

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR
ORGANIZATION

**‘PEOPLE TRAFFICKING’ BASELINE
AWARENESS SURVEY IN THREE
PROVINCES, LAO PDR, JULY 2006**

ANALYTICAL REPORT



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For the Mekong Sub-regional Project to Combat Trafficking
in Children and Women

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) commissioned this survey in support of its Lao Project to Combat Trafficking in Children and Women. The survey aimed to establish baseline awareness levels of human trafficking issues and explore media habits of young people aged 14 to 24 located in Champassak, Xayabouly and Khammoune Provinces in the Lao People Democratic Republic (Lao PDR).

The sample of 340 was almost equally divided between the three provinces. Half the sample were boys and girls aged 15 to 17 years and half were women aged between 18 and 25 years. Fieldwork was conducted by officials from the Department of Labour in each province over the period July/August 2006.

Media sources

- Television dominates in provincial Laos. Eighty-six percent of those surveyed in Xayabouly, Khammoune and Champassak said television was their most important source of news and information. Ninety-eight percent watched television at least once a week.
- Three-quarters of those surveyed relied on Thai language media sources for their news and information. Thai language was most significant with regard to television, as Thai television enjoys good broadcast quality in border provinces. Girls were more likely to rely on Lao language media for information than boys.
- Although radio does not compare with television as an information source, it enjoys good reach with 8 in 10 young people tuning in at least once a week. Newspaper readership was low.

Human trafficking issues

- Overall, 71 percent of those surveyed had heard the phrase human trafficking and 75 percent recalled seeing media reports on this subject. However, this awareness rate may be inflated and should be approached with caution.
- Knowledge of trafficking issues was more extensive in Champassak, although some did not immediately recognise the term “human trafficking”. Eighty-eight percent of people in Champassak recalled seeing media reports on human trafficking and 98 percent recalled reports on Lao workers in Thailand.

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- Although a high portion of people in Xayabouly were familiar with the phrase human trafficking, they showed less substantive understanding of the issues than in Champassak.
 - Young people in Khammoune were less knowledgeable about trafficking issues than in the other two provinces. Fifty-six percent of people in Khammoune had heard the phrase human trafficking, and slightly less recalled media reports on this subject. Younger girls in Khammoune were the least aware group surveyed.
 - Most people surveyed understood that women under the age of 25 were most at risk of human trafficking. Brokers were believed to be strangers. People in Khammoune and young girls were more trusting of relatives, friends and women than other groups surveyed. These groups are therefore potentially at greater risk of trafficking.

Labour migration to Thailand

- While young people were almost universally aware of Lao working in Thailand and interested in learning about employment opportunities, they did not have an accurate knowledge of legal and official issues relating to Lao migrant labour.
- More than 9 in 10 people had heard reports of Lao workers in Thailand, although only 56 percent of those surveyed knew that the Lao government permits its citizens to work in Thailand. Six in 10 people were aware of Government employment centres and only slightly more than half of those knew where they were located.
- People in Champassak again showed greater knowledge of Lao labour migration issues than the other provinces.
- Those who had less knowledge of trafficking and migration issues showed a more positive image of Lao work opportunities in Thailand. People in Khammoune were more likely to recall positive media reports on this subject than people in Champassak.
- There was almost universal interest in learning more about both human trafficking and work opportunities in Thailand. Young people thought this information should be provided through the media. The majority thought television was the best way to deliver public information.

INTRODUCTION

Research objectives

This survey was commissioned by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) in support of its Lao sub-program under the Mekong Sub-Regional Project to Combat Trafficking in Children and Women (ILO-TICW). The program is implemented in partnership with the Government of Laos' Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare's Child Labour and Child Trafficking Office (CLCTO).

With low per capita income, limited private sector development and more than half the population under the age of 20 years, work opportunities in neighbouring Thailand attract young, unskilled, rural Lao people. These young people are at risk of ending up in exploitative labour arrangements in Thailand. The ILO-TICW project does not discourage migration, but instead assists in building better awareness and management systems so that there is less risk of vulnerable young people becoming the victims of human trafficking.

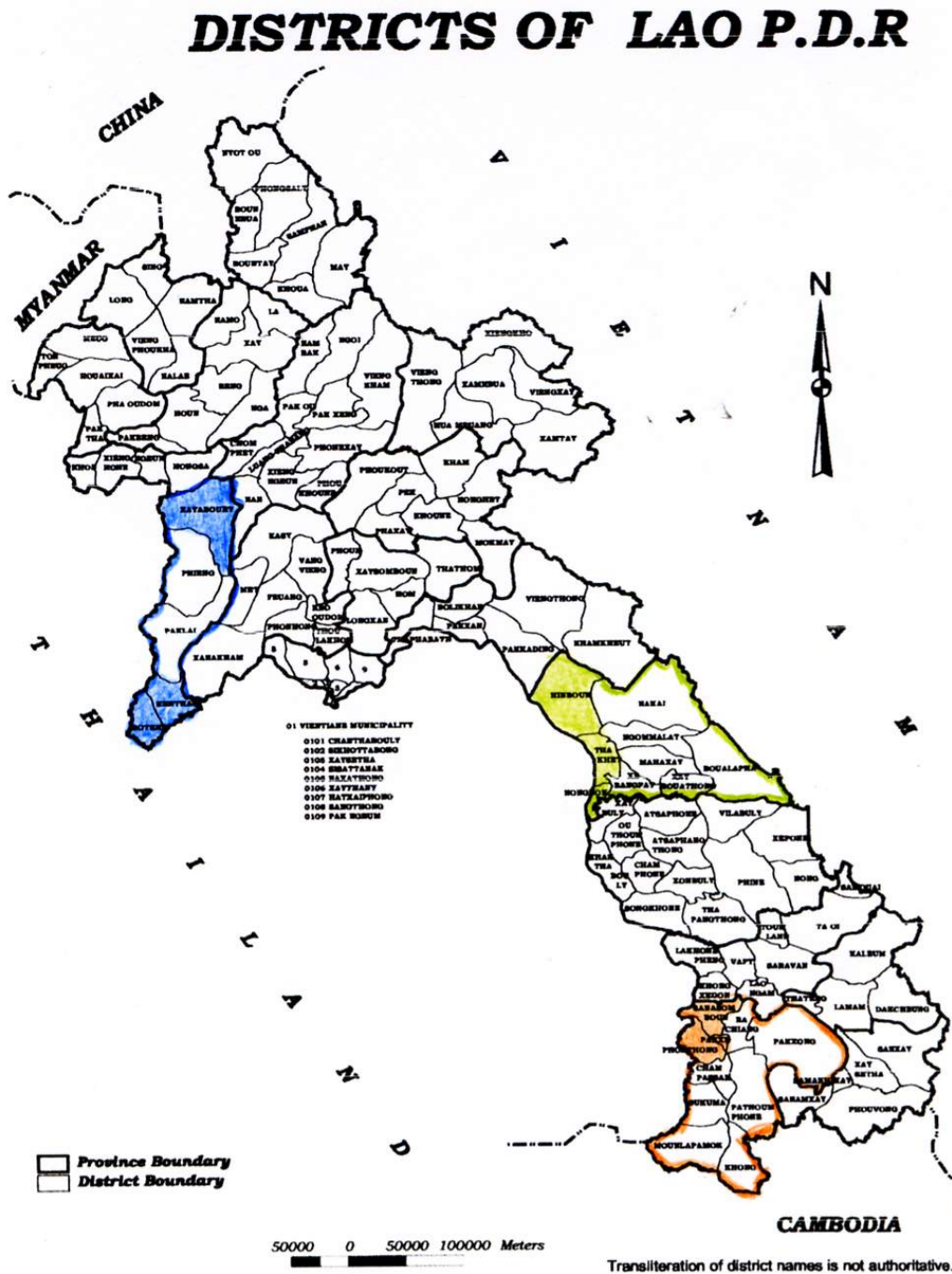
Phase II of the ILO-TICW Lao program operates from 2006 to 2008 and builds on lessons learned in Phase 1 (2000-03). A key finding of Phase 1 was the need to raise the awareness among those most at risk of becoming the victims of human trafficking. To this end, the ILO-TICW project is working with the CLCTO and other donors to train and build the capacity of the Lao mass media so that it is able to provide more detailed and accurate information on the dangers of trafficking and risks of ill-prepared migration to Lao audiences. The campaign will also disseminate information about government initiatives, policies and laws relating to trafficking and migration.

The principal objective of this survey was to collect baseline quantitative information on media use and knowledge of human trafficking and migration issues among target groups. By establishing a baseline, this survey is intended as one aspect of a future impact evaluation of the planned media campaign. However, the research also provides valuable insights into the attitudes, knowledge and mindset of the intended audience of the media campaign. The analytical findings are therefore also intended as a useful resource for those implementing the awareness raising media project.

Survey location

The ILO Subregional Office (SRO) in Bangkok developed parameters and key questions for this survey based on existing knowledge of people trafficking in Laos. Phase II of the ILO-TICW campaign focuses on five provinces bordering Thailand. Three of those were chosen to participate in this survey: Champassak, Xayabouly and Khammoune. Survey areas are shown on the following map.

Figure 1: Map of Lao PDR showing survey areas



■	Survey Districts in Xayabouly Province
■	Survey Districts in Khammoune Province
■	Survey Districts in Champassak Province

Previous research had shown that high numbers of illegal migrant workers travel to Thailand from Khammoune and Champassak¹. These two provinces are in the south, bordering northeastern Thailand and are among the most populous areas of Laos. While today the Mekong River forms the border between the two countries, traditionally in these lowland areas people on either side of the riverbank have traded and generally shared strong kinship ties.

