnight. Arrange for his / her stay at a registered Shelter Home or Safe House for the night.

v. In case of female victims, if registered shelter homes are available nearby or is unavailable for some reason, mahila thanas or government barracks can be allotted, along with female staff and equipped with suitable amenities.
**In India**

i. The Police / AHTU must inform a CWC of the interception of a minor victim immediately.

ii. If an FIR is filed, the Police / AHTU must arrange for preliminary medical examination of the victim to be conducted in a District Hospital as soon as possible or within 24 hours of interception.

iii. The Police / AHTU must produce the apprehended child victim before a CWC or a member of the CWC (if the CWC is not sitting) as soon as possible, with the help of Childline or an NGO (where possible).

iv. The Police / AHTU must produce the apprehended major victim before a Magistrate, with the help of an NGO (where possible), within 24 hours of interception.

v. Accompany the victim to the shelter home, provide surveillance in case of any anticipated threat or assist in handing the victim over to their family.

**In Nepal**

i. The Police must inform WCDO and the nearest shelter home (if need be) of the interception of such a victim, immediately.

ii. If an FIR is filed, the Police must arrange for the Medical Examination to be conducted in a District Hospital as soon as possible.

iii. The Police must ensure that the victim’s statement is recorded in front of a Judge.

iv. Process of identification of a suspect by the victim, after filing of the FIR, must be arranged as soon as possible and in a victim centered manner.

v. The Police must accompany the victim to the shelter home, provide protection in case of any anticipated threat or need for assistance in handing the victim over to their family.

**Documentation of Interception**

### Presumed victim

- Ensure that the victim’s statement is recorded verbatim.

- If the intercepted victim indicates signs of trauma, give him / her the time to recuperate before recording his / her statement.

### Suspected Trafficker

- File an FIR under relevant provisions of law (See FIR Checklist below).

- Check for precedents in the name of the suspected trafficker or any alias name.

- If interception was based on intelligence, ensure that the reason and the source of the information are recorded.
**FIR Checklist**

i. Receipt of information, if any.
ii. Place and time of interception.
iii. Reason for interception of victim and/or suspected trafficker and by whom.
iv. Description of documents and items seized, if any.
v. Statement of the victim and other witnesses.
vi. Role of the suspected trafficker.
vii. Name, age, identification mark of victim and details of parents/guardian.
viii. Details of source, transit and destination.
ix. Details of offence committed against the intercepted victim.

**Provisions of law that can be added in an FIR**

- **India**
  - The Transplantation of Human Organ Act, 1994- Sections 18 to 20.
  - The Child Labour Prohibition and Regulation Act, 2016 - Section 3, 3A.
  - Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 – Sections 2 to 18.
  - Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act, 2015 – Sections 75 to 79, 81, 83 to 85, 87.
  - Passport (Entry into India) Act, 1920 (Not to be applied against victims)
  - Foreigners Act, 1946 (Not to be applied against victims).

- **Nepal**
  - Muluki Ain, 1963 – Chapter 11 (1), (2), (3).
  - Children’s Act, 1992- Section 16.
  - Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 2000 – Sections 3(1), (2) and 4.

**C. Best Practices**

i. Maintain a roster of registered NGOs and professionals working on the issue of human trafficking/human rights/child protection, who can be contacted, to ensure quality services can be immediately given to an intercepted victim.

ii. Hold regular meetings between Border Guards, Childline, NGOs, CWCs, DCCHT and other first responders to discuss intercepted cases, patterns, trends, intelligence and novel methods of interception etc.

iii. Conduct follow-ups with the above mentioned stakeholders on cases that have already been registered.

iv. Maintain a register of Criminals engaged in human trafficking and roles played by each. This information is to be shared with other law enforcement agencies.
D. Case Example

