

# WHAT IS TIP?

Trafficking In Persons (TIP) is the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring 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.

The 3 most common types of human trafficking are:



## PACIFIC RISE-CTIP CONTACTS

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## UN CONVENTION

*"All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. No one shall be held in slavery or servitude. No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment."*

- "U.N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights"

In 2000, the United Nations launched the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons that has since been signed by 180 countries.

## UNITED STATES DOS TIP REPORT

The U.S. Department of State established a TIP Office to lead its global efforts to combat human trafficking through the prosecution of traffickers, the protection of victims, and the prevention of human trafficking.

The TIP Office objectively analyzes foreign government efforts to counter TIP and publishes annual country reports that rank countries efforts.

Countries who are failing to counter TIP may be placed on the 'framework watch list' and be ineligible to receive most forms of U.S. Aid assistance if they are ranked **Tier 3** or below.

U.S. Department of State TIP country reports can be found at:  
[www.state.gov/reports/2022-trafficking-in-persons-report/](http://www.state.gov/reports/2022-trafficking-in-persons-report/)

## WHO ARE THE VICTIMS?

Fragile economies, growing transnational organized crime, unemployment, and harmful social norms compound existing gender-based inequities, leading to a rise in gender-based violence and child abuse and increasing the vulnerability of women, girls, boys, and marginalized groups to TIP.

## TIP IN THE PACIFIC

TIP has evolved in the Pacific: while previously the region was a transit point, it is now a source, transit point, and destination region—with a rising incidence of TIP within, between, and into Pacific Island Countries.

## TIP RISK INDUSTRIES

TIP can occur in any industry. Pacific Island Countries (PIC) are heavily reliant on extractive and other industries (including lumber, mining, fishing, agriculture, tourism, and manufacturing) that operate through complex global supply chains, and thus are especially prone to exploitative labor practices affecting all ages and genders.

## PACIFIC RISE-CTIP STAKEHOLDERS

Pacific RISE-CTIP engages with government and nongovernment actors, including the executive and criminal justice administration at the national, subnational, and local levels; regional bodies; civil society; the private sector; faith-based organizations; academic and research organizations; media; and local communities.

## LINKS TO TRANSNATIONAL AND ORGANIZED CRIME

TIP is classified as a form of transnational international organized crime by Pacific governments which often address human trafficking from a "crime-control" rather than a "human-rights" perspective.

## GLOBAL TRENDS AND HOW THEY RELATE TO PACIFIC

TIP is a global problem. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) has stated that as many as 800,000 people may be trafficked across international borders annually.

An estimated 2.5 million people are in forced labor (including sexual exploitation) at any given time as a result of human trafficking.

Pacific Island Countries are also reported to be affected by TIP by being source, transit or destination countries.

# TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS (TIP) IN THE PACIFIC



## THE ASIA FOUNDATION AND ITS HISTORY IN THE PACIFIC

Established in 1954, The Asia Foundation is a leading non-profit international development organization committed to improving lives across a dynamic and developing Asia-Pacific region.

Headquartered in San Francisco, the Foundation operates through its network of offices in 19 countries and in Washington, DC.

Since 1980, the Foundation has a long history of engagement in PICs, implementing various U.S. Government and USAID-funded programs.

These included a regional disaster risk management training program, providing technical assistance and grants aimed at strengthening parliaments and judiciaries and supporting women rights and empowerment.

“ Pacific Solutions to Pacific Challenges. ”

## PACIFIC RISE-CTIP PROGRAM

The Pacific Regional Initiative and Support for More Effective Counter Trafficking in Persons (Pacific RISE-CTIP) combats trafficking in persons in the Pacific Islands region by strengthening prevention, protection, and prosecution mechanisms.

Pacific RISE-CTIP is a five-year project that is supported by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and is part of the U.S. Government's 2022-2027 Pacific Islands Strategic Framework which promotes a free and open, connected, prosperous, resilient, and secure Pacific.

## PACIFIC EXPERTISE

Pacific RISE-CTIP practices The Asia Foundation Pacific Office principle of supporting “Pacific solutions to Pacific challenges”.

The concept of “by Pacific people for Pacific people,” fosters ownership and sustainability of Pacific RISE-CTIP activities.

With its program headquarters in Suva at The Asia Foundation Regional Office, Pacific RISE-CTIP has local Program Officers in each country where it works to ensure local expertise is harnessed and sustainable solutions are implemented.

## GOVERNMENT AND STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIPS

Pacific RISE-CTIP assists countries to combat TIP by working collaboratively to strengthen *prevention*, *protection*, and *prosecution* mechanisms and strategies through a holistic and multi-sectoral approach that is grounded in *partnerships*.

Pacific RISE-CTIP collaborates with a broad cross-section of PIC actors representing government, civil society, and the private sector.

## SOVEREIGN NATIONAL PLANNING

Pacific RISE-CTIP operates on the principle that it assists countries to develop and implement national CTIP policies and plans.

Pacific RISE-CTIP assistance is aligned to national priorities and sustainability of outcomes.

## DATA SOVEREIGNTY AND PRIVACY

Pacific RISE-CTIP respects the data sovereignty of PICS and the privacy of citizens.

Pacific RISE-CTIP complies with national data protection and privacy laws of the country where that data is collected or accessed.

Data and information is utilized and shared only in avenues agreed to by the Pacific Island Country where the data is collected.



## PACIFIC RISE-CTIP SUPPORT FOR VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS

Pacific RISE-CTIP's human rights approach is centered on the needs of TIP victims and survivors. This includes safe shelter, counseling, medical and psychological care, and training opportunities, as well as access to legal aid, skills training, and even translation and interpretation services.

The Pacific RISE-CTIP Program offers a range of victim support including:

- Resources for the provision of protection services for trafficking victims.
- Resources for local organizations that support TIP victims and advocate for TIP victim rights.
- Legal assistance, particularly for foreign TIP victims.

- Legal alternatives to the removal of foreign trafficking victims to countries where they may face hardship or retribution.
- Media training to ensure media coverage does not compromise victims' rights in their coverage of TIP stories

## PACIFIC RISE-CTIP SUPPORT

The Pacific RISE-CTIP Program offers a range of support and assistance designed to strengthen national and sub-national responses, including:

Assistance in developing and implementing CTIP policy and plans at the national and sub-national levels.



The development of TIP legislation that is also compliant with UN conventions and protocols.



Developing capability and systems for the proactive identification of TIP victims, including by CSOs and border officials.

Establishing national and local TIP victim referral mechanisms.



Developing increased CTIP investigative and prosecutorial capability through specialized training for border officials, police, prosecutors, and judges.

Developing screening approaches and systems for trafficking indicators among vulnerable groups, including individuals in commercial sex, forced labor and debt bondage arrangements.