The ties between ethnic Lao and the populations of north-eastern Thailand (the area known as “Isarn”) have played a role in cross-border migration. The language spoken by ethnic Lao in this region is the same as the traditional dialect spoken by neighbouring Thais. This makes it very easy for Lao to “blend in” and pass as Isarn workers when in Thai metropolitan centres. Due to the prevalence of Thai television in Laos and similarity between the Thai and Lao languages, comprehension of the central-Thai language dialect is high in Laos. Unlike people from other neighbouring countries, these language and cultural affinities make Lao workers very marketable in Thailand.

By comparison, Xayabouly Province is located in the northwest of Laos. In this area, the mountainous terrain, rather than the Mekong River, forms the border with Thailand. This part of Laos is much more isolated and remote than the other two provinces. The areas on the Thai side of border are also much less densely populated than those to the south. It could therefore be expected that cross-border migration is a newer phenomenon in this region of Laos and is not driven by the same long-standing kinship ties.

Three districts in each province were selected to participate in this survey. Three villages were then selected within each district – giving a total of nine villages surveyed in each province.

At times, this survey showed marked trends and differences between the three areas surveyed. The differences are highlighted, although it is not always possible to explain variations based on information gathered in this survey.

Survey population

Previous ILO research had established that more than one-in-five Lao migrants in Thailand were under the age of 18 and more than two-thirds were girls². For this survey the ILO therefore decided to restrict the survey population to those groups known to most likely end up in exploitative labour situations: young people, particularly women.

¹ Phetsiriseng, I: “Lao PDR: Preliminary Assessment of Illegal Labour Migration and Trafficking in Children and Women for Labour Exploitation”, ILO Working Paper, January 2003.

² “Lao PDR Migration Survey” (2003) as reported on the ILO website.

A multi-stage and stratified sample was used. Two strata were established: respondents aged between 15 and 17 years and respondents aged between 18 and 24 years. In the first group, an equal number of girls and boys were interviewed. The second group comprised women only.

Where possible, age and gender variations are explored in the analysis of the survey findings. However, gender comparisons are generally restricted to the younger age group, as the older group did not include males. Due to the smaller sample numbers in age and gender sub-groups, these findings were potentially more prone to sampling error. Trends and differences are therefore generally only commented on when statistically significant.

Altogether, 340 interviews were conducted. The sample plan ensured the sex and age categories were equally distributed across province, district and village survey sites. The survey aimed to adopt the principles of simple random sampling – where everybody in the population to be surveyed should have an equal chance of being questioned – modified where necessary to meet the stratified sampling methods. The principle sampling point was households: only one individual per household was intended to be included in the survey. Sampling issues are discussed in Appendix B.

Fieldwork

Fieldwork was conducted by staff from the Department of Labour and Social Welfare in each province. Each of the three teams comprised four people: a team leader and three enumerators. The enumerators were resident in the districts in which they were working. Fieldwork commenced on Monday 24 July and was completed on 24 August. (For further information, see fieldwork report prepared by Lucy O'Connor and submitted 21 September 2006.) Fieldwork is also discussed in Appendix B.

Questionnaire

The ILO SRO in Bangkok developed a draft questionnaire in English, which was developed and translated by the Lao-based team. The questionnaire was pre-tested in Vientiane and then finalised and approved on 17 July. (See pre-test report completed by Lucy O'Connor and submitted on 12 July 2006). The questionnaire explored three primary areas: media environment; knowledge and awareness of human trafficking issues; and attitudes to and knowledge of working in Thailand. A copy of the English version of the final questionnaire is included in Appendix C.

SURVEY FINDINGS

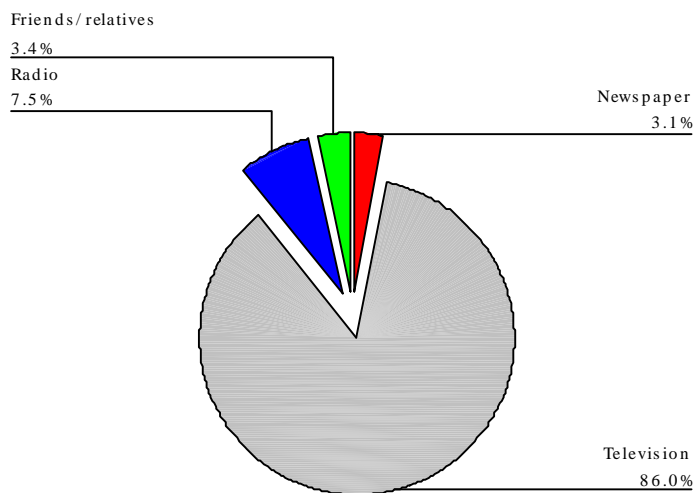
SECTION 1: MEDIA ENVIRONMENT

The review of media habits of respondents took two forms: firstly, it sought to establish the single most important source of information about Lao PDR and other countries (and the language of that source) and secondly, it checked the frequency that respondents viewed television, listened to radio and read newspapers. The second line of questions, regarding frequency, did not distinguish media sources by language.

1.1 Sources of news and information

When asked to nominate their single most important source of news and information about Laos and other countries, 81 percent of respondents nominated television, far exceeding the second most popular source, radio (7 percent). In the areas surveyed, very few people relied on newspapers for news and information. Newspapers were as important as information provided by friends and relatives.

Figure 2: Main source of news and information



Language preferences

In view of the similarities between Thai and Lao languages and the proximity of these provinces to Thailand, the survey also established what language people relied on for their news and information. Based on existing knowledge, it is expected that the young Lao in the three provinces targeted by this survey have good comprehension of the central Thai dialect. Thai language television enjoys

good reception in the three provinces surveyed. By comparison, Thai radio does not have good reception quality in Laos as Thai stations predominately broadcast on the FM band, which has a limited coverage area. Thai language newspapers have a limited circulation in Laos.

Overall, three-quarters of all those surveyed said their major source of news and information was delivered in Thai language. Language preferences were most significant with regard to television.

Looking at language trends generally across the different information variables, younger girls were more likely to rely on Lao language media sources than boys. Overall, 30 percent of girls aged between 15 and 17 said their main source of news was in Lao language, compared to only 17 percent of boys the same age.

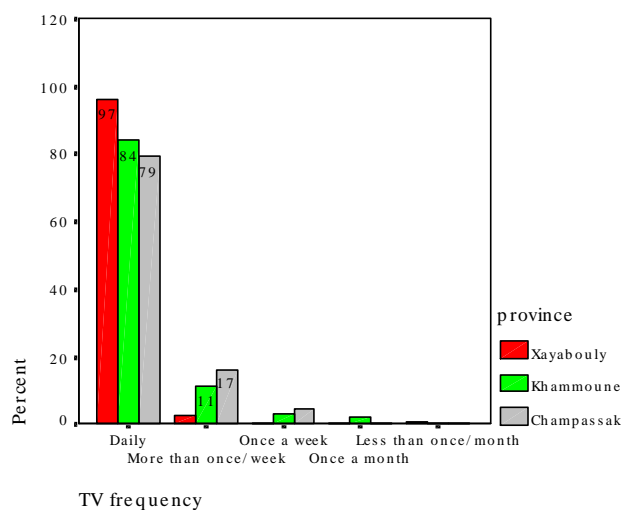
1.2 Television

Television was the most important source of news and information for 86 percent of the young people interviewed in this survey.

Frequency

Overall, 87 percent of those surveyed said they watched television daily. In terms of frequency, Xayabouly had the highest rates of television viewing, with 97 percent of people tuning in daily. The second highest frequency was in Khammoune, where 84 percent of people watched television everyday, followed by Champassak (79 percent). Only two percent of all those surveyed viewed TV less frequently than once a week. Given the frequency of TV viewing, rates were largely consistent across age and gender variables.

Figure 3: Frequency of television viewing by province



Language

Only 15 percent of all of those who cited television as their main source of news said they relied on Lao language broadcasts.

Although equal numbers girls and boys said television was their main source of information, 22 percent of girls in the younger age group, compared to 8 percent of boys, relied on Lao television services. In the older group, 15 percent of women who said television was their main source of information relied on Lao language sources.

It should be noted that the survey only explored language preferences with regard to news sources nominated as the most important to participants. The findings with regard to language do not relate to the frequency that people view Lao and Thai language television. For example, it is possible that some participants may watch Thai television more frequently than Lao television but get most of their news and information from Lao services, or vice versa.

1.3 Radio

Overall, seven percent of people said radio was their main source of information. However, the number of people in Xayabouly who cited radio as their most important source of information was greater than that of the other two provinces combined. Almost 12 percent of those contacted in Xayabouly cited radio as their most important source of information, compared to seven percent in Champassak and three percent in Khammoune.

Language

Generally speaking, those who relied on sources other than television were more likely to rely on Lao language services. More than half of those who cited radio as their most important source of information relied on Lao language sources. A small group (3 percent) cited radio and television services broadcast languages other than Lao or Thai as their primary source of news. Significantly, all of these were in Xayabouly Province. As a result, in that province less than 20 percent of participants relied on Lao language services compared to 25 percent in other provinces. Although numbers are small, the trend suggests that radio listening in Xayabouly in languages other than Lao or Thai contributed to the higher number of people relying on radio for their information. Future research may present an opportunity to explore these findings further.