Vivek, Bharat and Gambhir, three young boys aged 8, 9 and 11 years respectively, were neighbours in a village in Sangli, Maharashtra. Their parents were daily wage labourers, earning hardly enough for their family’s sustenance. Pranesh, a trafficker, pretending to be a Social Worker, approached the families of the three boys and asked them to send their children with him so he could place them in a boarding school in Mumbai. Pranesh also promised to arrange for the boys’ accommodation and food in Mumbai. All three families happily agreed to send the boys with Pranesh and he took Vivek, Bharat and Gambhir to Mumbai by bus, he then brought them to the Lokmanya Tilak Railway Station. Pranesh told the boys that they had to board Karambhumi Express to reach the city where their new school would be. The boys listened to Pranesh and boarded the train with him. A passenger, Rohit, aged 30 years, was on his way to Bihar and happened to be in the same compartment as Pranesh and the three boys. After observing their interactions for a few hours, Rohit became suspicious. Although he initially hesitated, Rohit felt it was his responsibility to stop any possible harm to the three children.

What happens next:

Rohit moves to private place in the train coach and calls on the Government Railway Police (GRP) helpline and informs them of his suspicion along with details of the train they were on.

Once the train reached Raxaul, the GRP spotted Pranesh and the three children and immediately rushed to intercept Pranesh. The children were separated from Pranesh and taken to a safe room at the station, while an NGO was contacted for support.

On cross checking with their records, the GRP found that Pranesh was a ‘wanted’ trafficker in Maharashtra and that he had trafficked hundreds of children across the border in Raxaul into Nepal to work in different factories. Pranesh was arrested and taken into custody.

Meanwhile, the NGO provided support for the children and explained to them who Pranesh really was and of his intentions. The GRP and the NGO informed the CWC of the three children.

Since it was late in the evening, the children were placed in the nearest registered shelter home, until their production before the CWC.

The CWC passed orders for restoration of the children to their hometown.

The children were placed at the Shelter Home until all procedures for their restoration were completed.

Vivek, Bharat and Gambhir are now happy in their homes.

The NGO keeps in touch with them and their families to follow up on their progress.

First Responders involved

- Civilians
- Government Railway Police
- NGO
- CWC
- Shelter Home

Key Takeaways

- A Civilian’s pro-active response is indispensable in combating cross border trafficking.
- The immediate response of all stakeholders (Rohit and GRP) is vital in effective interception of traffickers.
- The timely response of all stakeholders ensured that the victims were restored to their homes without delay.
3. Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs)

A. Involvement of partners

Involvement of partners is crucial in cases of human trafficking

In India

- Border Guards
- Police
- Shelter Home
- Medical Personnel
- CWC
- Immigration authorities
- Other first responders as necessary

In Nepal

- Border Guards
- Police
- Shelter Home
- Medical Personnel
- DCCHT
- WCDO
- Immigration authorities
- Other first responders as necessary

B. Action to be taken

Identification

Refer to chapter on Indicators and Identification

Cross Verification

i. Based on the response of the presumed victim, check with the police if a missing person / child complaint has been lodged about the disappearance of the person.

ii. As far as possible, involve the family of the victim to cross verify the information given by the presumed victim.

iii. If his / her family responds in the positive, ask for details of the travel of the presumed victim, details of the person they are going with, what they were promised and so on.

Documentation

i. If suspicion does not persist, then advise the victim of the possible dangers that he / she may encounter.

ii. Inform the police, CWC (in India) or WCDO (in Nepal) of the interception of the victim.

iii. If the victim exhibits signs of trauma, counsel the victim and give him / her some time to recuperate.

   Inform the SSB and / or Police (depending on which authority is conducting the interception) that the victim would require some time before going ahead with any procedures.

iv. Inform the nearest registered Shelter Home of the interception of the victim.

v. Ensure that the interception is documented, not only by the NGO but also by the Border Guarding Force and / or Police.
In India

i. If the presumed victim is confirmed to be a victim of human trafficking and is a minor, inform the nearest CWC of the interception of the victim immediately.

ii. If the case is taken over by the Police, i.e., if an FIR is filed, assist the police in the production of the victim before a CWC / Magistrate.

iii. Make suggestions to the CWC for an order that is best suited to the physical and emotional condition / needs of the victim.

iv. Ensure that the victim is not kept in the police station if procedures take place overnight. Accompany the victim to a safe house / shelter home before the victim is handed over to the family.

v. If a registered shelter home is not available nearby, in coordination with the Police, arrange for the local Mahila Thana or government barracks to be equipped with basic amenities and female staff to look after victims overnight.

vi. Make sure there are periodic follow ups with the victim while at the shelter home, for holistic rehabilitation of the victim.

