

Enhanced Action Against Forced Labour in Asia and the Pacific Project (FLARE)



AT A GLANCE

→ Partners

Ministries of Labour, Justice and Interior, law enforcement authorities, prison administrations, workers' and employers' organisations, industry associations, human rights institutions, and civil society

→ Donor

Irish Aid

→ Duration

2012-2013 (Second phase 2014-2015 to be confirmed)

→ Target beneficiaries

Women, men and children in forced labour in different economic sectors and persons obliged to perform compulsory labour in prisons and detention centers

→ Geographical focus

Target countries: China and Viet Nam

Complementary activities: Mongolia, Malaysia, Cambodia and Thailand



PROJECT OBJECTIVES

According to ILO's most recent estimate, 11.7 million persons are in forced labour in Asia. This is more than half of the total 20.9 million estimated forced labour victims in the world. In East and South-East Asia, ILO has documented contemporary forms of forced labour and human trafficking in a variety of economic sectors, including manufacturing, agriculture, fishing and domestic work. In addition, issues related to prison labour and forced labour in detention centers remain an area of concern in East and South-East Asia.

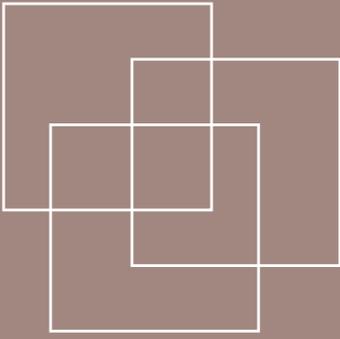
ILO's strategy against forced labour is based on the assumption that strong national institutions and capacity are essential to move forward on the elimination of forced labour. The FLARE project strengthens action against forced labour in the East and South-East Asia, building on the emerging political consensus that forced labour should not be tolerated either in the private economy and global supply chains, or in its more traditional state-imposed forms.

Objectives of the FLARE project include:

- Strengthening law and policy frameworks to combat forced labour and trafficking.
- Strengthening capacity of law enforcement to prosecute forced labour and trafficking cases.
- Building partnerships between employers, business and trade unions to take effective action against forced labour in global supply chains.

Interventions in these areas contribute to the progressive elimination of forced labour and trafficking in Asia.

The FLARE project feeds directly into the four priority areas of ILO Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour at the global level, namely a) policy development, b) development of innovative research products and guidance tools, c) advisory services and capacity building, and d) knowledge sharing.



Enhanced Action Against Forced Labour in Asia and the Pacific Project (FLARE)



MAIN ACTIVITIES

In East and South-East Asia, the FLARE project will:

- Promote ratification of the Forced Labour Convention No. 29 (China) and the Abolition of Forced Labour Convention No. 105 (China and Viet Nam).
- Provide technical support for strengthening national legal and institutional frameworks to prevent and address forced labour (Mongolia and Viet Nam).
- Conduct research on prison labour (Mongolia) and support national prison law reforms (Cambodia).
- Provide technical support for reforming administrative detention systems involving compulsory work (China and Viet Nam).
- Build capacity of labour inspectors (China, Malaysia and Thailand) and judges (Mongolia and Viet Nam) to identify, investigate, convict and report on forced labour cases.
- Establish an online Community of Practice on forced labour, and host online discussions involving constituents, experts and practitioners to identify effective strategies for strengthening action against forced labour in the sub-region.
- Disseminate the e-learning tool developed by the Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour for law enforcement officials in the region through the online Community of Practice on forced labour.
- Sensitize employers and trade unions on forced labour, and develop sector specific guidance tools for businesses in the manufacturing industry (China and Viet Nam).
- Organize a sub-regional meeting on forced labour to bring together ILO tripartite constituents and experts from the sub-region to discuss the progress made and remaining challenges, and to identify priorities for future action and ILO technical support in East and South East Asia.

PROJECT OUTCOMES

- Strengthened law and policy framework (China, Cambodia, Mongolia, and Viet Nam).
- Strengthened capacity of law enforcement to prosecute forced labour and trafficking cases (China, Malaysia, Thailand, and Viet Nam).
- Employers, business and trade unions take effective action to address forced labour in global supply chains (China, Thailand, and Viet Nam).

Contact information:

Ms Marja Paavilainen, Chief Technical Adviser
ILO Decent Work Team for East and South-East Asia and the Pacific
United Nations Building, Rajdamnern Nok Ave
Bangkok 10200, Thailand

Tel. +66 2288 1339

Fax. +66 2280 1735

Email: paavilainen@ilo.org

Web site: www.ilo.org/asia