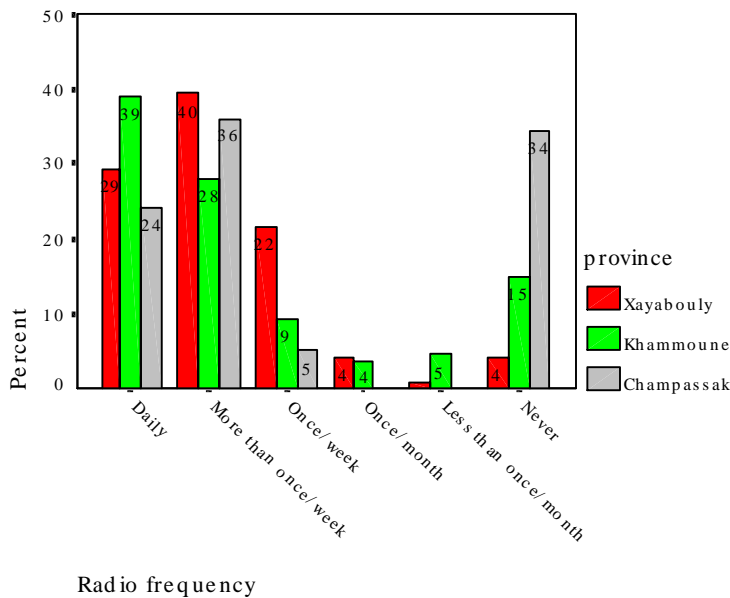
The survey confirmed that in comparison to television, young Lao who rely on radio for information are more likely to listen in Lao rather than Thai language broadcasts. This reflects the poorer reception quality of Thai radio broadcasts in Laos.

Reach

The survey found that although radio wasn't the most important source of information for young people, it does have good reach with 80 percent of respondents tuning in at least once a week. However, there were some marked variations across the different locations. Khammoune had the highest radio listening rates, with 39 percent of people surveyed tuning in daily and another 37 percent listening at least once a week. In Xayabouly, 29 percent listened to radio daily and another 62 percent listened at least once a week. Radio listening was lowest in Champassak Province, where only 24 percent listened daily. Thirty-five percent of those surveyed in Champassak said they never listened to the radio, which was much higher than the other two provinces.

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Figure 4: Frequency of radio listening by province



The differences in radio use may reflect the availability of radio receivers, reception quality and the level of interest in programming offered in the different locations. It may also be determined by the availability and reception of alternative sources (such as television). Further research is necessary to understand these differences.

Age and gender

The younger age group listened to radio more frequently than the older group. Thirty-five percent of those aged between 15 and 17 years listened daily and 16 percent said they never listened. By comparison, 26 percent of those aged between 18 and 24 years listened daily and 20 percent never listened.

In the younger age group, girls listened to radio more frequently than boys. Forty-one percent of girls between 15 and 17 years listened to radio everyday, compared to 30 percent of the boys. It should be noted, however, that the

differences attributed to age and gender may be subject to marginal errors stemming from the smaller sample size.

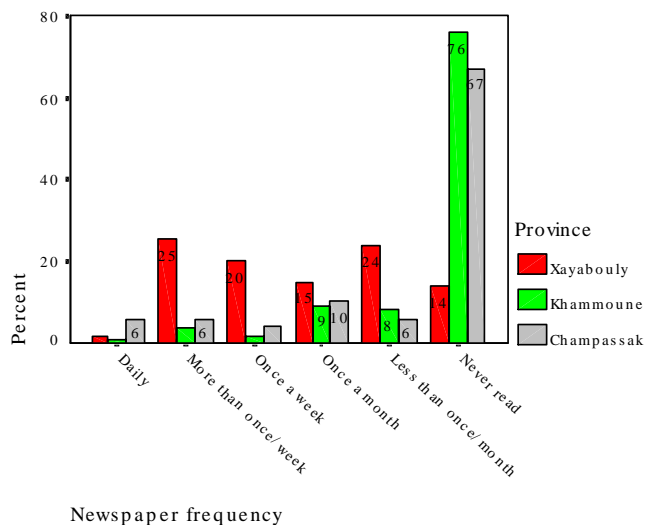
1.4 Newspapers

The survey found only 10 people out of an n of 340 who cited newspapers as their main source of news and information. Overall, only 3 percent of people surveyed read newspapers daily and a further 21 percent read once a week or more. More than half those surveyed never read a newspaper.

The rates of readership varied between the provinces. While only one respondent in Xayabouly cited newspapers as their main source of information, people in that province read newspapers more frequently than in the other two areas surveyed: 47 percent read a newspaper once a week or more and only 14 percent said they never read a newspaper.

Only 16 percent of people surveyed in Champassak read a newspaper once a week or more and 67 percent never read a newspaper. Newspaper penetration appeared lowest in Khammoune, where only 6 people in 100 read once a week of more and 76 percent never read a newspaper.

Figure 5: Frequency of newspaper reading



Due to the small numbers, it is not possible to analyse this data according to age and gender variables.

There are many possible explanations for the low rates of newspaper reading in rural Laos. Newspaper reading is more dependent on literacy rates than other media. The type of information provided by newspapers is also slightly different than other Lao media sources, which may also affect reading rates. Newspapers carry predominately official government and party news and are less “events

driven” than television and radio. The logistics of distribution is also an issue in a country like Laos, where delays in transporting newspapers could affect the timeliness of information provided. It could therefore be expected that newspapers are less accessible for people living further from urban centres. Further research would help understand regional differences in newspaper readership.

1.5 Summary of findings on media use

- **Television** is the media of choice in Laos. Television dominates to the exclusion of almost all other media sources in Champassak.
 - Eighty-six percent of young people surveyed relied on television for their news and information and a similar number viewed television on a daily basis.
 - Given almost universal television viewing, it could be useful to collect more detailed information that could be used to help target an information campaign. For example, future surveys could help determine what programs and at what times young people tune into Lao television people view Lao versus Thai television.
 - Thai television is a challenge for Lao policy makers. Thai programs and advertising convey alluring images of affluence, success and opportunity. It contrasts pictures of fashionable, wealthy, urban Bangkok with the poverty and hardship of traditional, rural life in the provinces. Such images encourage rural-urban drift and add to the risks of rural people (Thai, as well as Lao) ending up in exploitative employment relationships.
- Although **radio** comes a poor second, it enjoys good reach, particularly in Khammoune and Xayabouly.
 - While most young people do not rely on radio for information, most listen to Lao language broadcasts regularly.
 - Eight in 10 people tune in at least once a week.
 - The target for a people trafficking campaign – girls under 18 years of age – are more likely to tune to radio.
- Three-quarters of young people surveyed rely on Thai **language** sources for their news and information. This was most prevalent with regard to television.
 - Younger girls are more likely to rely on Lao language sources for their information.
- **Newspapers** have very limited readership, particularly in Champassak and Khammoune.

SECTION 2: HUMAN TRAFFICKING

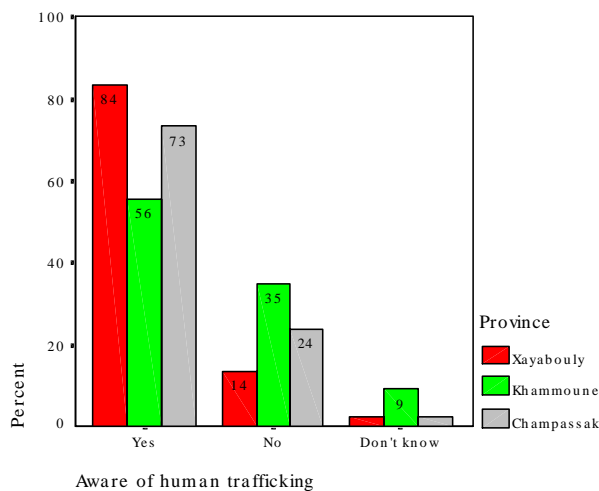
The survey sought to establish a baseline awareness of human trafficking. Participants were first asked if they had ever heard the phrase human trafficking. In research terms, this is similar to an unprompted response – where participants were not given any guidance on the term, or lead in questions on what is understood by human trafficking. Then participants were given a description of human trafficking and asked a subsequent series of questions.

2.1 Awareness rates

Unprompted, 71 percent of those surveyed said they had heard of the phrase “human trafficking” although responses to subsequent questions suggest this figure may be inflated.

Rates were highest in Xayabouly, where 84 percent of respondents had heard of human trafficking, compared to 73 percent in Champassak and 56 percent in Khammoune. Compared to the other two provinces, a much higher portion of people in Khammoune were also unsure when answering this question, which also indicates a lower baseline awareness.

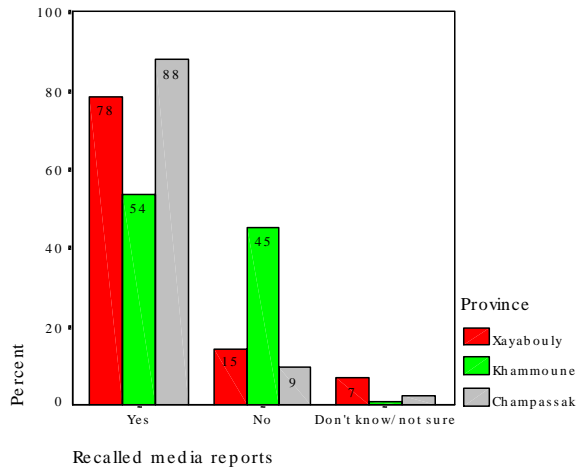
Figure 6: Unprompted awareness of human trafficking



2.2 Recollection of media reports on human trafficking

When provided with a definition, slightly more people (almost three-quarters of those surveyed) recalled seeing or hearing media reports on human trafficking. Rates again varied across the three locations, with awareness levels highest in Champassak (88 percent) and lowest in Khammoune (54 percent).

Figure 7: Recollection of media reports on human trafficking



2.3 Term “human trafficking” may not be well understood

A comparison of the unprompted awareness rate and the recollection of media reports suggest that the initial awareness rates should be treated with caution. While more participants in Xayabouly said they were familiar with the term, when asked, one quarter of those did not know what human trafficking entailed. In follow-up questions people in Xayabouly also demonstrated a lower level of understanding of the term human trafficking than the initial awareness rate would imply.