In Nepal

i. If the presumed victim is confirmed to be a victim of human trafficking, inform the WCDO, of the interception of the victim immediately.

ii. If the case is taken over by the Police, assist the Police in supporting the victim with the procedures in the police station, including statements recorded before the Magistrate.

iii. Ensure that the victim is not kept in the police station if procedures take place overnight. Accompany the victim to a safe house / shelter home before the victim is handed over to the family.

iv. If a registered shelter home is not available nearby, in coordination with the Police, arrange for the local Mahila Thana or government barracks to be equipped with basic amenities and female staff to look after victims overnight.

v. Make sure there are periodic follow ups with the victim while at the shelter home, for holistic rehabilitation of the victim.
4. Airport / Land Transport / Immigration Authorities

A. Involvement of partners

Involvement of partners is crucial in cases of human trafficking

![Diagram of partners]

B. Action to be taken

Proactive steps
i. Observe if the presumed victim has his / her ticket / boarding pass in hand.
ii. Observe if another person is carrying the identification (of the presumed victim) or is not allowing the presumed victim to speak.

Identification

Refer to chapter on Indicators and Identification

Further steps
i. Inform the Police of the interception of the victim.
ii. Interrogate the suspected trafficker.
iii. Inform the police of the interception of the suspected trafficker.
iv. Hand the suspected trafficker over to the Police.

Cross Verification
i. Try to contact the family of the presumed victim to cross check the statement of the presumed victim.
ii. Inform Childline or an NGO about the interception of such victim.
iii. Childline or the NGO to place the victim in the care of a registered shelter home in the presence of the police.
iv. Look after immediate needs of victim, i.e., food, clothing and shelter until arrival of the NGO and the Police.
v. In case the presumed victim is in need of immediate medical attention, try to arrange for the same at the earliest with help from other partners.

Documentation of interception

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Presumed victim</th>
<th>Suspected Trafficker</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Document basic information about victim</td>
<td>• The interception of the suspected trafficker must be documented</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Refer to case detail sheet in sub-chapter 1 on Border Guards (under documentation)
C. Best Practices

i. Maintain a register of registered NGOs and professionals working on the issue of human trafficking / human rights / child protection to ensure immediate and quality services to be provided to the intercepted victim.

D. Case Example

Ganesh, aged 30 promised Sumitra, aged 22, a better life in the Gulf, if only she would marry him. Sumitra was told that she would get to move to Saudi Arabia with him where they could make lots of money. Sumitra, having lived in Sindhupalchok, Nepal, all her life, was excited to move to a new country and have the life she always dreamt of. She agreed to marry Ganesh.

Ganesh initiated all the procedures for the marriage and made Sumitra sign on a few papers, without honestly informing her of the contents of the papers. Sumitra was neither aware of the fake marriage nor that she was actually being taken to Kuwait to be forced into domestic servitude. Meanwhile, Ganesh prepared all the documents he would require to take Sumitra to Kuwait.

What happens next:

Key Takeaways

• Lack of knowledge about travel details was an indicator of a manipulated victim.
• Action by the first responder, on the slightest suspicion, helped the victim escape exploitation.
• Cross verification of facts between the presumed victim and suspected trafficker is most critical in preventing the exploitation of a person.
• Officials at borders played a crucial role in interception through their skilled observation and interview techniques.
5. Shelter Home

A. Involvement of partners

Involvement of partners is crucial in cases of human trafficking

In India

- Border Guards
- Police
- Medical Personnel
- CWC
- Other first responders as necessary

In Nepal

- Border Guards
- Police
- Medical Personnel
- DCCHT
- WCDO
- Other first responders as necessary

B. Action to be taken

On receiving the victim from Childline, the concerned NGO or Police or Border Guarding agency, a shelter home must:

i. Attend to immediate needs such as medical attention and trauma counseling.

ii. Assist Childline staff / the NGO in production of the victim before a Magistrate / CWC.

iii. Assist Childline staff / the NGO in locating the address of the victim’s home, by undertaking a comprehensive intake interview session with the victim.

