Directory of Services for Indonesian Trafficking Victims and Exploited Migrant Workers

Jakarta and West Java

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Front cover photo: Health worker in a village health clinic in West Java

The NEXUS Institute® is an independent international human rights research and policy center. NEXUS is dedicated to ending contemporary forms of slavery and human trafficking as well as other abuses and offenses that intersect with human rights and international criminal law and policy. NEXUS is a leader in research, analysis, evaluation and technical assistance and in developing innovative approaches to combating human trafficking and related issues.

In partnership with:
Foreword from the Ministry of Social Affairs

First of all, we would like Praise and Thank Allah, be He Glorified in the Highest. Because of His Mercy and Consent, we – together with NEXUS Institute – can publish a Directory of Services for Trafficking Victims and Exploited Indonesian Migrant Workers.

Social welfare problems are complex and require continuous and integrated efforts to solve them. These problems do not stand alone; it takes systematic and targeted strategy to achieve sustainable development – based on the direction of social welfare development policies and strategies – which are geared towards improving vulnerable persons’ quality of life, access to basic social and public facilities services, the right to life, and other socio-economic resources.

Social problems have been increasing from year to another, as human life gets more complex. One of the issues that needs to be addressed is human trafficking. Trafficking victims are amongst those vulnerable persons to which the Ministry of Social Affairs is mandated to provide social welfare services. Child labor, forced labor, involuntary servitude, child sexual exploitation, prostitution, forced labor migration, as well as other violence are among the forms of human trafficking and related exploitation addressed by the Ministry of Social Affairs in Indonesia.

A great deal of data shows a surge in the number of trafficking cases in Indonesia. One staggering statistic, released by UNICEF in Jakarta, was that every year approximately 40,000 to 70,000 Indonesian people are trafficked for sexual exploitation to Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan, and Australia. Moreover, a research agency in Malaysia released another alarming figure, showing that 6,705 Indonesian women were trafficked for sexual exploitation to Malaysia (Hamim & Agustinanto in Sulisyowati, 2006).

The United States Department of State in 2010 stated that Indonesia is a major source country of human trafficking. It is a transit and destination country for women, children, and men, who are subject to human trafficking, particularly prostitution and forced labor. It occurs due to unsafe migration in Indonesia; human trafficking has become an integral part of the migration process itself. From falsification of legal documents, falsification of identity and age, prospective migrants’ lack of information, to the lack of protection from the State. The above empirical facts are just a small part of the human trafficking issue that occurs at the local, national, regional, and international levels. It is very difficult to be individually tackled.

NEXUS Institute’s research findings on trafficking, the sad face of the victims, the locations of human trafficking victims in Indonesia, list of contacts and other source system provide some kind of overview of trafficking polarization in Indonesia, a map that can be used as a reference or a compass that can help us better focus in assisting trafficking victims. I give the highest appreciation to the research findings. The Directory has high strategic value. Hopefully, there will be a partnership or a follow-up of this research in the future to improve the quality of services for trafficking victims.
The Republic of Indonesia Ministry of Social Affairs is mandated by the Presidential Regulation No. 69/2008 on the Task Force for the Prevention and Control of Human Trafficking as the Chairman of the social rehabilitation sub-cluster, in which programs for repatriation and social reintegration for human trafficking victims are included. Our hope for the NEXUS Institute’s research findings is that they could strengthen future outcomes, particularly related to:

1. Strengthening the Task Force for the Prevention and Control of Human Trafficking, in terms of revamping and updating data, human resources, infrastructure, and synergy in action and regulations, as well as strategic partnerships with stakeholders in the country and abroad.
2. Improving the achievements of the Task Force for the Prevention and Control of Human Trafficking through the expansion of outreach partnerships and optimization of the potential of the media (written and/or visual, social media, and other information and communication technology), as well as the optimization of regional government’s involvement in tackling human trafficking crime;
3. Increase cooperation in regulatory and activity strategies in the context of territorial, regional, and international levels.

Finally, we would like to say congratulations on the publication of the research findings, and we also would like to thank the team of NEXUS Institute for completing the research.

Jakarta, November 2015
Director of Social Rehabilitation for Socially Disadvantaged

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