While people in Champassak were not as familiar with the term, once provided with a definition they recalled media reports on this subject. As will be discussed below, people in Champassak also showed a better grasp of the issues than people in the other two provinces.

Information collected in this survey does not explain these regional differences. For example, familiarity with the term in Xayabouly may be due to a specific campaign or intervention.

In general terms, this finding offers interesting insights for program planners. It is possible that the term “human trafficking” is not as well understood in Laos. In Lao, the term “human trafficking” translates as “trade in human beings”. Further qualitative research would help understand what is understood by the term and

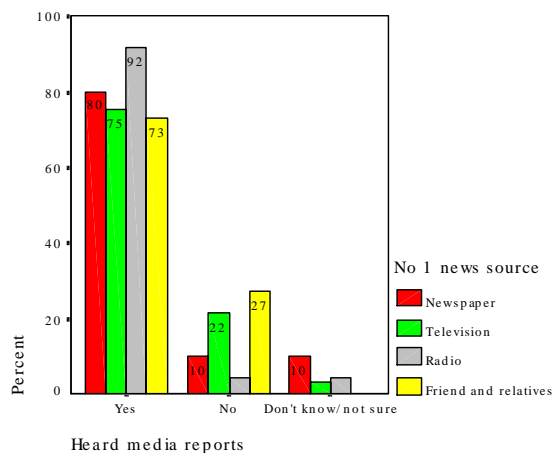
its connotations in Lao language, and help explain regional differences. Such research would also help program planners develop a public awareness campaign that was relevant and pitched at an appropriate level.

2.4 Media use and awareness

Young people who rely on Lao, rather than Thai, language media sources and on radio were more likely to recall hearing the term human trafficking and seeing media reports on the subject. Eighty percent of people who relied on Lao language media sources had heard or seen media reports on human trafficking, compared to 73 percent of people who relied on Thai language services.

Despite its dominance, those who cited television as their main source of information were less likely to have seen media reports than those who rely on radio. Ninety-two percent of people who relied on radio had heard media reports on human trafficking, compared to 73 percent of people who relied on television. This is depicted in the following diagram (due to the small sample, rates for newspaper are more prone to error).

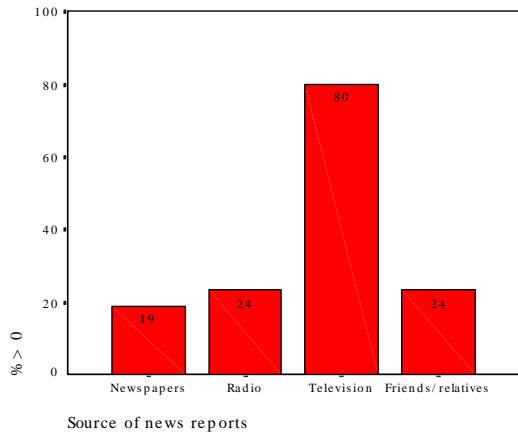
Figure 8: Cross tabulation of most important media source and recollection of media reports on human trafficking



2.5 Origin of media reports

In keeping with the dominance of television, 8 in 10 people who recalled hearing media reports on human trafficking had seen stories on television.

Figure 9: Source of media reports

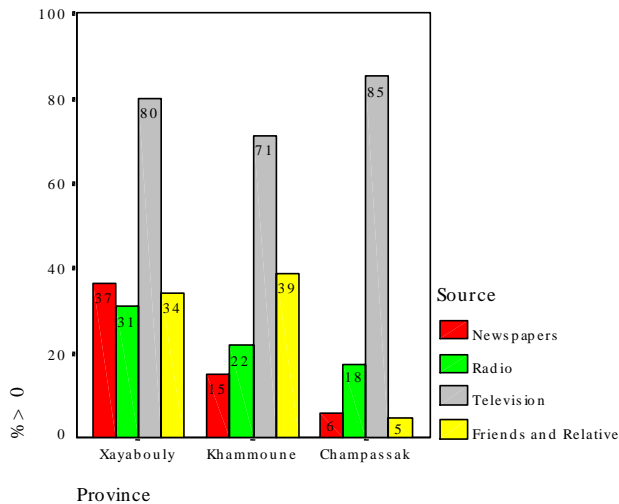


When reviewed by province, results were consistent with the media viewing habits identified in Section 1 above. In Champassak where television dominated to almost the exclusion of other media, 85 percent of those who recalled media reports had viewed stories on television. Compared to the other provinces, fewer people in Champassak recalled stories from other sources.

In keeping with the more diverse media sources in Xayabouly, more than a third of respondents in that province who had seen or heard media reports recalled receiving information from newspapers, radio and informal sources such as friends and relatives.

In both Khammoune and Xayabouly, more young people recalled hearing reports on human trafficking from friends and relatives than from either radio or newspapers.

Figure 10: Source of media reports on human trafficking, by province



2.6 Substantive knowledge of human trafficking issues

Information collected on young people's knowledge should help program planners better understand the extent of awareness of human trafficking issues and the knowledge level of the target audience for a media campaign. The information gathered also helps understand regional differences in knowledge levels.

Victims

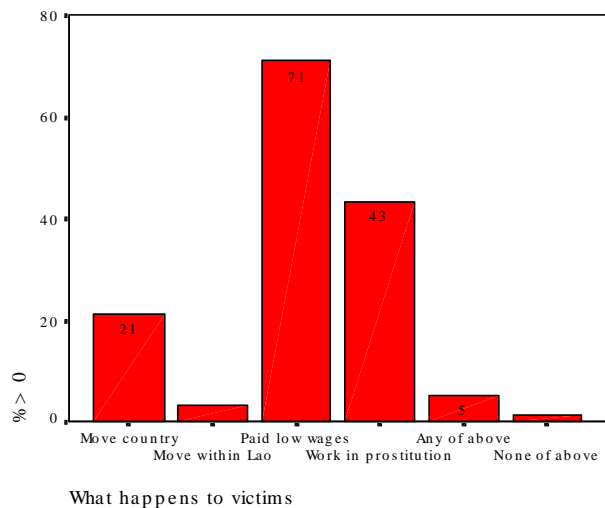
Once provided with a definition of people trafficking, the majority of respondents had an accurate picture of victims. Eighty-four percent of participants thought that women and people under 25 years of age were most at risk of human trafficking. Younger girls and those in Champassak were much more decisive on the age question – with more than 93 percent of both groups saying that people under 25 were more at risk.

Seven in 10 people surveyed thought that people were most at risk of becoming a victim of human trafficking when away from their home or village. These rates were highest in Champassak (84 percent) and lowest in Khammoune (74 percent).

The survey found people associated the experience of victims most strongly with low wages (71 percent of those interviewed) although this varied widely between Champassak (81 percent) and Xayabouly (58 percent). The next most common association was with prostitution. Forty-three percent of all people interviewed thought victims were likely to become involved in prostitution, although the association was stronger in the older group (48 percent) than the younger group (39 percent).

The responses are summarised in the following diagram (as multiple responses were permitted and the percentage is by respondent, totals can be > 100 percent).

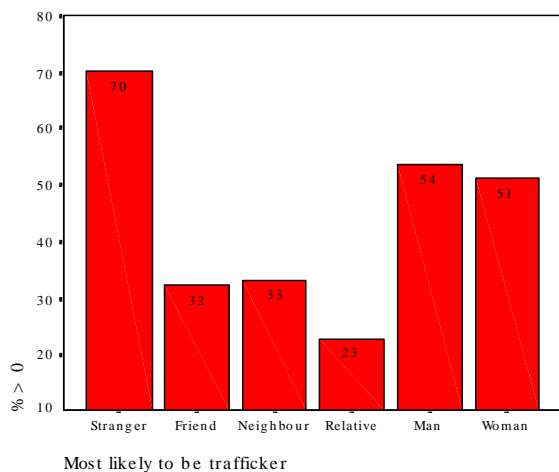
Figure 11: Experience of victims of human trafficking



Perpetrators

Previous research has shown that people trafficking networks operate in villages and victims are often recruited through friends and relatives. However, the young people interviewed in this survey thought that a trafficker was more likely to be a stranger who is unknown to the victims. Less than 2 in 10 people surveyed thought the perpetrators were likely to be friends or neighbours and even less (1 in 10) thought they were likely to be a relative. More accurately, young people thought traffickers could equally be men or women.

Figure 12: Profile of perpetrators of human trafficking



2.7 Most vulnerable least informed

Although sample sizes were small and therefore more prone to sampling error, it is worth noting trends that emerged when viewed by age, gender and location. The findings suggest that the most vulnerable, particularly young women and

people from Khammoune Province, had the least knowledge of human trafficking issues.

In response to the unprompted awareness question, 64 percent of girls aged 15 to 17 had heard the term human trafficking. By comparison, three-quarters of boys and older women were familiar with the term. The most significant gender difference was in Khammoune, where only 46 percent of girls aged 15 to 17 were familiar with the phrase, compared to 70 percent of boys the same age in that province.

The survey also suggests that girls in the younger age group were more trusting of women and people known to them than were the boys or older girls, which could put them at greater risk of trafficking. Sixty-nine percent of young girls aged 15 to 17 thought traffickers were more likely to be strangers and only 15 percent thought traffickers were likely to be neighbours. Thirty-four percent of young girls in this age group thought that people traffickers were likely to be women, compared to 48 percent of boys in the same age group.

Compared to the other provinces, people in Khammoune province were unsure what type of people were most likely to be the perpetrators of trafficking. Only three percent of people in that province thought human traffickers were likely to be relatives, compared to 15 to 16 percent of people interviewed in the other two locations.