C. Documentation

Every new arrival and departure should be formally recorded in the Home’s Admission and Discharge register, with a full description of the person.

REMEMBER

i. Most victims of human trafficking experience severe trauma. This is usually exhibited through signs of hostility, anger, sleep or eating disorders, depression and so on, therefore care should be provided accordingly.

ii. A shelter home must make efforts to be patient with such a victim and make available all necessary counselling services to these victims to ensure holistic rehabilitation of the victim.
6. Civilians

A. Involvement of partners

Involvement of partners is crucial in cases of human trafficking

In India

- Police
- Border Guards
- Childline
- NGO
- Medical Personnel
- CWC
- Other first responders as necessary

In Nepal

- Police
- Border Guards
- NGO
- Medical Personnel
- DCCHT
- WCDO
- Other first responders as necessary

B. Action to be taken

**STAY ALERT**
- Observe if a presumed victim has any physical injuries or scars
- Observe physical signs of anxiety, fear, depression, nervousness, confusion
- Observe if a presumed victim is drugged or not allowed to move freely

**TAKE ACTION**
- Talk to the presumed victim, find out if they are aware of the details of their travel and person accompanying him / her
- Call on helpline numbers to get help
- Take care of victim’s basic needs - physical and medical (if possible)

**SUPPORT**
- Assist the Police in being a complainant if needed

C. Identification

Refer to chapter on Indicators and Identification

**REMEMBER**

Do not be afraid to assist the Police in being a complainant in a case*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Helpline Numbers:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>India</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police : 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Childline : 1098</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Railway Helpline : 1512; 182</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Nepal</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Police : 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Childline : 1098</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GBV (Gender Based Violence) : 1145</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*In Nepal, the law guarantees the protection of the complainant’s identity under Section 20 of the HTTCA.
D. Case Example

In Nepal, Seeta, aged 50, from Kathmandu approaches Mala aged 20, in Dhangadi and promises Mala a job in South India. Mala, being from a very poor family, agrees to accompany Seeta, in the hope of sustaining her family. Seeta brings Mala to the Dhangadi-Lakhimpur Kheri border, to cross over to India.

Suraj, a professional Finance Expert from Nepal, is crossing the border at the same time, to return to his job in Delhi. While crossing the border, he notices Mala and Seeta being questioned by representatives from NGOs at the border. Suraj notices that Mala seems afraid and restless. Although Mala and the Seeta manage to bypass the officials at the border, Suraj does not let go of his suspicion.

Suraj makes note of the bus that Seeta and Mala are travelling in and does the following:

**What happens next:**

1. Suraj immediately calls up the helpline number of the police and NGO working at the border, and provides details of the bus that Mala was travelling in.
2. The NGO and Police work together in stopping the bus that Mala and her trafficker, Seeta, are travelling in.
3. Mala was interviewed using victim friendly techniques, by the NGO and the Police.
4. The NGO and the Police confirm the case to be a possible case of trafficking and contact Mala’s family.
5. Mala’s family is called and they receive Mala at the border.
6. SSB, Police and NGO work together in handing over Mala to her family after sufficient counselling.
7. NGO keeps in constant contact with Sumitra to check on her rehabilitation / progress.
8. Mala is now safe and happy at home.
9. First responders involved: Civilians, Border Guards, Police, NGO.

**Key Takeaways**

- Suraj’s observations and proactive steps resulted in the prompt rescue of the victim and saved her from potential exploitation.
- Noting crucial details, like the bus number, helped intercept the victim before it was too late.
V. Repatriation

A. Stakeholders Involved

B. Action to be taken

1. A summary of the long term plan developed by the assigned NGOs / Govt. Shelter Home should be shared with both countries to ensure continuity of care and services after trafficked person returns to their country (With reference to the Case Files, Treatment and Training Plans).

2. While handing over the victim, all documents related to victim’s case including the case file, containing:
   - the victim’s individual care plan;
   - details of already imparted (during her / his stay in NGO / GO Shelter Home) or recommended education & vocational skills to the victim;
   - counselling reports, medical reports, case history should also be handed over to the respective counterparts and they should be briefed about the case.

3. The Border Guards should maintain a register for the purposes of documenting all cross border repatriations, with the following details:
   a. Date and place of rescue / interception
   b. Shelter home from where the victim was residing
   c. City in which the FIR was filed
   d. Place of Origin
   e. Repatriation documents
   f. Date of Repatriation

Existing formal process

i. Information on Nepalese survivor is registered at the Nepal Consulate Office by the Probationary Officer (PO) or NGO.

ii. Consulate officials / representatives visit shelter home for preliminary verification of Nationality with an interview.

iii. Details of survivor are sent to the respective CDO (Chief District officer) at his / her place of residence.

iv. CDO deploys law enforcement personnel for home address verification.

v. Once the nationality verification is done, the CDO sends back information to the Nepal Consulate.

vi. The Nepal Consulate confirms back to shelter home authorities and facilitating NGO for the repatriation of the victim.

vii. A date of repatriation is fixed where a shelter home staff, officer from the Nepal Consulate and the PO / a social worker from an NGO member in India, escort the victim to the closest border post, closest to the victim’s address.
viii. The Nepal consulate or the State takes care of the travelling costs of the victim.
ix. The victim is then handed over to the CDO and the victim is escorted by a Nepalese NGO to their address.
x. If the victim cannot be restored owing to vulnerable family conditions, the CDO seeks support of Shelter Home facility and hands the victim over to the agency for care and protection.

Informal Process

C. Best Practices

- The Embassy / Consulate must maintain a roster for registered NGOs that can assist in the repatriation of a victim of cross border trafficking.
- It is absolutely essential to constantly follow up with the victim after his / her repatriation. This proves necessary to keep track of the progress of the victim and help address any concern that the victim may face, at the right time.
D. Case Example

Asha, Manisha and Neema were three best friends from a village in Jhapa, Nepal aged 21 years each. They had just graduated and were looking out for jobs. A placement agency by the name Service Recruitments, came to their village looking for girls to hire for a job in New Delhi, India. Asha, Manisha and Neema sent in their resumes and were very excited to be part of the interviews. The three girls were informed that they were selected for the job in New Delhi and they would have to reach Delhi in two days. In their excitement, the three girls did not enquire into the details of the company, location or job description.

What happens next:

1. The Placement agency transported the girls across the border into India, with fake documents of employment.
2. The girls were allowed to cross over and taken to New Delhi.
3. The girls were kept in a hotel room and their phones were taken away.
4. The girls were physically abused and drugged.
5. They were taken to an unknown place where a portion of their skin was grafted to be sold.
6. Girls were later sold off to a brothel in Mumbai.
7. An NGO received the information and informed the police.
8. The Girls were rescued and an FIR was lodged against the accused.
9. The girls were placed in a shelter home in Delhi while their repatriation procedures were underway.
10. The NGO and Police worked with the Nepal Embassy to repatriate the girls.
11. The girls were repatriated to their homes in Jhapa, Nepal.
12. The NGO is in constant contact with the girls to ensure that she does not fall prey to any more possible traffickers.

First responders involved

- Police
- NGO
- Shelter Home
- Embassy
Key Takeaways

• Traffickers target the vulnerable: vulnerability is not restricted to economic reasons

• Trafficking is a trans-national / cross border crime and resulted in various kinds of exploitation of the unsuspecting victims

• Once all stakeholders worked in tandem, the victims were rescued, provided support and safely repatriation to their home country