In Khammoune only half the girls and boys surveyed between the age of 15 and 17 had seen media reports on human trafficking. This was much lower than people the same age interviewed in the other survey areas. A priority for the media campaign should aim to address these misconceptions, particularly in Khammoune, where people trafficking rates are high.

2.8 Summary of findings on people trafficking issues

- Although seven in 10 people surveyed had heard of the phrase “human trafficking” many of those lacked substantive knowledge of the issues. This awareness rate should be approached with caution and may be inflated, particularly in Xayabouly Province.
- Information collected suggests the term may not be well understood in the Lao PDR.
- Although people in Champassak were not as familiar with the term, they showed a greater awareness of the issues than in the other two survey locations. In Xayabouly, the opposite was true. In that province, a quarter of people who had heard of the term did not have any understanding of the concept.

-
- Three in four people interviewed recalled hearing or seeing media reports on human trafficking issues. People who relied on Lao language media and radio were more likely to recall hearing media reports on human trafficking.
 - The most vulnerable – girls aged 15 to 17 – were less familiar with the term human trafficking, less likely to have seen media reports on this subject and generally less informed.
 - The gender difference was most prevalent in Khammoune Province, where only half of girls in the younger group recalled hearing or seeing media reports on this subject. People in Khammoune Province demonstrated less understanding of the issues than those in the other two survey locations.
 - Further research is needed to understand regional variations in knowledge levels.
 - It may be possible, for example, that other campaigns or interventions have contributed to recognition of the term in Xayabouly, but not a substantive understanding of issues.
 - Variations in information provided by the local media may offer another explanation for regional differences.

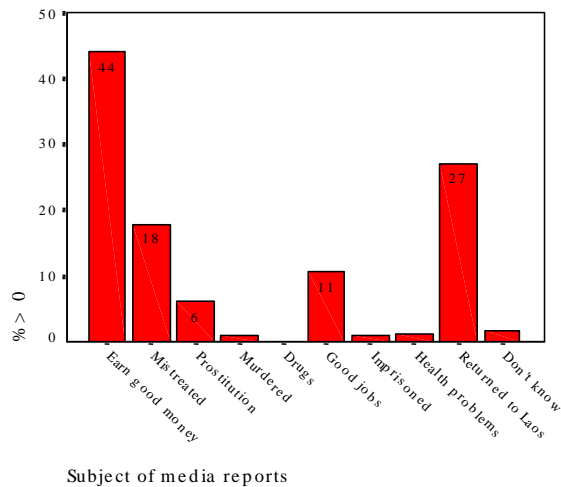
SECTION 3: LABOUR MIGRATION TO THAILAND

The survey also established baseline awareness levels on labour migration issues. These findings should not only help evaluate the success of the media campaign but will also help program planners set priorities for the program. This information also builds a more complete understanding of people trafficking issues as identified in Section Two.

3.1 Positive image of opportunities in Thailand

More than 9 in 10 young people surveyed had heard reports of Lao citizens working in Thailand and were keen to learn more about work opportunities in other countries. Combined with this interest was a predominately positive image of work the experience of Lao workers in Thailand. Forty-four percent of respondents who recalled hearing reports of Lao workers in Thailand heard that Lao citizens earned good money in Thailand and sent it home to support their families in Laos. This was the highest response of all the options, as shown in the following graph (as multiple answers were permitted, response rates may exceed 100 percent). The most common negative report concerned workers being fined and returned to Laos (27 percent).

Figure 13: Subject of reports on Lao workers in Thailand



There were again variations between the provinces that further demonstrate the regional differences on knowledge of people trafficking issues. There were marked differences between Champassak on the one end, where less positive images prevailed, and Khammoune on the other, where young people recalled good news stories of Lao workers in Thailand. These differences are illustrated by the following comparisons:

- Sixty-six percent of people in Khammoune recalled hearing that Lao workers earned good money in Thailand, compared to only 22 percent of people in Champassak.
- Almost half of those interviewed in Champassak had heard negative reports of Lao workers being fined and returned to Laos, compared to only 17 percent of people in Khammoune
- Thirty-nine percent of people in Champassak recalled hearing reports of Lao mistreated by Thai employers compared to only 10 percent of people in Khammoune.

This suggests that in Champassak, where awareness of people trafficking issues is higher, young people had a more realistic or balanced understanding of the risks for Lao workers in Thailand. In comparison in Khammoune, where awareness levels are lower, people had a more positive view of work opportunities in Thailand.

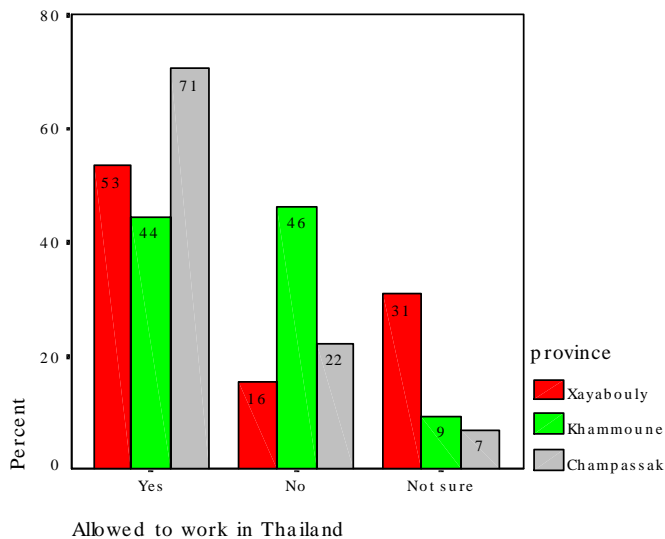
3.2 Limited knowledge of legal status of Lao workers

The survey showed that young people had a very limited understanding of the legal process and status of Lao citizens working in Thailand.

Only slightly more than half (56 percent) of those interviewed knew that the Government of Lao PDR permits its citizens to work in Thailand. If young people believe it is illegal to work in Thailand they are unlikely to approach the Government for information or go through legal processes. Instead, they are more likely to seek assistance from “brokers” or middleman. Without this information, young people are therefore at greater risk of becoming the victims of people trafficking.

Again, the most vulnerable - people age 15 to 17 and those in Khammoune - were the least knowledgeable. Sixty-four percent of women aged 18 to 24 knew it was legal for Lao citizens to work in Thailand, compared to half of those interviewed in younger group. The majority of people interviewed in Khammoune Province thought it were not legal to work in Thailand. The regional variations are demonstrated in the following diagram.

Figure 14: Legal status of Lao working in Thailand



3.3 Limited knowledge of labour remittance issues

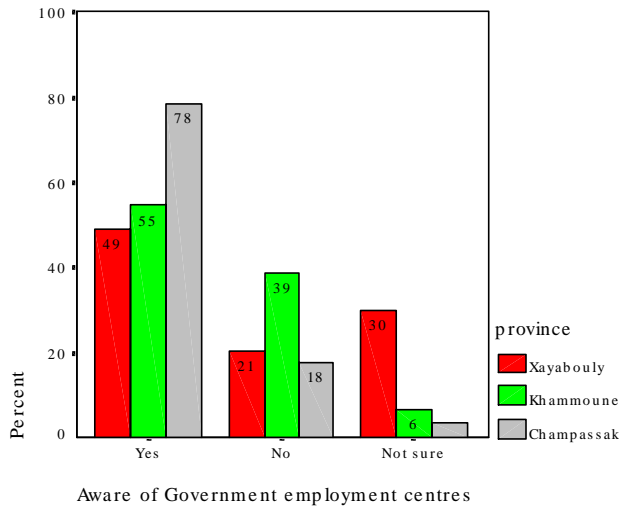
Understandably, given that only slightly more than half the respondents knew it was legal for Lao to work in Thailand, young people showed limited knowledge of the legal and official channels governing labour migration.

Employment centres

Employment centres sponsored by the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare provide the legal channels for Lao citizens seeking employment in Thailand. These offices are located in every province and provide a registration service that help match people to jobs, facilitate required Thai processes and complete paperwork necessary for legal migration. The employment centres therefore play an important role in reducing people trafficking by providing information and services and, ultimately, cutting out the role of the “broker” or middleman.

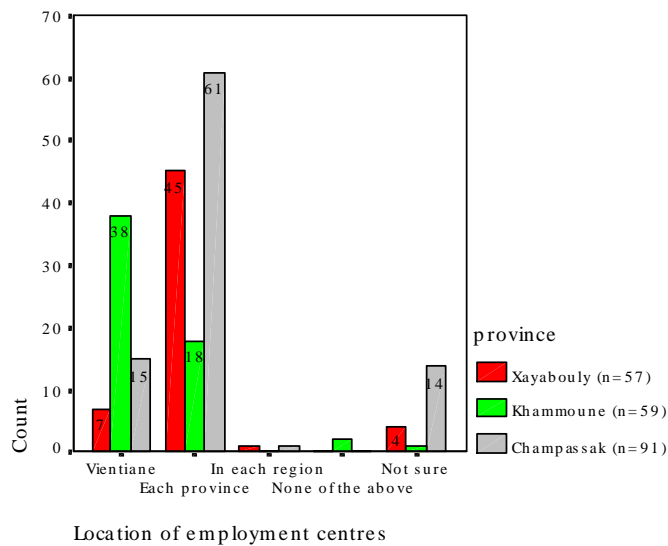
Overall, six in 10 people surveyed knew of the employment centres. As demonstrated by the following chart, the centres were most well known in Champassak.

Figure 15: Awareness of Lao Government employment centres



Six in 10 of those who were familiar with employment centres knew that these offices were located in each province. The following chart compares knowledge in each province. As only those who were aware of the offices were asked this question, the findings are compared by respondent, rather than in percentage terms. In Khammoune, the majority of respondents who were aware of the centres thought they were only located in Vientiane, which suggests that the centre in that province is not active or well publicised.

Figure 16: Location of Government employment centres



Legal procedures

Approximately half the people who knew it was legal for Lao to work in Thailand knew that the correct procedure when intending to seek employment in another country was to register with a Lao Government official.

Status and comparative risks to Lao migrant labour

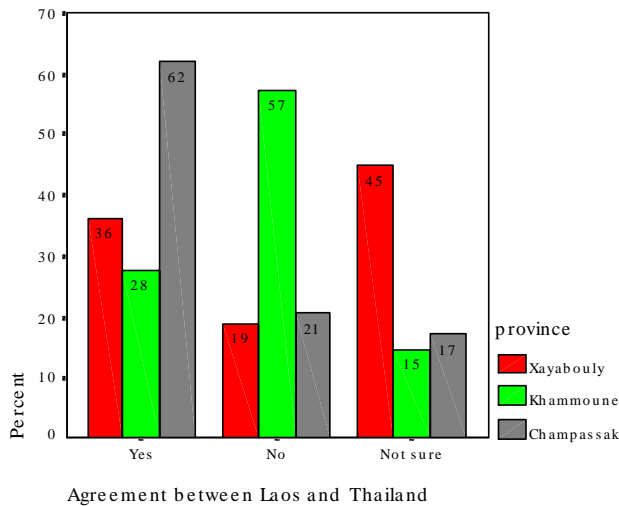
Young people were correct in assuming that there was little risk of Lao people becoming victims of human trafficking if they inform an official from the Lao Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare before entering Thailand. However, they were divided on the risks to other migrants who do not inform the government: those who travelled independently or those who used a broker.

People in Champassak thought those who used a broker were twice as likely to become the victim of people trafficking than those who travelled independently. In Khammoune and Xayabouly the opinion was reversed. People thought workers travelling independently were at greater risk of being trafficked than those that travelled with a labour broker. This suggests that people in these provinces would be more likely to use the services of labour brokers.

Thai-Lao Government cooperation

Only four in 10 respondents knew the Thai Government encouraged Lao people to work in Thailand. A slightly higher number knew that the Government of the Lao PDR had an agreement with Thailand covering migrant labour. Awareness was highest in Champassak, where 62 percent knew of an agreement. Again, at the other end of the spectrum was Khammoune, where the majority of people thought there was no agreement.

Figure 17: Awareness of Thai-Lao Agreement on migrant labour

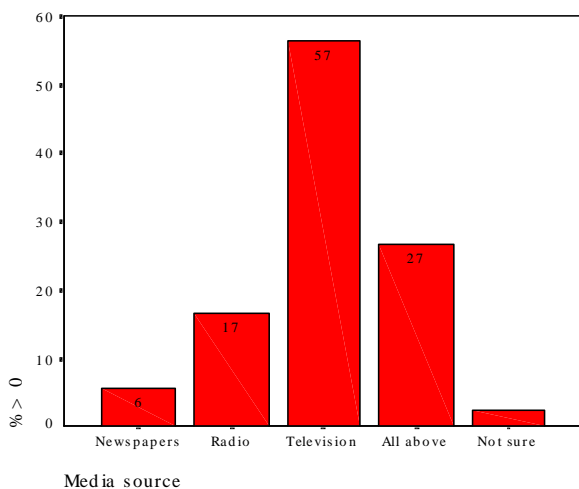


3.4 Public information program welcomed by young people

Young people interviewed in this survey were almost universally keen to learn more about human trafficking and employment opportunities in other countries and supportive of a media campaign for this purpose.

As shown by the following diagram, more than half of those surveyed recommended using television to provide such information. When viewed by age and location variables, the results are consistent with the media preferences identified in Section One. People in Champassak and women of all ages, particularly those in the older group, thought that television was the best way to provide information.

Figure 18: Best media source for public information campaign



In keeping with higher radio listening, people in Xayabouly and those in the younger group were more inclined to favour radio. Only 6 percent of people thought newspapers were the best way to convey information.

3.5 Summary of findings on labour migration issues

- Almost every person interviewed had heard media reports of Lao people working in Thailand and were keen to learn of opportunities. Most recalled positive stories of Lao workers earning good money.
- Despite high awareness of work opportunities, only slightly more than half knew that the Government of Lao PDR permits its citizens to work in Thailand. Young people showed a limited understanding of legal and official processes involved in labour migration.
 - Only half of those who knew it was legal to work (25 percent of all those surveyed), knew that the correct procedure was to register with a Lao Government official.
 - Six in 10 people knew of the employment centres and slightly more than half of those people (30 percent of all those surveyed) knew where they were located.
- Again, younger people and those in Khammoune Province demonstrated less knowledge of labour remittance issues and attitudes that may place them at risk of people trafficking. The majority of people in Khammoune Province thought it was not legal to work in Thailand.
- People in Champassak demonstrated a more realistic and balanced understanding of the risks to Lao workers in Thailand, adding to the findings established in Section Two above. They were more likely to: recall negative media reports of Lao workers in Thailand; know it was legal for Lao to work in Thailand; be aware of official Thai-Lao cooperation; and recall the role and location of employment offices.
- Further research is needed to understand the regional variations identified in this survey. The differences could be due to specific interventions, variations in information provided by local media or prevalence of people trafficking operations in each province.
 - In this context it is worth noting that the border crossing in Champassak Province is the busiest of all crossings to Thailand. People from that province may therefore have a longer history of friends and relatives working in Thailand, which has given them a more realistic understanding of the issues.

SECTION 4: CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The survey provides a baseline indicator on human trafficking and labour migration issues that should help evaluate the impact of a media campaign in Champassak, Khammoune and Xayabouly. The findings should also help program planners determine how best to target information on trafficking and migration at young people in provincial Laos.

The survey firmly establishes the need for an information campaign. It helps identify the most vulnerable – particularly young women and those in Khammoune province. These groups not only lack information on the risks of people trafficking and procedures for legal labour migration, but are also more inclined to have a superficial positive image of employment in Thailand.

Without accurate, official information, young Lao people will seek information from other sources, thus adding to the risks of people trafficking and unprepared migration.

4.1 Recommendations for the media campaign

- **Avoid jargon and don't assume concepts are well understood**
The survey suggests the term “people trafficking” is not well understood in Laos. In Xayabouly, many people had heard the term but did not demonstrate a substantive understanding of the issues. In Champassak, people were more familiar with the issues, but not the term.
- **Use personal stories to convey key messages**
Interviews with young Lao people telling of their experiences working in Thailand – both positive and negative – would be an effective way to convey messages. Personal stories ensure that issues are presented “in their own words”, rather than official jargon. This format would also be more appealing and entertaining than didactic instruction.
- **Take account of regional differences**
Messages may need to be adapted to take into account regional variations in knowledge, particularly the more detailed knowledge in Champassak.
- **Pilot programs first**
Targeted qualitative research and piloting of programs would ensure the media campaign is relevant and pitched at an appropriate level.

- **Broaden profile of victims and balance positive images of work in Thailand**

Young people need more information on the experiences of victims of people trafficking to help balance existing knowledge and the rosy image of opportunities in Thailand. Again, personal stories would help vulnerable groups understand how Lao people end up in exploitative employment relationships, what type of work is performed (not just domestic work and prostitution) and that boys are also at risk.

Personal stories would also convey a more complete picture of the perpetrators and how brokers operate. Young people need to understand that people traffickers may be people they trust, such as friends and relatives, and can equally be women.

- **Provide information on legal rights**

The survey showed that a high proportion of people do not know that Lao are permitted to work in Thailand. If young people do not know it is legal to work in Thailand they will be less inclined to approach official sources for information or to notify relevant authorities. This makes them more vulnerable to approaches by brokers.

Knowing that the Lao Government permits its citizens to work in Thailand and that the Thai Government is seeking Lao workers will increase young people's bargaining power and reduce the attraction of employment brokers.

- **Promote employment offices**

The media campaign should aim to increase awareness of government-sponsored employment centres. Young people need to know where they are located and what they do. They also need information on the correct procedures to follow when seeking employment in Thailand and need to understand the risks of using alternatives.

- **Use both radio and television to convey message**

Television dominates in rural Laos and therefore provides a valuable medium for policy makers. Although radio comes a poor second, it enjoys good reach in Khammoune and Xayabouly. Although most young people do not rely on radio for information, most listen to Lao language broadcasts regularly.

Further research would help understand how best to use radio and television to promote public awareness campaigns. For example, it would be helpful to know the programs and time of day people that people listen to Lao language television and radio.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR
ORGANIZATION

ANALYTICAL REPORT
(VOL 2: APPENDICES)

Prepared by Lucy O'Connor
Consultant, December 2006
for
the Mekong Sub-regional Project to Combat Trafficking in
Children and Women

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Appendix B: Sampling issues

All surveys are a compromise between scientific ideals on the one hand, and resources and logistics on the other. All surveys, therefore, have potential for error and bias. In developing countries such as Laos, balancing this compromise is perhaps more challenging and the potential for error is greater than developed countries. To help understand potential biases of this survey and assist with planning future surveys, this section considers how this survey was designed in theory and how it worked in practice.

1. Sample design in theory

The Lao research environment poses many challenges. One of the greatest challenges for this project was using an inexperienced field team with limited training or supervision. The Government of Lao PDR requires international agencies to partner with Government line agencies in program delivery. For this project, the ILO contracted the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare to conduct the fieldwork. In these circumstances, it was not possible to expect the same professional standards that researchers may demand from companies awarded contracts on a competitive basis.

Only two of the 12-person interview team had any prior experience with survey work. All team members attended one day of training in Vientiane in July, with team supervisors attending an additional day. As there was no budget allocated for field supervision, a large amount of information had to be provided in the short training session.

The challenge was to design sampling procedures that met international standards yet were achievable within these constraints.

Survey locations: The survey design used cross-sectional cluster sampling methods to identify households in the provinces of Xayabouly, Khammoune and Champassak. Within these three provinces three districts were selected. Within each of the three districts three villages were selected. This approach provided nine different survey locations within each province (27 in total for the three provinces).

The sample of 340 was divided equally between each of the 27 survey locations. A copy of the sample design for each province is contained in Appendix C. The plan specified that 116 interviews were to be conducted in each province: 108 by the interview team plus an additional eight by the team leader. This approach provided a target of 348 interviews. The sample design ensured that age and gender cross-sectional targets were spread equally across the 27 survey locations.

Locations for this survey were selected arbitrarily by field teams, rather than by any system of randomisation. Choosing locations that are easy to reach is an important consideration in Laos, where roads are extremely poor. Ease of access was also essential, as fieldwork was conducted during the raining season. Accessibility was also important for quality control as it enabled supervisors to visit and observe interviewers. As members of the field team conducted interviews in their own districts, staff availability may also have guided the selection of survey locations.

Selecting households: Household selection methods were based on a simplified version of the block method of cluster sampling. Within each village, three to five starting points were to be selected (selected in consultation with team leader). Interviewers were then to visit every second house, travelling in an anticlockwise direction around a cluster or block of houses. A maximum of 12 households were to be visited in one cluster. Interviewers were to make three attempts to gain an interview at each selected household.

As it is common for villages to be organised along one of two arterial roads, rather than suburban blocks, survey teams were free to modify this procedure to accommodate the “ribbon” style development common in Laos. In these types of villages, there may be only two starting points - either end and opposite sides of an arterial road. In these cases, the team was given the flexibility to visit more than 12 houses, as long as the skip-method was maintained.

Records and quality control: An advantage of working in Laos is the comprehensive household registration system. Each house displays a sign showing a house number. Recording addresses or house numbers is therefore feasible and standard quality control measures (call-back and verification procedures) are achievable. Interviewers were provided with log sheets to record starting addresses in each cluster and house numbers visited. Field supervisors were asked to observe each enumerator conduct at least two interviews and visit households to verify that an interview took place. Using these procedures ensured that 10 percent of all interviews were subject to quality control.

Individual respondent selection: When designing this survey, a concern was that strict demographic requirements would make it difficult to secure interviews as it was expected that that young people would not be at home during the day. It was also unknown how young people would react – whether they would be willing to discuss these issues with a stranger (who was also a government official). The ILO request that interviewing be conducted over a one-week period also added to the need to make selection methods as simple as possible.

A high refusal rate or difficulty finding appropriate people at home can be discouraging for interviewers, particularly an inexperienced and lowly paid field team. If too difficult, interviewers could be tempted to amend the sampling procedures arbitrarily. To avoid this problem, there were no strict methods of

selecting individuals within households. Interviewers were free to select the first available person within the household who satisfied the age and gender requirements.

Only one respondent was to be selected from each household. The household selection methods outlined above ensured that interviewers would visit between 36 to 60 households in each village. This was expected to be sufficient to secure the required 18 interviews.

2. The sample in practice

Survey locations: Altogether, 340 interviews were completed: 116 in Xayabouly and Champassak and 108 in Khammoune.

Of the three provinces surveyed, the areas in Khammoune were the least densely populated. The three villages surveyed in Hinboun District had the smallest population, with 67, 68 and 120 families. The six villages surveyed in the other two districts ranged from 124 and 279 families.

The areas surveyed in Xayabouly had the second largest population. In that province, the three villages in Keanthao district were smallest, ranging from 112 to 134 families. The six villages surveyed in the other two districts ranged from 168 to 367 families.

Champassak Province had the largest survey population. The district of Phonthong included both the smallest village (52 families) and the largest of all villages (664 families) included in the survey. The six villages surveyed in the other two districts ranged from 209 to 375 families.

Below summarises the families surveyed in each district based on statistics provided by provincial field teams in June 2006.

Khammoune Province	Number of families in village	Families surveyed
Hinboun	255	36
Nongbok	532	36
Thakeak	417	36

Xayabouly Province	Number of families in village	Families surveyed
Xayabouly	890	43
Keanthao	364	36
Boretean	762	37

Champassak Province	Number of families in village	Families surveyed
----------------------------	-------------------------------	-------------------

Pakse	800	38
Phonthong	828	37
Xanasomboun	668	31

Selecting households: As there was no central field supervision or follow-up session with teams, information provided in the log sheets provides the main insight into the extent to which the sample design was applied.

However the log sheets were incomplete and suggest that neither the cluster starting point nor skip method of household selection was applied. Some log sheets do not record addresses at all, some show successive houses were visited and some suggest a more random number pattern. Due to the high success rate (see below), it appears that all interviews were conducted within one area of each village. However, it is possible that interviewers only recorded the houses where they successfully obtained an interview. In this case, the sample would be more diversely spread than suggested.

Records and quality control: Due to the incompleteness of log sheets, it would have been difficult for supervisors to perform the required verification procedures. Supervisors were to fill-in verification columns on log sheets. However, these were not complete.

Individual respondent selection: Contrary to concerns about finding young people at home during the day or possible refusals, the log sheets show that interviewing proceeded at a remarkable pace. Almost every call on a house resulted in a successful interview during the first visit. It is possible, however, that interviewers only recorded successful interviews on their log sheets. It appears that in one province more than one person was interviewed in a household.

All the demographic targets across each location were met.

3. Implications for statistical accuracy

This survey attempted to apply random methods adapted to known constraints within a difficult research environment. The points below summarise some of the factors that should be taken into account when considering possible bias and the representativeness of the findings:

- Necessary for logistical reasons, the selected survey locations chosen may not be typical of the wider survey areas. The survey favours districts and villages that are easy to visit.
- Doubts about household selection methods suggest that interviewers selected households arbitrarily, rather than according to a probability method. This could potentially introduce bias, as interviewers are more likely to chose households that look inviting, are occupied during the day

and conveniently located. As interviewers were working in their home districts, they may also have chosen to interview families known to them. Interviewing in one location in a village may not have given a typical finding for that village.

- Choosing neighbouring households and possibly interviewing multiple respondents in a household could have implications for a media survey, as groups of respondents are more likely to follow the same media. This is a consideration in a developing country such as Laos, where houses are positioned close together and households may hear their neighbours radio or television.
- There are also potential biases associated with using a Government field team. Respondents may have felt compelled to cooperate and may not have been honest when answering questions that had legal implications.
- Only two of the 12-person field team were women. Young people, and young girls in particular, may not have been comfortable discussing these issues with men. This could have affected the accuracy of their answers.
- Cultural factors may have affected how the questionnaire was implemented. In training, interviewers did not feel comfortable reading lists of formal options and tended to ad lib, read only one or two response options or invite the respondent to offer their own answer. This approach could have created inconsistencies across survey locations, particularly for questions that gave long lists of response options.

4. Conclusions

In an ideal world, random probability sampling delivers a statistic that can be taken to represent the broader population. As noted above, in reality all samples are subject to some inaccuracy or bias.

This survey aimed to apply random probability methods modified for local conditions. A major constraint was the inexperience of the field team, and limited budget allocated to training and supervision. The team were given a lot of information to absorb in one training day, particularly when allowing for delays working through interpreters. In the circumstances, lapses and uncertainties when applying the sample plan were to be expected. In future, more time will be needed in order to ensure that teams understand random household selection methods and the importance of completing the log sheets. Supervisors will also need more training time in order to understand verification procedures. Closer supervision and in the field training would help address these problems and improve the quality of future surveys.

Despite these shortcomings, by relying on households as the primary sampling unit, this survey gives more robust results than could have been obtained through other sampling methods (such as interviewing at schools or market places). The high number of survey locations (27 villages) also gives the sample a diverse geographical spread, which adds to the statistical representativeness of the sample.

Appendix C: Sample Design

SAMPLE DESIGN: XAYABOULY PROVINCE

Target Provincial Breakdown

Age	15 to 17 years		18 to 24 years
	Male	Female	Female
District 1: Xayabouly District			
Village 1.1: Simuang Village	3	3	6
Village 1.2: Simungkhun Village	3	3	6
Village 1.3: Thin Village	3	3	6
<i>Subtotals</i>	9	9	18
<i>Subtotal Xayabouly District</i>	<i>36 respondents</i>		
District 2: Keanthao District			
Village 2.1: Haatdaeng Village	3	3	6
Village 2.2: Thaokean Village	3	3	6
Village 2.3: Chomcheng Village	3	3	6
<i>Subtotals</i>	9	9	18
<i>Subtotal Keanthao District</i>	<i>36 respondents</i>		
District 3: Bortean District			
Village 3.1: Namphou Village	3	3	6
Village 3.2: Meuangham Village	3	3	6
Village 3.3: Nakok Village	3	3	6
<i>Subtotals</i>	9	9	18
<i>Subtotal Bortean District</i>	<i>36 respondents</i>		
Random Selection from any of the nine villages			
Conducted by team supervisor	2	2	4
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>8 respondents</i>		
TOTAL XAYABOULY PROVINCE	116 Respondents		

SAMPLE DESIGN: KHAMMOUNE PROVINCE

Target Provincial Breakdown

Age	15 to 17 years		18 to 24 years
	Male	Female	Female
District 1: Thakeak District			
Village 1.1: DongTay Village	3	3	6
Village 1.2: Nadinchee Village	3	3	6
Village 1.3: Parkpang Village	3	3	6
<i>Subtotals</i>	9	9	18
<i>Subtotal Thakeak District</i>	<i>36 respondents</i>		
District 2: Nongbok District			
Village 2.1: Nakham Village	3	3	6
Village 2.2: Laohna Village	3	3	6
Village 2.3: Khootchap Village	3	3	6
<i>Subtotals</i>	9	9	18
<i>Subtotal Nongbok District</i>	<i>36 respondents</i>		
District 3: Hinboun District			
Village 3.1: Phadeang Village	3	3	6
Village 3.2: Phonkham Village	3	3	6
Village 3.3: Hadnakhom Village	3	3	6
<i>Subtotals</i>	9	9	18
<i>Subtotal Hinboun District</i>	<i>36 respondents</i>		
Random Selection from any of the nine villages			
Conducted by team supervisor	2	2	4
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>8 respondents</i>		
TOTAL KHAMMOUNE PROVINCE	116 Respondents		

SAMPLE DESIGN: CHAMPASSACK PROVINCE

Target Provincial Breakdown

Age	15 to 17 years		18 to 24 years
Gender	Male	Female	Female
District 1: Pakse District			
Village 1.1: Houylaoh Village	3	3	6
Village 1.2: Donekhok Village	3	3	6
Village 1.3: Samamxay Village	3	3	6
<i>Subtotals</i>	9	9	18
<i>Subtotal Pakse District</i>	<i>36 respondents</i>		
District 2: Phonthong District			
Village 2.1: Nonghin Village	3	3	6
Village 2.2: Dongyang Village	3	3	6
Village 2.3: Fhangdaeng Village	3	3	6
<i>Subtotals</i>	9	9	18
<i>Subtotal Phonthong District</i>	<i>36 respondents</i>		
District 3: Xanasomboun District			
Village 3.1: Bungkha Village	3	3	6
Village 3.2: Muang Village	3	3	6
Village 3.3: Aokmeuang Village	3	3	6
<i>Subtotals</i>	9	9	18
<i>Subtotal Xanasomboun District</i>	<i>36 respondents</i>		
Random Selection from any of the nine villages			
Conducted by team supervisor	2	2	4
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>8 respondents</i>		
TOTAL CHAMPASSACK PROVINCE	116 Respondents		

OFFICE USE

PROVINCE: _____

DISTRICT: _____

VILLAGE: _____

CLUSTER: _____

QUESTIONNAIRE NUMBER: _____

Introduction:

My name is _____ and I am employed by _____ . We are conducting research on how young people today get their news and information and what they think about living and working in another city or even another country. I was wondering if you would like to help by participating in our research? It has been approved by the Government. Before doing so, I would like to assure you that the information is for statistical purposes only and I will not record you name or your house number in the responses. Are you happy to answer some questions?

T-1. Firstly, how old are you?

1. 15 to 17 years
 - i. male
 - ii. female
2. 18 to 24 years
 - a. female
 - b. male ⇒ END INTERVIEW
3. Younger than 15 or older than 24 years ⇒ END INTERVIEW

SECTION 1: NEWS SOURCES

T-2 What is your main source of news and information about things happening in Laos and other countries?

1. Newspapers
2. Television
3. Radio
4. Talking to friends and relatives
99. Don't know/not sure

T-3 What is the main language of this source?

1. Lao language
2. Thai language
3. Other language
99. Don't know/not sure

T-4 How often do you read a newspaper?

1. Daily
2. More than once a week
3. Once a week
4. Once a month
5. Less than once a month
6. Never
99. Don't know/not sure

T-5 How often do you watch TV?

1. Daily
2. More than once a week
3. Once a week
4. Once a month
5. Less than once a month
6. Never
- Don't know/not sure

T-6 How often do you listen to the radio?

1. Daily
2. More than once a week
3. Once a week
4. Once a month
5. Less than once a month
6. Never
99. Don't know/not sure

SECTION 2: HUMAN TRAFFICKING

T-7 Have you ever heard the phrase 'human trafficking'?

1. Yes
2. No
99. Not sure

**T-8 Which of the following people do you think are likely to be involved in 'human trafficking'? (you can give as many answers as you like)
[Interviewer to read list]**

1. People selling wildlife at the market?
2. People offering work in another city or town?
3. People who offer work in your own village?
4. People selling drugs to other people?
5. People who drive taxis or song taos (like tuk tuks)?
6. People working at border-crossings?
7. Employers at small or medium size companies?
8. Employers at big companies?
9. People who hire you to work in homes (as a domestic worker)?

-
- 10. People who hire you to work on fishing boats?
 - 11. People who hire you to work on farms?
 - 99. Don't know/not sure

INTERVIEWER TO GIVE THE FOLLOWING DESCRIPTION OF TRAFFICKING:
When people talk about human trafficking, they usually mean people who are tricked into working for less pay and/or under different circumstances than what they agreed to. They often move to another country. The trafficker can be both the person who tricked them along the way but also the employer who exploits them and abuses them at their destination.

T-9 Have you ever heard or read media reports about human trafficking?

- 1. Yes ⇒ Go to question T-10
- 2. No ⇒ Skip to question T-11
- 99. Don't know/not sure ⇒ Skip to question T-11

T-10 From which sources have heard or read about human trafficking? (Can choose more than one answer)

- 1. Newspapers
- 2. Radio
- 3. Television
- 4. Friends or relatives
- 99. Don't know/not sure

T-11 Who do you think is most likely to be a “human trafficker”? (PLEASE ANSWER YES, NO or DON'T KNOW TO EACH OF THESE)

- | | | | |
|-----------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. A stranger? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | DK/NS <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. A friend? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | DK/NS <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. A neighbour? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | DK/NS <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. A relative? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | DK/NS <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. A man? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | DK/NS <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. A woman? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | DK/NS <input type="checkbox"/> |

T-12 What do you think happens when someone is a victim of human trafficking? Do they (Can choose more than one answer):

- 1. Move to another country?
- 2. Move to another part of Lao PDR?
- 3. Work for little or no wages?
- 4. Work in prostitution?
- 5. Any of the above?
- 6. None of the above?
- 99. Don't know/not sure

T-13 Who do you think is most at risk of human trafficking?

1. People more than 25 years old?
2. People under 25 years old?
3. People of any age?
99. Don't know/not sure

T-14 Do you think males or females are more at risk of human trafficking?

1. Males?
2. Females?
3. Both equally?
99. Don't know/not sure

T-15 Where are people most at risk of human trafficking?

1. When at home in their town or village
2. When away from home/in another place
3. Equally in their village or another place
99. Don't know/not sure

T-16 Would you like to learn more about human trafficking?

1. Yes
2. No
99. Don't know/not sure

T-17 Do you think news and information sources should help people learn more about human trafficking?

1. Yes ⇒ Go to question T-18
2. No ⇒ Skip to question T-19
99. Don't know/not sure ⇒ Skip to question T-19

T-18 What do you think would be the best news and information source to help people learn more about human trafficking and ways to avoid it? From:

1. Newspapers
2. Radio
3. TV
4. All of the above
99. Don't know/not sure

SECTION 3: WORKING IN THAILAND

T-19 Do you know if the Lao Government allows Lao people to work in Thailand?

1. Yes ⇒ Go to next question
2. No ⇒ Skip to question T-21
99. Don't know/Not sure ⇒ Skip to question T-21

T-20 What do you think is the most important thing that Lao people should do if they wish to go to work in Thailand?

1. Inform a Lao border official that you are going to look for work
2. Inform an official at the Department of Labour that you want to register to work in Thailand
3. Inform the village headman that you are going to Thailand to look for work
4. Do not inform anyone, just go and look for work
99. Don't know/not sure

T-21 Would you like to receive information about working in other countries?

1. Yes
2. No
99. Don't know/not sure

T-22 Have you heard any reports about Lao people working in Thailand?

1. Yes ⇒ Go to question T-23
2. No ⇒ Skip to T-24
99. Don't know/not sure ⇒ Skip to question T-24

T-23 What have you heard about Lao workers in Thailand? (You can choose more than one answer)- [Interviewer to read list]

Earn good incomes and send money back home to support families?

1. Mistreated by employers?
2. Work in prostitution?
3. Murdered at work?
4. Involved in illegal drugs?
5. Get good jobs?
6. Imprisoned for working illegally?
7. Have health problems?
8. Fined and sent back to Laos?
99. Don't know/Not sure

T-24 Do you think the Thai Government is looking for more Lao people to work in Thailand?

1. Yes
2. No
99. Don't know/not sure

T-25 Which group of Lao workers in Thailand do you think are at risk of being trafficked? (YOU CAN CHOOSE MORE THAN ONE ANSWER)

1. Those who go by themselves without any documents
2. Those who inform the Department of Labour first
3. Those who go with a broker
99. Don't know/Not sure

T-26 Do you know if the Lao Government has any agreement with the Thai Government to send Lao people to work legally in Thailand?

1. Yes, there is an agreement
2. No, there is not any agreement
99. Don't know/not sure

T-27 There are employment Centres in Laos where people can register for work in Thailand. These Centres are run by the Lao government. They find you a job, arrange the paperwork, and reduce your vulnerability to bad experiences including people trafficking. Have you ever heard about these Centres?

1. Yes⇒ Go to question T-28
2. No ⇒ Skip to FINISH
99. Don't know/not sure ⇒Skip to FINISH

T-28 Do you know where these centres are located? (Interviewer to read list)

1. Only in Vientiane
2. In the capital of each province
3. In each region - the north, centre and south of Laos
4. None of the above
5. Don't know/Not sure

FINISH: Thank you for your time and assistance with our project.

[TO BE COMPLETED BY INTERVIEWER]

START TIME: ___:___

FINISH TIME ___:___

DATE:

INTERVIEWER NAME: