

Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons (Annual Report)

June 7, 2021

**Council for the Promotion of Measures to
Combat Trafficking in Persons**

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1 Introduction

Trafficking in persons is a grave violation of human rights, and requires a prompt and appropriate response from a humanitarian perspective as trafficking in persons causes serious psychological and physical pain for the victims and recovery from such damage is very difficult. Trafficking in persons is a serious crime that frequently takes place across borders, measures to combat trafficking in persons have drawn great interest from the international community.

In light of the growing concern by the international community, the government formulated the “2014 Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons” (hereinafter referred to as “2014 Action Plan”) in December 2014, as part of making “Japan, the safest country in the world” towards the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games. The objectives of the 2014 Action Plan are to take appropriate actions to deal with the situation regarding measures to combat trafficking in persons, and for the government to collectively tackle trafficking in persons in a comprehensive and holistic manner. To this end, the government is taking measures in line with this Action Plan.

In tandem with social and economic changes, methods of trafficking are expected to become more sophisticated, and the situation for trafficking in persons is expected to undergo changes. Amidst this situation, in order to produce positive results in measures to combat trafficking in persons in the future, it is vital to gain information about the latest trafficking situation, and to confirm and verify the progress for various policy measures. In view of that, the 2014 Action Plan specified that an annual report will be prepared to summarize Japan’s efforts in the area of trafficking in persons, including the implementation of trafficking policy measures and the crackdown of trafficking offenses.

This annual report summarizes the measures to combat trafficking in persons undertaken by the relevant ministries and agencies, with a focus on initiatives undertaken in 2020, and in line with the 2014 Action Plan. Through this report, we hope to create opportunities to widely inform the citizens the real picture of the trafficking situation as well as to raise concern of measures to combat trafficking in persons.

(1) Definition of “Trafficking in Persons”

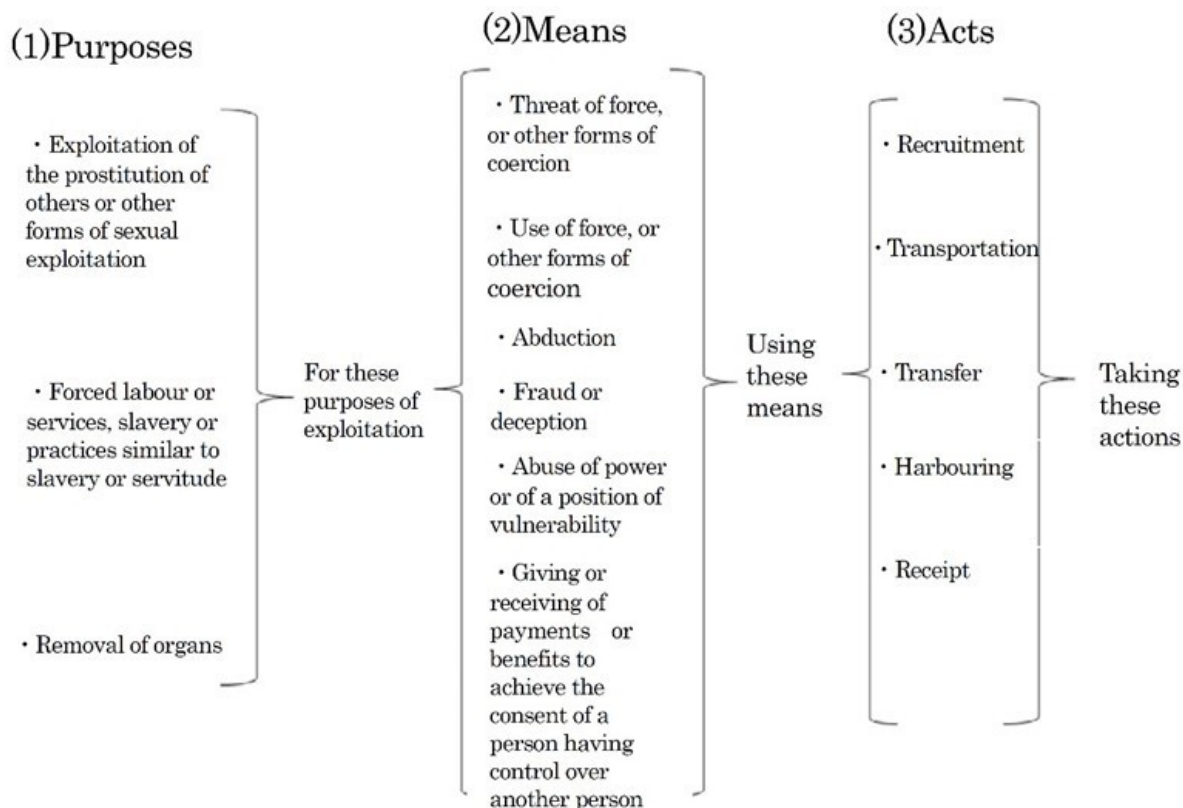
Trafficking in persons is defined as follows, according to Article 3 of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (hereinafter referred to as the “Trafficking in Persons Protocol”).

Article 3

- (a) **“Trafficking in persons” shall mean 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. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs;**
- (b) **The consent of a victim of trafficking in persons to the intended exploitation set forth in subparagraph (a) of this article shall be irrelevant where any of the means set forth in subparagraph (a) have been used.**
- (c) **The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation shall be considered “trafficking in persons” even if this does not involve any of the means set forth in subparagraph (a) of this article;**
- (d) **“Child” shall mean any person under eighteen years of age.**

This can be summarized briefly in the following figure 1.

[Figure 1] Definition of trafficking in persons (Article 3 of the Trafficking in Persons Protocol)



※ When a victim is a child under 18 years of age, it will be considered to be an act of trafficking in persons even if the means mentioned in (2) are not employed.

Although many of the victims are women and children, as laid out in this definition, trafficking in persons will include not only sexual exploitation such as prostitution, but also trafficking for purposes such as labor exploitation and the removal of organs. Therefore, regardless of sex or nationality, anyone could become a victim of trafficking in persons. Furthermore, the act of trafficking in persons is not limited to the “buying and selling” of persons, but also includes acts such as deceiving victims for the purpose of exploitation, or taking advantage of those in a vulnerable position and placing the victims under one’s control. In cases where methods such as force, threats, and fraud are employed, the act may be considered as trafficking in persons even when the victim has consented to the exploitation. In addition, when a child under 18 years of age is placed under control for the purpose of exploitation, it is considered to be an act of trafficking in persons even if the abovementioned means are not employed. Hence, trafficking in persons can take various forms.

All the acts that fall under the definition of trafficking in persons laid out in the Trafficking in Persons Protocol are considered as criminal offenses in Japan since 2005 when the revisions were made to the Penal Code to codify the acts that were previously not punishable under domestic law (such as Crime of Buying

or Selling of Human Beings).

Furthermore, on June 15, 2017 the Act for Partial Revision of the Act on Punishment of Organized Crimes and Control of Crime Proceeds, etc., an implementing legislation for the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (hereinafter referred to as the “Convention against Transnational Organized Crime”), was passed in the 193rd Diet session, and the Act was enforced on July 11, 2017. Consequently, on that day, Japan concluded the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime as well as the Trafficking in Persons Protocol, a supplementary protocol to the Convention, etc., and thus became a State party to the Convention and the Protocol, etc.

(2) Framework of Japan’s measures to combat trafficking in persons

In order to prevent and eradicate trafficking in persons and protect the victims, the government seeks to work closely with the relevant ministries and agencies, and in cooperation with the international community, put in place measures steadily and expeditiously. To that end, the government established the Inter-Ministerial Liaison Committee Regarding Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons under the Cabinet in April 2004, which has since worked on establishing and implementing countermeasures.

However, the international community remains strongly concerned about measures to combat trafficking in persons, and Japan’s efforts in this area have also drawn the attention of the international community. Hence, in the Ministerial Meeting Concerning Measures Against Crime¹ held on December 16, 2014, the 2014 Action Plan was developed, which is a revised version of the 2009 Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons. At the same time, during the Ministerial Meeting held on the same day, it was approved that the Council for the Promotion of Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons, comprising Cabinet Ministers of relevant ministries, will be convened as necessary.

The first Council for the Promotion of Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons was held in May 2015. The session was primarily focused on approving the annual report “Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons,” which compiled information regarding victims of trafficking in 2014 and the initiatives of relevant ministries and agencies related to combating trafficking. It was also confirmed at the Council that efforts aimed at eliminating trafficking will continue and that initiatives based on the 2014 Action Plan will be steadily implemented. Since 2016, “Council for the Promotion of Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons” has been held every May.

¹ The Ministerial Meeting Concerning Measures Against Crime was established in September 2003 in order to re-establish Japan as “the safest country in the world.” The Prime Minister presides over the Meeting composed of all ministers. (For the Meeting details, refer to the website of Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet: <http://www.kantei.go.jp/jp/singi/hanzai/index.html>)

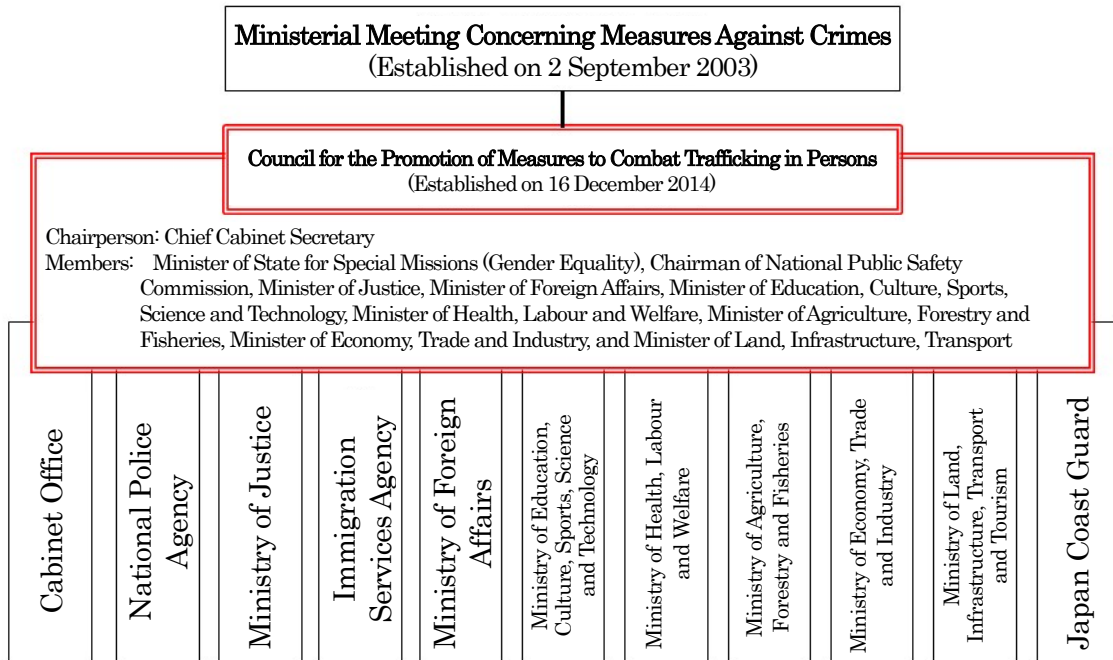
Placing the “Council for the Promotion of Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons” at the core of these efforts, under the coordination of the Cabinet Secretariat, the Cabinet Office, the National Police Agency, the Ministry of Justice, the Immigration Services Agency², the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, and the Japan Coast Guard have been taking respective measures according to their own jurisdictions to eliminate trafficking in persons.

[Table 1] Main initiatives from 2004 to 2020

April 2004	Inter-Ministerial Liaison Committee Regarding Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons established
December 2004	Development of the Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons
December 2009	Positioning of the Inter-Ministerial Liaison Committee Regarding Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons under the Ministerial Meeting Concerning Measures Against Crime Development of the 2009 Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons at the Ministerial Meeting Concerning Measures Against Crime
June 2010	Agreement on “Methods to Deal with Trafficking in Persons (Measures for Identification of Victims)” at the Liaison Committee
July 2011	Agreement on “Methods to Deal with Trafficking in Persons (Measures for Protection of Victims)” at the Liaison Committee
December 2014	Development of the 2014 Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons at the Ministerial Meeting Concerning Measures Against Crime Agreement at the Ministerial Meeting that the Council for the Promotion of Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons will be convened as necessary under the Ministerial Meeting Concerning Measures Against Crime
May 2015	The First Council for the Promotion of Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons held Annual report “Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons” approved and published
May 2016 May 2017 May 2018 May 2019 May 2020	The Second – Sixth Council for the Promotion of Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons held Annual report “Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons” approved and published

² With the enforcement of the Act to Revise Part of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act and the Act for Establishment of the Ministry of Justice (2018 Act No. 102), from April 1, 2019, the Immigration Bureau, which was an internal bureau of the Ministry of Justice, became the Immigration Services Agency, which is an external bureau of the Ministry, and the Regional Immigration Bureau, which was a local branch office of the Ministry, became the Regional Immigration Services Bureau, a local branch office of the Agency. Hereinafter, the Immigration Services Agency and the Regional Immigration Services Bureau are collectively referred to as the “Immigration Services Agency.”

[Figure 2] Japan’s structure on measures to combat trafficking in persons



2 Gaining a thorough understanding of trafficking in persons

(1) Incidence of trafficking in persons in Japan

i) Data relating to victims of trafficking in persons

- The number of victims of trafficking in persons who were put under protection in 2020 was 38 (nine less than in 2019).

With regard to the gender of the victims, 33 were female (14 less than in 2019) and five were male (five more than in 2019).

- With regard to the nationality of the victims, 30 were Japanese (four less than in 2019), accounting for approximately 80%.

The nationalities of the eight non-Japanese victims were all Philippine nationals (four less than in 2019).

- With regard to the status of residence of the eight foreign nationals, one victim entered Japan on the status of residence of “Intra-company Transferee” (one more than in 2019), seven entered Japan on the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor” (two more than in 2019).

The number of non-Japanese victims who were put under protection by the Immigration Services Agency in 2020 was eight. Of these victims, one possessed the status of residence and was permitted to change the status of residence. The remaining seven victims, who had illegally overstayed and were therefore in violation of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act, were granted special permission to stay.

Note that regarding non-Japanese victims it is divided into two cases, namely the case in which these victims were first put under police protection before being put under protection by the Immigration Services Agency, or other cases in which they are put under protection by either the police or the Immigration Services Agency only. The above mentioned eight non-Japanese victims can be classified into the following groups:

- i) Seven were put under police protection in 2020 and were then put under protection by the Immigration Services Agency the same year,
- ii) One was put under Immigration Services Agency protection only in 2020,

- Of the 38 victims, 20 were minors (under 18 years of age) (one more than in 2019). All were Japanese nationals.

- With regard to the forms of trafficking, 25 were victims of sexual exploitation (10 less than in 2019), seven were forced to work as nightclub hostesses (five less than in 2019), and six were victims of labor exploitation other than nightclub hostesses (six more than in 2019).

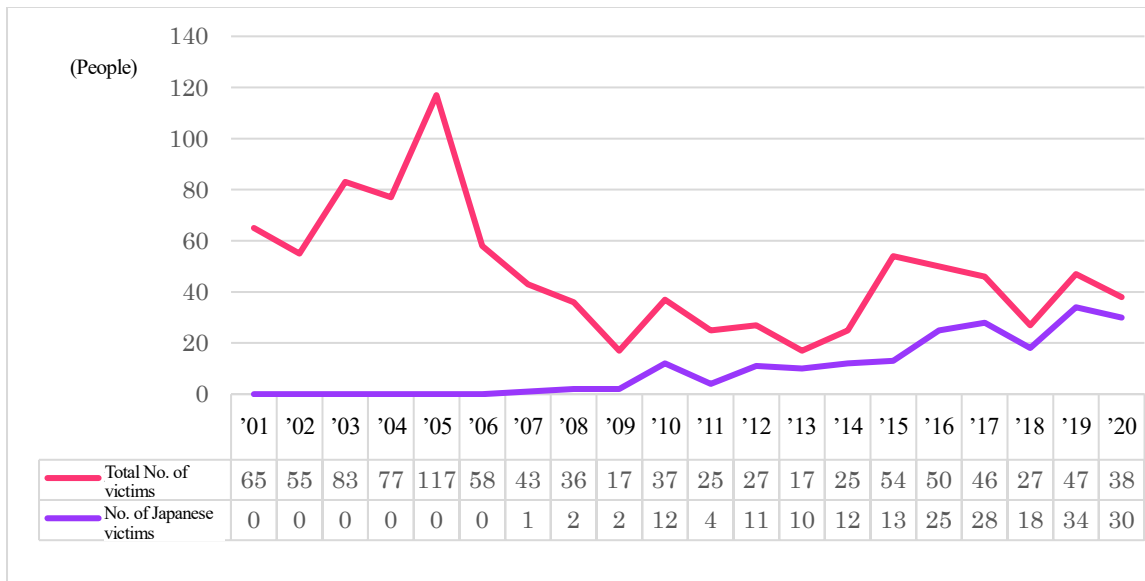
The characteristics of the victims was that Japanese female victims tended to be forced to engage in prostitution due to debt, and that Japanese male victims tended to be forced to work at low wages by violence, while there were multiple cases where non-Japanese victims tended to be forced to work as nightclub hostesses after entering Japan as a temporary visitor and having their passport taken away. In addition, there was a case of labor exploitation where a non-Japanese victim tended to be forced to work at different conditions from those at the time of solicitation.

- The number of victims who were put under protection temporarily at Women's Consulting Offices in 2020 was eight, all of whom were Philippine nationals.

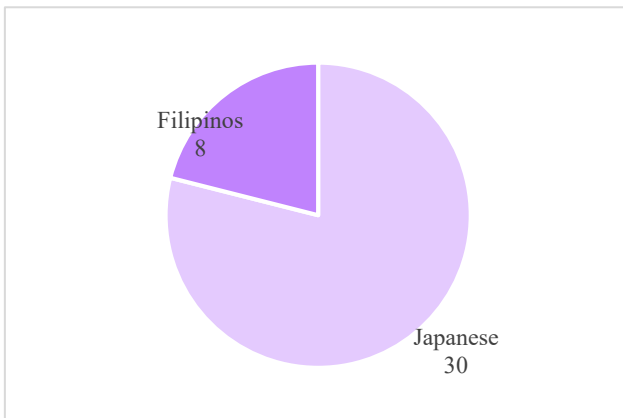
All the victims were provided with interpretation support, medical services, and psychological care.

- In 2020, 12 victims were voluntary repatriated through support from the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and six victims were provided with temporary accommodation assistance. Following their repatriation, all the 12 victims based upon their needs and requests were provided with support for family reunification, two were provided with medical support and two others were provided with housing support, and 11 victims based upon request were provided with reintegration assistance within one-year (e.g. assistance for retail business, food and restaurant business, etc.).

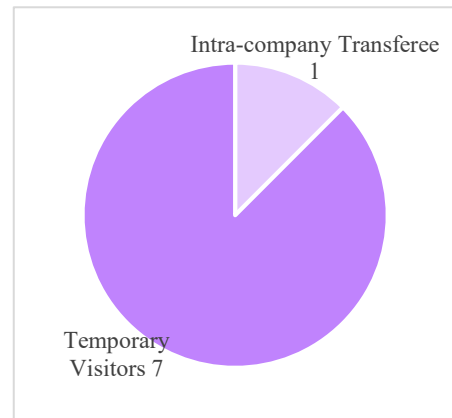
[Figure 3] Trends in the number of victims of trafficking in persons (2001 to 2020)



[Figure 4] Nationalities of the 38 victims



[Figure 5] Status of residence of the eight foreign victims



ii) Data relating to those accused of trafficking in persons

○ In 2020, 55 cases of trafficking in persons pertaining to victims of trafficking in persons put under protection by Japan were cleared (two less than in 2019) and 58 persons were arrested for trafficking in persons (19 more than in 2019).

With regard to the gender of the suspects, 47 were male (13 more than in 2019), and 11 were female (six more than in 2019).

○ With regard to the nationalities of the suspects, 55 were Japanese nationals (17 more than in 2019), and two were Philippines nationals (one more than in 2019) and one was a South Korean national (one more than in 2019)

- With regard to the occupations of the suspects, eight were connected with adult entertainment business (same as in 2019), 22 were unemployed (seven more than in 2019), and 28 (12 more than in 2019) engaged in other occupations (office workers, self-employed, etc.).

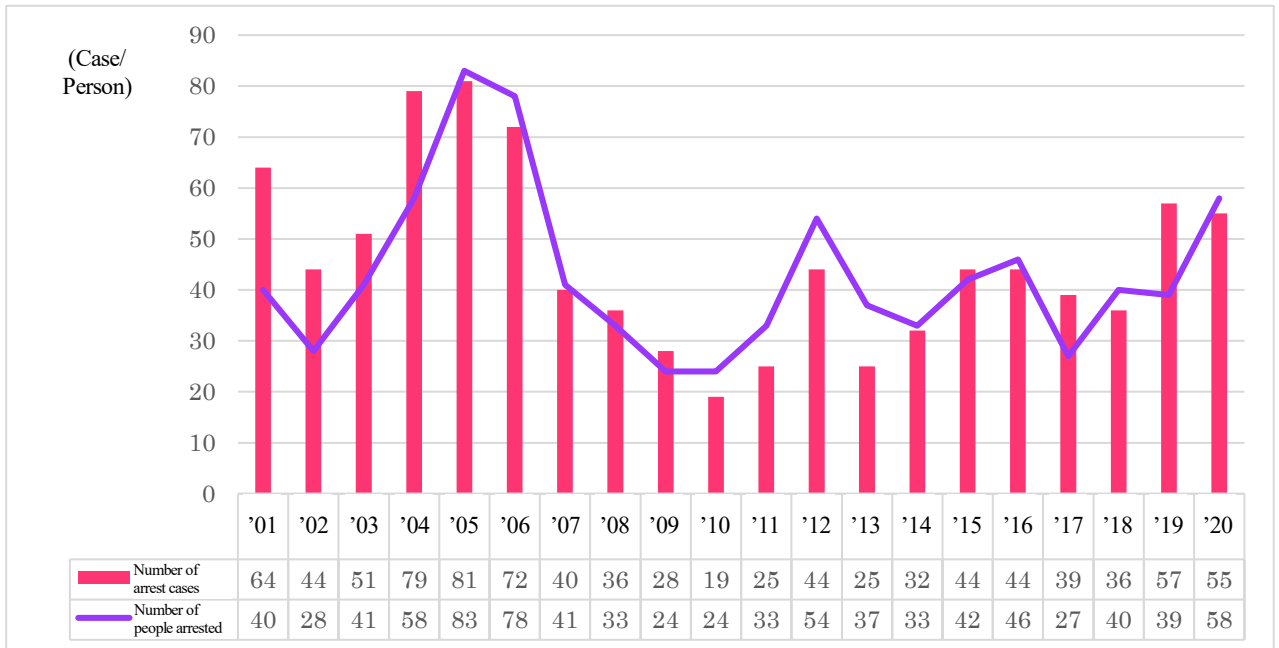
Three of the suspects were brokers (two more than in 2019) and five were members of organized crime groups, etc. (same as in 2019).

- With regard to punishments, 50 of the suspects were prosecuted (two of them were sent to the family court) and eight were not prosecuted due to problems with evidence etc. Of the 50 suspects that have been prosecuted, 36 have been found guilty, and the cases of the remaining 12 are still pending (as of March 31, 2021).

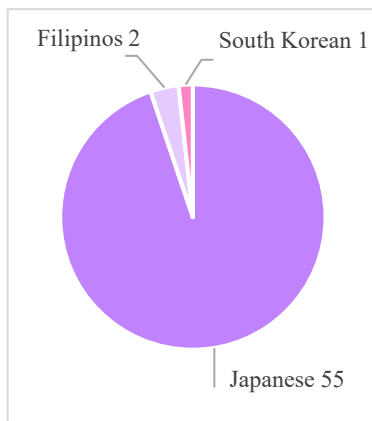
Note that of the nine persons who were said in the annual report approved in May 2020 to be awaiting trial, seven have been found guilty, while the rest of two continue to be awaiting trial (as of March 31, 2021). In addition, all the three persons who were said in the annual report approved in May 2019 to be awaiting trial and continued to be awaiting trial in the annual report approved in May 2020 have been found guilty (as of March 31, 2021).

- The Immigration Services Agency issued deportation orders against zero perpetrators in 2020.

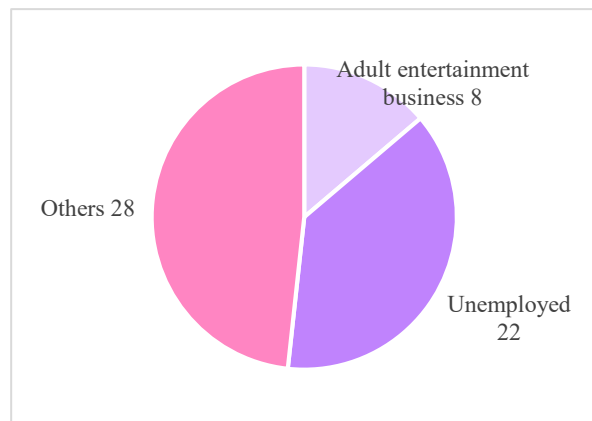
[Figure 6] Trends in the number of cases of arrests made and number of arrested suspects for the crime of trafficking in persons (2001 to 2020)



[Figure 7] Nationalities of 58 suspects



[Figure 8] Occupations of 58 suspects



[Table 2] Charges imposed on the 50 prosecuted persons and their trial results (as of March 31, 2021)

	Offense	Results of trial
1	Violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	2 years imprisonment, suspension of 3 years, 200,000 yen fine
2	Violation of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act	1 year 6 months imprisonment, suspension of 4 years, 3,000,000 yen fine
3	Violation of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act	1 year imprisonment, suspension of 3 years
4	Violation of the Child Welfare Act	2 years imprisonment, suspension of 4 years
5	Assault, violation of the Act on Securing the Proper Operation of Worker Dispatching Businesses and Protection of Dispatched Workers	1 year imprisonment, suspension of 3 years
6	Violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	100,000 yen fine
7	Violation of the Child Welfare Act	1 year 2 months imprisonment, 500,000 yen fine
8	Violation of the Child Welfare Act	500,000 yen fine
9	Violation of the Employment Security Act, violation of the Money Lending Business Act	Pending trial
10	Violation of the Employment Security Act	1 year 6 months imprisonment, suspension of 3 years
11	Violation of the Act on Regulation and Punishment of Acts Relating to Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the Protection of Children, violation of the Tokushima Prefectural Ordinance of Juvenile Protection, violation of the Child Welfare Act, violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	2 years imprisonment, suspension of 3 years
12	Violation of the Child Welfare Act	2 years imprisonment, suspension of 3 years
13	Violation of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act, fraud	3 years imprisonment, suspension of 4 years, 600,000 yen fine
14	Fraud	1 year 6 months imprisonment, suspension of 3 years
15	Violation of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act	Pending trial
16	Violation of the Child Welfare Act, violation of the Act on Regulation and Punishment of Acts Relating to Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the Protection of Children	Pending trial
17	Violation of the Employment Security Act, violation of the Child Welfare Act, public	Pending trial

	indecenty	
18	Violation of the Employment Security Act, violation of the Child Welfare Act, public indecenty	Pending trial
19	Violation of the Child Welfare Act, violation of the Act on Regulation and Punishment of Acts Relating to Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the Protection of Children, violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	2 years 6 months imprisonment, suspension of 4 years
20	Violation of the Child Welfare Act, violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act, violation of the Aichi Prefectural Ordinance of Juvenile Protection	1 year 6 months imprisonment, suspension of 3 years,
21	Violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	1 year 4 months imprisonment, suspension of 3 years, 150,000 yen fine
22	Violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	10 months imprisonment, suspension of 3 years, 150,000 yen fine
23	Violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	8 months imprisonment, suspension of 3 years, 150,000 yen fine
24	Violation of the Employment Security Act	200,000 yen fine
25	Violation of the Employment Security Act	200,000 yen fine
26	Violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	2 years 6 months imprisonment, suspension of 5 years, 400,000 yen fine
27	Violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	1 year 6 months imprisonment, suspension of 3 years, 200,000 yen fine
28	Violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	3 years imprisonment, suspension of 5 years, 200,000 yen fine
29	Violation of the Act on Regulation and Punishment of Acts Relating to Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the Protection of Children, violation of the Tokushima Prefectural Ordinance of Juvenile Protection	700,000 yen fine
30	Accessory to running a gambling place for the purpose of gain, violation of the Act on Punishment of Physical Violence and Others	Pending trial
31	Violation of the Child Welfare Act, violation of the Stimulants Control Act, extortion	Pending trial

32	Violation of the Child Welfare Act, extortion	2 years imprisonment
33	Violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	Pending trial
34	Violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	2 years 6 months imprisonment, suspension of 4 years, 200,000 yen fine
35	Violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	50,000 yen fine
36	Violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	50,000 yen fine
37	Violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	50,000 yen fine
38	Violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	50,000 yen fine
39	Violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	50,000 yen fine
40	Violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	50,000 yen fine
41	Violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	50,000 yen fine
42	Violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	100,000 yen fine
43	Violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act, violation of the Child Welfare Act	1 year 6 months imprisonment, suspension of 3 years, 200,000 yen fine
44	Unlawful capture and confinement, forcible sexual intercourse, kidnapping for indecency, violation of the Act on Regulation and Punishment of Acts Relating to Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the Protection of Children	Pending trial
45	Threat, injury, theft, robbery, violation of the Act on Punishment of Physical Violence and Others	Pending trial
46	Violation of the Child Welfare Act, violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	Pending trial
47	Violation of the Employment Security Act	Pending trial
48	Violation of the Employment Security Act, violation of the Child Welfare Act, violation of the Act on Control and Improvement of Amusement Business, etc.	800,000 yen fine
49	Accessory to violation of the Child Welfare Act	Sent to the family court
50	Violation of the Child Welfare Act, violation of the Act on Regulation and Punishment of Acts Relating to Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the Protection of Children	Sent to the family court

[Table 3] Charges imposed on the nine persons reported as awaiting trial in the 2020 annual report and

the results of their trials (as of March 31, 2021)

	Offense	Results of trial
1	Extortion, extortion attempt, violation of the Employment Security Act	3 years imprisonment, suspension of 5 years
2	Violation of the Child Welfare Act	1 year imprisonment, suspension of 3 years
3	Kidnapping for indecency, forcible sexual intercourse, unlawful capture or confinement causing injury	7 years imprisonment
4	Violation of the Employment Security Act	1 year imprisonment
5	Kidnapping for indecency, forcible sexual intercourse, quasi-forcible sexual intercourse, attempted quasi-forcible sexual intercourse, violation of the Act on Regulation and Punishment of Acts Relating to Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the Protection of Children	Pending trial
6	Kidnapping for indecency, unlawful confinement	2 years imprisonment
7	Threat, violation of the Employment Security Act, violation of the Child Welfare Act	2 years 4 months imprisonment, 300,000 yen fine
8	Violation of the Aichi Prefectural Ordinance of Juvenile Protection, fraud, injury, kidnapping for indecency	5 years imprisonment
9	Kidnapping for indecency, kidnapping for ransom, demand for ransom by kidnapper, unlawful capture or confinement, forcible indecency, violation of the Act on Regulation and Punishment of Acts Relating to Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the Protection of Children	Pending trial

[Table 4] Charges imposed on the three persons reported as awaiting trial in the May 2019 annual report and continued to be awaiting trial in the May 2020 annual report and the results of their trials (as of March 31, 2021)

	Offense	Results of trial
1	Violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	2 years imprisonment, 300,000 yen fine
2	Extortion attempt, violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	3 years 6 months imprisonment, 300,000 yen fine
3	Violation of the Labor Standards Act	2 years imprisonment

iii) Cases

[Case 1]

The suspects threatened the female victim who was a customer of a host club to repay her unpaid sums for food and drinks at the club by prostituting herself. They made her live at their designated economy hotel where she was coerced to engage in prostitution. The suspects were arrested by Osaka Prefectural Police for violating the Anti-Prostitution Act.

[Case 2]

The suspects used violence every day and forced the male victim to work at the bar managed by them for long hours at a low wage.

The suspects were arrested by Okinawa Prefectural Police for violating the Labor Standards Act and on a charge of assault, etc.

[Case 3]

The suspects enticed the four female Filipinos to come to Japan on a temporary visitor visa and employed the victims at the hostess bar managed by the suspects. Then the suspects put the victims under control by running the victims into debt for overseas traveling expenses and taking their passports away and made them overstay illegally and work as hostess overstaying.

The suspects were arrested by Metropolitan Police Department for violating the Immigration Control Act and the Refugee Recognition Act.

(2) Information sharing with governments of other countries

- Since FY 2004, the Government of Japan has dispatched a Government Delegation on Anti-Human Trafficking Measures headed by a senior official from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and comprised of officials from relevant ministries and agencies to a total of 27 countries and regions.
- In March 2020, the Government Delegation on Anti-Human Trafficking Measures was dispatched to the United States (Washington D.C. and Miami in the State of Florida). The Delegation exchanged views with US federal government officials on strengthening cooperation between the two countries. In the

State of Florida, which is reported to have a large number of human trafficking cases, the Delegation collected information on the state of anti-human trafficking measures in recent years, good practices and issues, and ways of collaboration and cooperation between the public and private sectors, from local police stations, academic experts and a NGOs specializing in anti-human trafficking measures in the area.

○In FY2020, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs decided to support the ASEAN-Japan Workshop on Technology-based Approach to Tackle Trafficking of Children proposed by Viet Nam through the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF) 2.0. The workshop will be held within FY2021, where participants from relevant organizations, including law enforcement institutions of ASEAN countries and Japan, JICA, and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), are scheduled to share the situation of trafficking of children in ASEAN countries as well as the importance of the use of technology and best practices in tackling the problem, and discuss ways to enhance cooperation among the ASEAN countries to address child trafficking cases as well as each country's execution capability.

3 Prevention of Trafficking in persons

(1) Prevention of trafficking in persons by thorough immigration control

i) Thoroughly strict immigration control

- In order to conduct strict landing examination at air and sea ports of entry, the Immigration Services Agency has been utilizing Advance Passenger Information (API), biometric information, and ICPO's database on Stolen and Lost Travel Documents. It has also began acquiring Passenger Name Record (PNR) since January 2015, the receipt of which via electronic means became possible in January 2016.

The "Center of Collection and Analysis of Intelligence," which was established in October 2015, plays a core role in gathering and analyzing the abovementioned information. By utilizing the results of this analysis on the front lines at borders, strict border policies were promoted including identifying foreigners with suspicious purposes of entry into Japan, etc.

- Since October 2016, the Immigration Services Agency has implemented the cross-checking of the facial photographs provided by foreign nationals at the time of landing examination against the facial images of terrorists, etc.
- The Immigration Services Agency has been deploying immigration control officers to proactively and continuously implement systematic monitoring of transit areas at major airports and port areas and promote the detection of any suspicious persons and brokers etc.

ii) Strict examination of visa applications

- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs conducts careful examinations in visa applications in order to prevent in advance the entry into Japan by possible victims of trafficking in persons.

The website "Japan's Visa Policy in Accordance with Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons" has been launched in five languages (Japanese, English, Spanish, Thai, and Indonesian) for understanding and cooperation regarding examination of visa applications in a rigid and appropriate manner to eradicate trafficking in persons.

Japanese Embassies and Consulates, especially, those located in regions where victims of trafficking in persons tend to hail, carry out strict examination of applications for entertainment visas, temporary visitor visas, and visas for spouse or child of Japanese nationals that are likely to be abused in trafficking in persons. For example, they conduct face-to-face interviews where necessary.

Through this process, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs declines visa applications from people who are judged likely to fall victims to trafficking in persons based on the results of the examination, after consultations with relevant ministries and agencies.

iii) Information sharing through visa system

- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has established a visa information sharing system to link its headquarters with 234 Japanese Embassies and Consulates (as of March 2021), as well as relevant ministries and agencies, which enables them to share visa- related information.

iv) Strengthening of measures against forged documents

- The Immigration Services Agency conducts strict examinations for forged or altered documents at the document examination office at its airport district immigration office. The Agency also carries out training for its officials at air and sea ports, etc. in order to improve their ability to detect document forgery.

- In addition to establishing specifications for new visa seals with advanced anti-forgery features, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is continuing to conduct reviews towards improving Japanese passports by researching the trends for the international standardization of ePassport (passport with IC chips) as well as the international standards related to passports, such as IC chips. At the same time, in February 2020, the Ministry started to issue the 2020 passports with enhanced IC security functions and a different design for every visa page (thirty-six views of Mt. Fuji by an Ukiyoe-master, Katsushika Hokusai).

(2) Prevention of trafficking in persons through thorough residence management

i) Preventing crimes of trafficking in persons in the situation of imposter/illegal residence, through stringent residence management

- The National Police Agency, the Ministry of Justice, the Immigration Services Agency and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare promote strengthening the crackdown on crimes pertaining to trafficking in persons and protecting and supporting the victims of trafficking in persons identified through the crackdown, based on the Policy regarding the Promotion of the Measures against Illegal Employment of Foreigners which is agreed among the ministries and agencies.
- The police make efforts to uncover crimes related to trafficking in persons by continuously employing the cross-cutting frameworks that have been built up to date to deal with the globalization of crime, as well as the systems for the comprehensive promotion of countermeasures against criminal infrastructure that is used as means of illegal residents' living or forging of qualifications and identities, etc., and by strengthening crackdown on cases of fraudulent stays including fake marriages, cases of illegal stays, and the brokers related to these cases.
- The Immigration Services Agency is proactively collaborating with other relevant organizations and

carrying out investigations and analysis to clarify the situation relating to cases of imposter residence such as those whose marriages are the subject of suspicion. In addition, through joint detection, the Immigration Services Agency strives to share information with the police and other relevant organizations. Then, if it is necessary, information is provided to the police and other related organizations in order to facilitate the implementation of the punishment of perpetrators. As for the victims, responses are taken in an appropriate manner taking into consideration of their physical and mental condition and whether or not they need to be put under protection.

ii) Strict control of illegal employment

- The National Police Agency, the Ministry of Justice, the Immigration Services Agency, and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare collaborate in requesting the employers' association in the council on illegal employment of foreigners to prevent illegal employment and share information about the latest cases.
- The police and the Immigration Services Agency strive to discover cases of trafficking in persons through proactively cracking down on cases of illegal employment.
- In 2020, the Immigration Services Agency cracked down on 69 workplaces suspected of illegal employment. In addition, based on the policy concerning the "Promotion of the Measures against Illegal Employment of Foreigners" agreed between the National Police Agency and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (see i), the Immigration Services Agency has been proactively reporting malicious brokers and employers to the police and bringing charges against them.

iii) Promotion of active public relations and raising awareness of prevention of illegal employment

- The National Police Agency, the Immigration Services Agency, and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare hold briefing sessions for employer's associations, with the aim of enhancing their understanding of the current illegal employment situation. The associations are also requested to cooperate by implementing education and guidance to their members on the appropriate employment of foreigners.
- Every year, the Immigration Services Agency holds an annual "Illegal Work Prevention Campaign" as a part of the government's "Foreign Workers Issues Awareness Month" for making the employment of foreigners appropriate and preventing illegal employment. The campaign is aimed at enhancing the understanding of illegal employment of foreigners among the general public, companies that employ foreigners, relevant organizations, and the governments of relevant countries,

and at gaining their cooperation. In 2020, the Immigration Services Agency conducted the activity of raising awareness regarding the prevention of illegal employment by distributing leaflets with the cooperation of the relevant ministries and agencies as well as local authorities.

(3) Prevention of trafficking in persons for the purpose of labor exploitation

i) Improvement of Technical Intern Training Program by drastic revision

○ Figure 9 provides an overview of the Act on Proper Technical Intern Training and Protection of Technical Intern Trainees (hereinafter the “Technical Intern Training Act”) that was enforced on November 1, 2017. In particular, the Act establishes regulations prohibiting acts that infringe the human rights of technical intern trainees etc. and the required penalties for violations, and puts in place measures relating to the protection etc. of technical intern trainees including appropriate response to issues raised and reported by technical intern trainees, and liaison and coordination relating to transfers/relocations of technical intern trainees.

The Act also provided for the establishment of the Organization for Technical Intern Training (OTIT) as a legal entity and this organization was established and incorporated on January 25, 2017 and started operation.

**[Figure 9] Overview of the Technical Intern Training Act (Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Health,
Labour and Welfare)**
Act on Proper Technical Intern Training and Protection of Technical Intern Trainees (Outline)

In order to ensure proper acquisition of skills through technical training and protection of Technical Intern Trainees, MOJ and MHLW will take necessary steps such as establishing authorization process for implementing or supervising organizations and technical intern training plan, as well as establishing "Organization on Technical Intern Training" which engages in these activities.

Outline of the Act * Jointly submitted by MOJ and MHLW	
1. Proper Control of Technical Intern Training This Act	
(1) Sets the basic idea of the Technical Intern Training, prescribes responsibilities for those who are concerned, and settles the Principle of the Program [Related to Articles 3 to 7]	(7) Establishes Organization for Technical Intern Training as an authorized legal entity which is in charge of the duties below. [Related to Chapter 3]
(2) Requires every technical intern training plan drafted for trainees to be accredited, and prescribes criteria for accreditation (such as assessment on acquisition of skills), collection of reports, correction order, or revocation of accreditation [Related to Articles 8 to 16]	• to accredit technical intern training plans set forth in (2) [Related to Article 12]
(3) Requires Implementing organizations to be registered [Related to Articles 17 to 18]	• to request reports from implementing organizations and supervising organizations set forth in (2) as well as to carry out on-site inspections [Related to Article 14]
(4) Requires Supervising organizations to be licensed and prescribes criteria for license, compliance matters, collection of reports, correction order, or revocation of license [Related to Articles 23 to 45]	• to accept registration set forth in (3) [Related to Article 18]
(5) With regards to human rights violations against trainees, defines prohibited acts and criminal sanctions for their violations, sets necessary measures for protection of trainees, including consultation service, information provision, and arrangement for transferring [Related to Articles 46 to 51]	• to carry out investigations regarding the license of supervising organizations set forth in (4) [Related to Article 24]
(6) Enables the competent minister to request cooperation to other ministers in charge of businesses and establishes 'Regional Council on TITP' consisting of related agencies for each region [Related to Articles 53 to 56]	• to consult with and give assistance to trainees [Related to Article 87]
	2. Expansion of Technical Intern Training Program
	The Act enables limited high-quality implementing/supervising organizations to accept third level trainees (4th and 5th year's training) [Related to Articles 2, 9, 23, and 25]
	3. Other matters
	Other related amendments including that to the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act, which defines status of residence for technical intern training will be made.
Effective date November 1, 2017	Enactment date : November 18, 2016 Promulgation date : November 28, 2016
The date prescribed by Cabinet Order within a period of no more than one year counting from the date of promulgation. However, the provisions on the establishment of the Organization on Technical Intern Training will be effective on the day of promulgation.	

○ Regarding the supervising organizations, 3,276 organizations have received permits (as of March 31, 2021). In addition, 1,075,503 technical intern training plans have received accreditation, and 367 were not accredited (as of March 31, 2021). The OTIT conducts on-site inspections of supervising organizations once a year, and of implementing organizations once every three years.

In the case that the OTIT ascertains a fact that violates the Technical Intern Training Act, immigration laws and regulations or labor-related laws and regulations, it reports, provides information, etc. to immigration services organizations and labor standards supervisory bodies, etc., and carries out joint surveys with Regional Immigration Services Bureau etc. and on-site inspections by itself.

○ The police and the OTIT have established a mechanism for sharing information on matters such as violations of the Technical Intern Training Act that may constitute human trafficking offenses.

○ In Article 54, Paragraph 1 of the Technical Intern Training Act, the minister with jurisdiction over the business may organize a business council comprised of organizations, etc. with the implementing organizations or the supervising organizations as their members.

In order to make the collaboration of the members closer and to hold discussions about initiatives that take into account the actual conditions in each industry, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries established the fishing industry technical intern training business council on December 13, 2017, the agricultural industry technical intern training business council on June 5, 2018, the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism established the foreign technical intern training program automobile repair business council on February 19, 2018 and the business council on construction sector technical intern training on March 26, 2018, and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry established the textile industry technical intern training business council on March 23, 2018, and each council held meetings respectively when the occasion calls for it.

- In Article 56, Paragraph 1 of the Technical Intern Training Act, in order to achieve collaboration of the related administrative organizations at the regional level, the national organizations for the technical intern training in each region may organize regional councils comprised of said organizations and the organizations, etc. of local governments.

The councils were held in eight regional blocks by September 2020.

- Though not required in the Technical Intern Training Act, with the objectives of eliminating organizations that improperly send technical intern trainees as well as collaborating to carry out technical intern training properly and smoothly, Japan has signed memorandum of cooperation (MOCs) with 14 of the countries from which technical intern trainees are sent (Viet Nam, Cambodia, India, Philippines, Laos, Mongolia, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Bhutan, Uzbekistan, Pakistan, Thailand, and Indonesia) (as of March 31, 2021).

- In conjunction with the enforcement of the Technical Intern Training Act, the long-term care profession was added to the professions covered by the Technical Intern Training Program. In technical intern training for the long-term care profession, in order to respond to the variety of concerns based on the nature of long-term care services, the requirements unique to long-term care are specified in the “Standards stipulated by the minister having jurisdiction over the business regarding the long-term care profession in light of the unique circumstances of the specified profession and work provided for in the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Act on Proper Technical Intern Training and Protection of Technical Intern Trainees, etc.”

ii) Provision of information on legal protection to foreign technical intern trainees

○ Since the enforcement of the Technical Intern Training Act in November 2017, the Organization for Technical Intern Training (OTIT) has been producing the Technical Intern Trainee Handbook³ under the direction of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare. This handbook is handed directly to all technical intern trainees by immigration officers at all points of entry when they arrive in Japan, and clearly states information, etc. regarding consultations and support offered by OTIT, as well as the following content.

- In the case of attempting to report issues in the native language, it can be done through the local offices of the OTIT or the native language consultation counters (telephone and email) run by the organization.

- In the case where participating in the technical intern training has become difficult due to unavoidable circumstances, if you wish to continue the technical intern training, support for changing the training site is offered through the OTIT, so please consult with the organization or with the Native Language Consultation.

- In the case where you were encouraged to return home against your will, you can consult and report issues at the OTIT, and ultimately you can make a statement to that effect to the immigration officers at the time of the embarkation procedures at air and sea ports.

For an increasing number of technical intern trainees, OTIT has added available languages for the handbook, and at present the handbook is provided in nine most popular languages spoken by technical intern trainees as their native language (English, Chinese, Thai, Filipino, Vietnamese, Indonesian, Burmese, Cambodian, and Mongolian).

○ The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare has produced a leaflet titled “To all Foreign Technical Intern Trainees - About the Labor Standards-related Laws and Regulations in Japan -” in 10 languages (Japanese, Chinese, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Thai, Burmese, Cambodian, Mongolian, English and Indonesian), and made it available online. In addition, when visiting workplaces employing foreign technical intern trainees, the ministry distributes the leaflet to foreign technical intern trainees, presents examples of cases with a possibility of violating labor standards-related laws and regulations, and disseminate them the information that labor standards-related laws and regulations apply to foreign technical intern trainees as well, and that the same working conditions as for Japanese nationals are protected for them as workers.

○ The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare has commissioned JITCO (Japan International Trainee & Skilled Worker Cooperation Organization) to provide a Native-Language Consultation Hot Line

³ Contains information about consultation counters at the Immigration Services Agency, etc., contact information for the embassies of each country, Japanese labor-related laws, information necessary for everyday life, declarations to the Labor Standards Inspection Offices, and information on leave allowances, etc.

in five languages, allowing technical intern trainees to receive advice on details about the Technical Intern Training Program, wages, laws and regulations relating to working hours, etc.

Since the enforcement of the Technical Intern Training Act in November 2017, OTIT has been offering advice by email and telephone, and providing Native Language Consultation, etc. available in eight languages (English, Chinese, Thai, Filipino, Vietnamese, Indonesian, Burmese, and Cambodian).

- To be able to provide consultation services for foreigners regarding working conditions etc., the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare has established Foreign Workers Consultation Corner in 14 languages (in addition to Japanese, and depending on the location, English, Chinese, Portuguese, Spanish, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Nepalese, Burmese, Korean, Thai, Indonesian, Cambodian, and Mongolian (Nepalese and Burmese were added in April 2019, while Korean, Thai, Indonesian, Cambodian, and Mongolian were added in April 2020)) at Prefectural Labour Bureaus and Labour Standards Inspection Offices.

The ministry has also produced a leaflet titled “For All Foreign Nationals Working in Japan – Working Conditions Handbook” in 12 languages (Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, Portuguese, Spanish, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Burmese, Nepalese, Thai, and Indonesian), and made it available online. In addition, when visiting workplaces employing foreign technical intern trainees, the ministry distributes the leaflet to foreign technical intern trainees and calls on them to consult with the Advisory Services for Foreign Workers, etc.

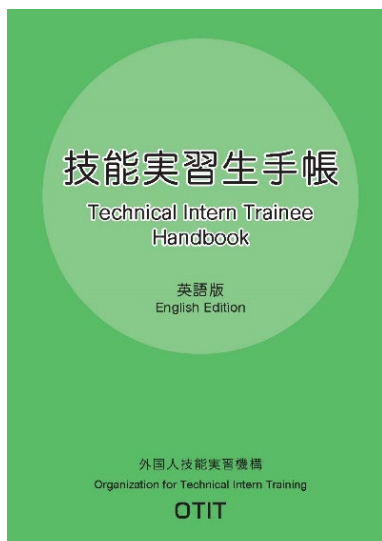
Furthermore, the Telephone Consultation Service for Foreign Workers was established in June 2015. Those who call the service are connected to the staff at the section for this service, making it easier for people to access the service from anywhere in the country. From April 2019, outside office hours of the Prefectural Labour Bureau and the Labour Standards Inspection Office, the “Labour standards Advice Hotline (consignment business: 17:00 to 22:00 on weekdays, 9:00 to 21:00 on weekends and holidays) accepts consultation in 14 languages (in addition to Japanese, English, Chinese, Portuguese, Spanish, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Burmese, Nepalese, Korean, Thai, Indonesian, Cambodian, and Mongolian (Korean, Thai, Indonesian, Cambodian, and Mongolian were added in April 2020)).

- Based on improvement measures compiled by the Project Team on Operation of the Technical Intern Training Program, the Ministry of Justice has revised the ministerial ordinance, and in April 2020, introduced measures to suspend the acceptance of new interns for a certain period of time for supervising organizations that are at fault for the absconding of technical intern trainees, and measures to request for the payment of remuneration through bank transfer to the technical intern trainee’s account.

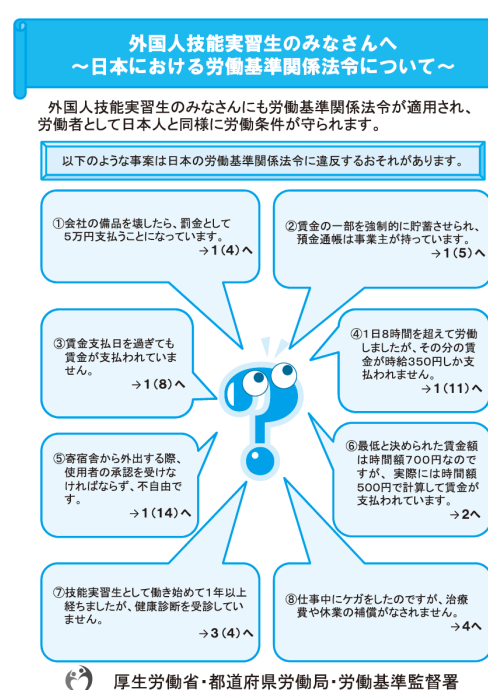
In addition, in November 2019, with a view to reducing cases of disappearance of technical intern trainees, policies with further enhanced improvement measures were compiled and will be implemented going forward. These include the criminal prosecution of companies that have employed technical intern trainees who disappeared and the official announcement of the facts behind the prosecution.

- When the Immigration Services Agency identifies inappropriate expressions contrary to the intent of the Technical Intern Training Program on the websites of supervising organizations etc., the Agency issues guidance in order for them to correct such expression in coordination with the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare and the OTIT.
- The Immigration Services Agency introduced a new policy in September 2016 to prevent so-called compulsory repatriations. When technical intern trainees leave Japan before the end of their training period, immigration officers at air and sea ports use documents written in the native language (eight languages of Indonesian, Cambodian, Thai, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Burmese, English, and Chinese) of the technical intern trainees to confirm that the technical intern trainees are not leaving against their wills. This interview is conducted with an interpreter when necessary.

[Figure 10] Technical Intern Trainee Handbook (OTIT) (excerpt)



[Figure 11] To all Foreign Technical Intern Trainees(in Japanese)(Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare) (excerpt)



iii) Strict enforcement of labor standards-related laws and regulations

○ In 2020, Prefectural Labour Bureaus and Labour Standards Inspection Offices conducted inspections on 8,124 implementing organizations (preliminary figures) .

Of these, 5,766 implementing organizations (preliminary figures) were found to be in violation of labor standards- related laws and regulations and were instructed. Among these cases, 35 cases (preliminary figures) were referred to prosecutors. These cases involved serious/malicious violations of labor standards-related laws and regulations in relation to technical intern trainees, such as illegal overtime work/working on days off, and lower premium wages for overtime work than legal ones.

○ In 2020, Prefectural Labour Offices, Labour Standards Inspection Offices, and OTIT carried out joint inspections on 35 implementing organizations (preliminary figures) in relation to cases of suspected infringements of their human rights such as forced labor.

As a result, Prefectural Labour Offices and Labour Standards Inspection Offices instructed to 31 cases (preliminary figures) where violation of labor standards-related laws and regulations were found. In addition, OTIT issued correction orders to 24 cases (preliminary figures) out of the 35 cases of joint inspections on implementing organizations.

○ To handle suspected cases of trafficking in persons for technical intern trainees, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare instructed Prefectural Labour Offices in February 2021 that they should assign a certain officials in charge of anti-trafficking for technical intern trainees , and that when a suspected case is grasped, Labour Standards Inspection Office and OTIT should carry out joint inspections on implementing organizations so that they should handle the case by coordinating with relevant organizations as necessary.

(4) Measures in the new program aimed at greater utilization of foreign human resources

i) The Foreign Construction Worker Acceptance Program

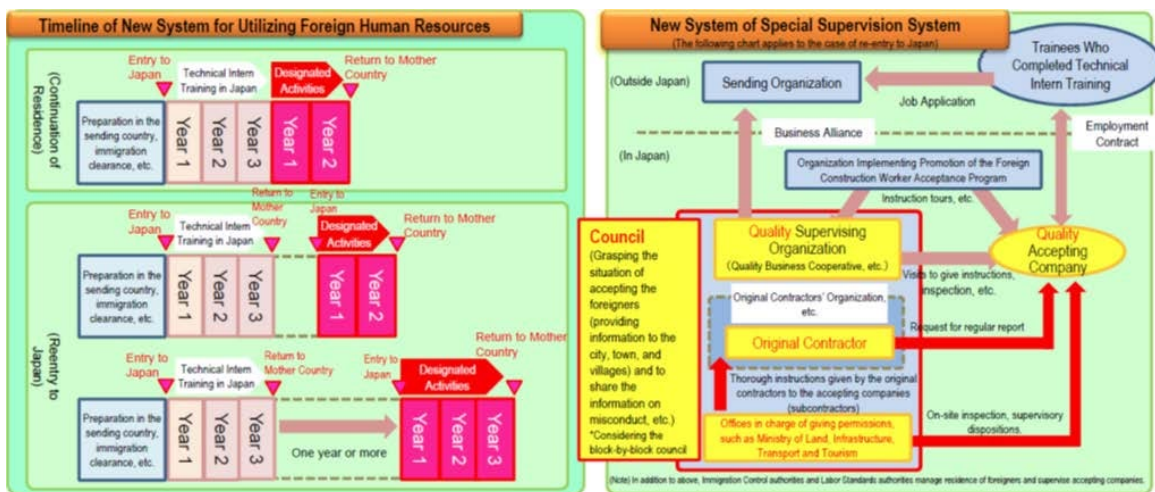
○ Approximately 4,000 foreign construction workers have entered Japan (as of March 31, 2021) under the Foreign Construction Worker Acceptance Program, which was launched in April 2015 as a fixed-term and urgent measure targeted at the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games and disaster recovery projects.

○ In order to prevent problems associated with the accepting foreign construction workers such as nonpayment of wages and illegal employment, a supervisory framework limits supervision and acceptance of the workers to qualified companies and Designated Supervising Organizations and so on. Other measures are also being taken, such as appointing counselors for foreign construction

workers at Designated Supervising Organizations, and companies accepting foreign construction workers are to be screened by Designated Supervising Organizations with the inclusion of face-to-face interviews with the workers, and reporting of the results of these interviews to the Council for the Promotion of Appropriate Supervision, etc.

- This program stipulates required measures such as that the Minister of Land, Infrastructure and Transport requests corrective measures be taken by the relevant Designated Supervising Organizations etc. when claims of rights infringements are received from foreign construction workers, and if any corrective measures are not taken, their Appropriate Supervision Plan accreditation will be canceled. If problematic cases arise, the relevant ministries and agencies are to cooperate to take necessary measures.

**[Figure 12] The Foreign Construction Worker Acceptance Program
(Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism)**



ii) Project to Accept Foreigners Conducting Housekeeping Services in National Strategic Special Zones

- The Project to Accept Foreigners Conducting Housekeeping Services in National Strategic Special Zones stipulated in Article 16-4, Paragraph 1 of the Act on National Strategic Special Zones is a project in which designated organizations (host companies) take in foreign nationals who conduct housekeeping services based on employment contracts within the National Strategic Special Zones on a trial basis from the perspectives of responding to the advancement of women’s participation in workforce and meeting housekeeping support needs, and of facilitating mid- to long-term economic growth. Under this project, foreign nationals who conduct housekeeping services have begun entering Japan. This Project has been implemented in Tokyo Metropolis, Kanagawa Prefecture, Osaka

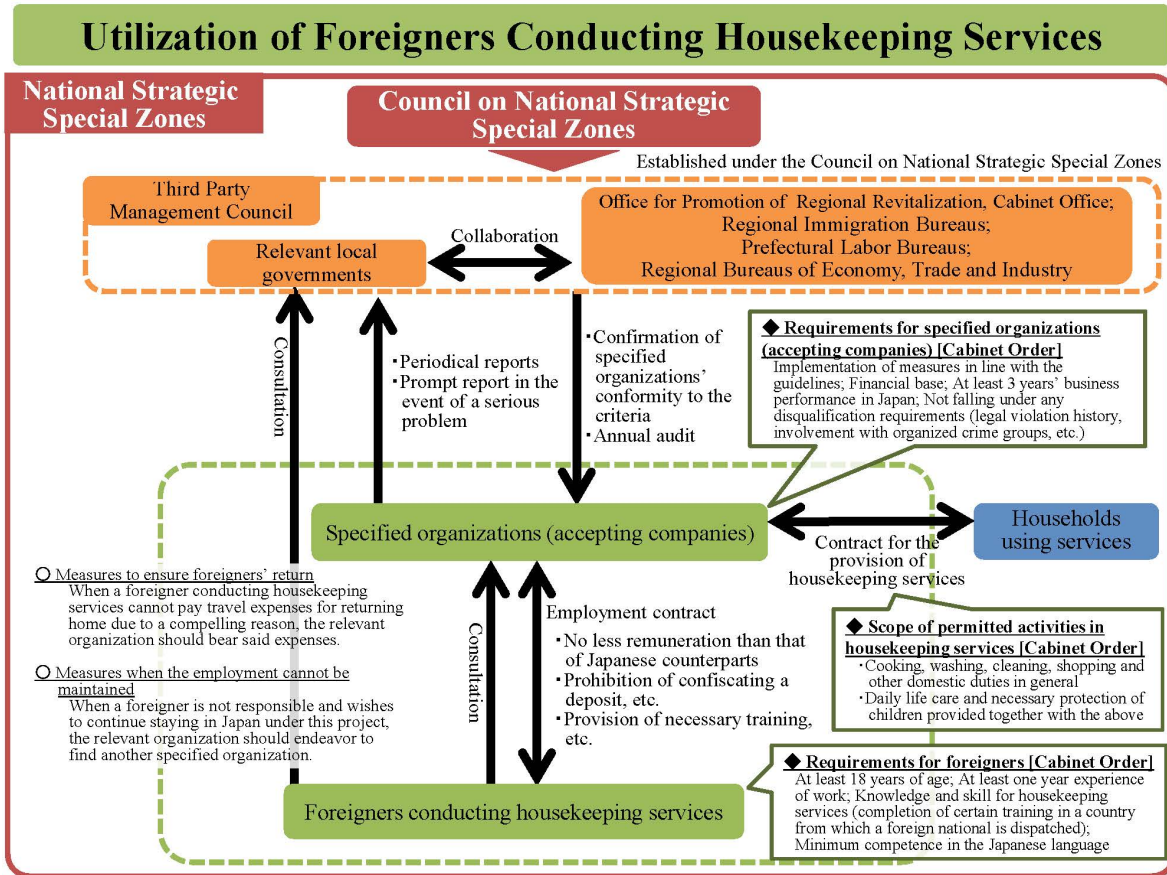
Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture, Aichi Prefecture, and Chiba City since March 2017, and approximately 1,189 foreign nationals who conduct housekeeping services have entered Japan (as of March 1, 2021).

○ The Guidelines on Specified Organizations for the Project to Accept Foreigners Conducting Housekeeping Services in National Strategic Special Zones (September 9, 2015 decision by the Prime Minister; revised on March 19, 2020) stipulate the measures that designated organizations need to take including stipulating that foreign nationals accepted under the project are to be paid at least the equivalent amount to the amount Japanese people engaging in similar housekeeping support activities receive, that management by designated organizations of the money etc. of the foreign nationals is prohibited, that designated organizations establish complaint/consultation desks and that the foreign nationals are informed about these support systems during training. The guidelines also stipulate that a third-party management council consisting of officials from the central government and local governments will confirm whether or not designated organizations meet the required standards such as by implementing the abovementioned measures.

○ After accepting foreign housekeeping support personnel, designated organizations will be subjected to an audit by the third-party management council, and where necessary, the council will request that corrective actions be taken. When problematic issues arise, local governments will coordinate with relevant ministries and agencies to respond to those issues. For example, relevant local governments will establish complaints and consultation desks for foreign housekeepers in their native language and other languages.

The third-party management council has prepared a portable card with the contact details of local government complaint/consultation services and other consultation services listed on it, and requests designated organizations to distribute these cards to the foreign housekeeping support personnel that they employ.

[Figure 13] Utilization of Foreign housekeeping support personnel (Cabinet Office)



[Figure 14] Portable card with list of complaint/consultation services (English template)

(Cabinet Office)

Contact points for Foreigners conducting housekeeping services (If you need any help, . . .)

Please contact first. TEL 03-1234-5678
●●Co.,Ltd. The General Affairs Department Welfare Division

If you do not want to talk with employer, please contact to the following:

- **Duties relating to the protection of foreigners conducting housekeeping services**
(The third party management council secretariat of OO Prefecture)
OO Prefecture OO affairs division TEL 0000-0000-0000
(Weekdays (except National Holidays) 8:30~17:15) Generally in Japanese, but in English is also acceptable
- **Human rights counseling** ((District) Legal Affairs Bureaus)
Foreign-language Human Rights Hotline TEL 0570-090-911
(Weekdays (except National Holidays) 9:00~12:00, 13:00~16:00) In English
(If your iPhone etc. cannot be connected, please call to 00-0000-0000)
(Weekdays (except National Holidays) 8:30~17:15) In Japanese, English service will be announced
- **Procedures for "Status of Residence" and "Entry and Departure"**
Immigration Information Center TEL 0570-013-904
(If your iPhone etc. cannot be connected, please call to 03-5796-7112)
(Weekdays (except National Holidays) 8:30~17:15) In English
- **Working conditions**
Advisor for Foreign Workers Section TEL 00-0000-0000
(Mon/Fri 9:00~12:00, 13:00~16:00) In English
OOOOO Embassy TEL 00-0000-0000
(Weekdays (except National Holidays) 9:00~18:00)

Emergencies (Toll-Free)
Police TEL 110 Fire and Ambulance TEL 119

iii) **New foreign human resources acceptance system pertaining to the status of residence of Specified Skilled Worker**

- Taking into consideration the "Basic Policy on Economic and Fiscal Management and Reform 2018" (Cabinet decision on June 15, 2018), the Ministry of Justice submitted the "Bill for Partial Amendment

of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act and the Act for Establishment of the Ministry of Justice” to the 197th Diet on November 2, 2018.

The Act for Partial Amendment of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act and the Act for Establishment of the Ministry of Justice (hereinafter referred to as the “Amended Immigration Control Act”) was passed by the Diet on December 8, 2018, promulgated on December 14 the same year (Act No. 102 of 2018), and enforced by April 1, 2019.

- The system for acceptance of new foreign human resources intends to build a framework for acceptance work-ready foreign nationals, who possess certain expertise and skills in the industrial fields where it is difficult to secure human resources even after efforts have been made to improve productivity and secure domestic human resources. Thus, the Amended Immigration Control Act stipulates new status of residence “Specified Skilled Worker (i)” and “Specified Skilled Worker(ii),” and requires necessary measures such as establishing the basic policy on operation of the system as well as a field-specific operation policy.

- Outline of the system pertaining to the status of residence of Specified Skilled Worker is shown in the Figure 15. To accept foreign nationals as Specified Skilled Workers, certain criteria must be met. For example, with regard to the employment contracts for specified skilled workers⁴, there must be no discriminatory treatment with regard to the decisions on remuneration, the implementation of education and training, the use of welfare facilities, and other treatment on the grounds that the worker is a foreign national. On top of that, public and private organizations in Japan, which are the other party to the employment contracts for specified skilled workers (i.e. the accepting organization) must not have conducted a wrongful or seriously unjust act in relation to the laws and regulations on immigration or labor within five years before the date of entering into employment contract for specified skilled workers, etc. Furthermore, those who wish to be registered by the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency as a contractor entrusted with support works⁵, by the accepting organization by contract (Registered Support Organization) are required to fulfil certain criteria. For example, they must not have committed a wrongful or extremely unjust act in relation to laws and regulations on immigration or labor, their business activities must not be controlled by members of organized crime groups, and they must have established the necessary systems to ensure the appropriate performance of support works.

In this way, the necessary criteria etc. have been established for accepting organizations and registered support organizations to conform to in order to ensure that foreigners (specified skilled

⁴ A contract for the employment of a foreigner who intends to engage in the activities of "Specified Skilled Worker (i)" or "Specified Skilled Worker (ii)," to be concluded with a public or private organization in Japan.

⁵ All support measures in the plan to implement support for vocational lives, daily lives, and social lives of foreigners who stay in Japan with the status of residence of “Specified Skilled Worker (i)”

workers) who stay in Japan with the status of residence of “Specified Skilled Worker” can reside in Japan appropriately and smoothly. The Immigration Services Agency strictly examines their conformity to the criteria etc., at the time of application for the status of residence of Specified Skilled Worker to prevent any illegal or unjust acts, including the infringement of the human rights of foreigners.

- The Amended Immigration Control Act requires that accepting organizations submit notification to the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency on the job contents that foreign “Specified Skilled Workers” are engaged in, the status of payment to these workers, and the implementation status of the support works related to foreign “Specified Skilled Workers.” It also requires registered support organizations notify the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency on the implementation status of support works. Under the Amended Immigration Control Act, the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency may provide accepting organizations and registered support organizations with necessary guidance and advice, request reports, etc., and issue orders to accepting organizations to implement improvement measures (improvement order). In addition, the Act provides for penalties in the event that an accepting organization breaches the obligation to submit notifications, makes a false report, or violates an improvement order, etc. Registered support organizations are also subject to the cancellation of registration if they breach the obligation to submit notifications or make a false report. In this way, the Immigration Services Agency shall ensure the proper operation of the system pertaining to the status of residence of Specified Skilled Worker after receiving foreign specified skilled workers.

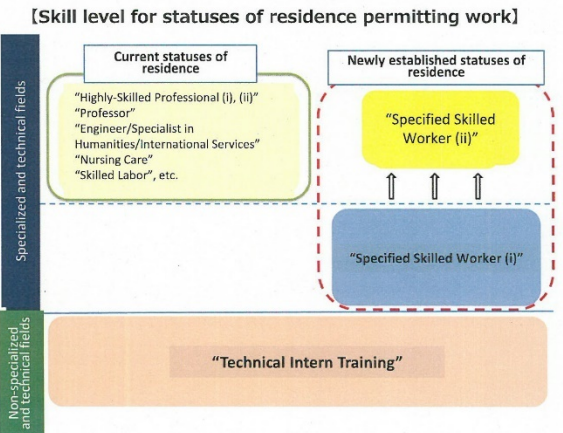
[Figure 15] Outline of the system pertaining to the status of residence of Specified Skilled Worker (Immigration Services Agency)

Outline of the system (1) Status of residence

- **Specified Skilled Worker (i)** : Status of residence for foreign nationals engaging in work requiring **skills which need considerable knowledge or experience** belonging to **specified industrial fields**.
 - **Specified Skilled Worker (ii)** : Status of residence for foreign nationals engaging in work requiring **proficient skills** belonging to **specified industrial fields**.
- Specified Industrial Fields (14 fields)** : Nursing Care, Building cleaning management, Forges and foundries, Machine parts & tooling industries, Electric, electronics and information industries, Construction industry, Shipbuilding/ship machinery industry, Automobile maintenance, Aviation Industry, Accommodation industry, Agriculture, Fishery & aquaculture, Manufacture of food and beverages, Food service industry
(Specified skilled workers (ii) can only be accepted in the two underlined fields)

- Points of Specified Skilled Worker (i)**
- Period of stay : extension for a period of 1 year, 6 months or 4 months, **up to 5 years in total**
 - Skill level : confirmed by exams, etc. (foreign nationals who have completed technical intern training (ii) are exempt from taking exams, etc.)
 - Level of Japanese language proficiency : confirmed Japanese language proficiency required everyday living and business by exams, etc. (foreign nationals who have completed technical intern training (ii) are exempt from taking exams, etc.)
 - Accompaniment of family members : basically not permitted
 - **Eligible for support** by accepting organization or registered support organization

- Points of Specified Skilled Worker (ii)**
- Period of stay : extension for a period of 3 years, 1 year or 6 months
 - Skill level : confirmed by exams, etc.
 - Level of Japanese language proficiency : not necessary to be confirmed by exams, etc.
 - **Accompaniment of family members : possible on fulfilling certain conditions (spouse, children)**
 - Not eligible for support by accepting organization or registered support organization



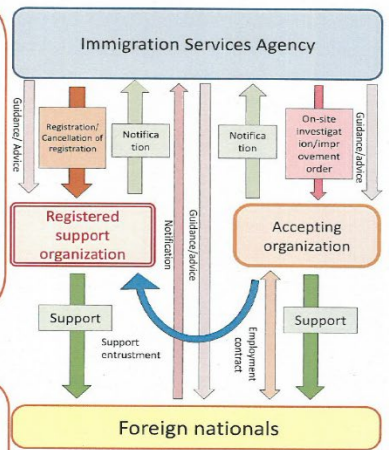
Outline of the system (2) accepting organizations and registered support organizations

- About the accepting organizations**
- Criteria for accepting organizations to accept foreign nationals**
 - ① Employment contract entered into with the foreign national is appropriate (e.g., the amount of remuneration is equivalent to or greater than that a Japanese national would receive for the same kind of work)
 - ② The organization itself is appropriate (e.g., no violation of the immigration or labor-related laws within the past 5 years)
 - ③ There is a system in place to support foreign nationals (e.g., able to offer support in a language understood by foreign nationals)
 - ④ The plan to support foreign nationals is appropriate (e.g., includes general living orientation, etc.)
 - Obligations of the accepting organization**
 - ① Reliable fulfillment of the employment contract entered into with the foreign national (e.g., payment of appropriate remuneration)
 - ② Provision of appropriate support for foreign nationals → possible to outsource support to a registered support organization
 - ③ Submission of various notifications to the Immigration Services Agency

Note. Failure to do ① to ③ will result in permission being denied for acceptance of foreign nationals, and the organization may be subject to guidance and improvement orders from the Immigration Services Agency.

- About the registered support organizations**
- Criteria for registration**
 - ① The organization itself is appropriate (e.g., no violation of the immigration or labor-related laws within the past 5 years)
 - ② There is a system in place to support foreign nationals (e.g., able to offer support in a language understood by foreign nationals)
 - Obligations of the registered support organization**
 - ① Implementation of appropriate support for foreign nationals
 - ② Submission of various notifications to the Immigration Services Agency

Note. Failure to do ① and ② may result in registration being revoked.



- Furthermore, based on the “Comprehensive Measures for Acceptance and Coexistence of Foreign Nationals” (decided by the Ministerial Conference on Acceptance and Coexistence of Foreign Nationals on December 25, 2018), the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, and the National Police Agency drew up bilateral intergovernmental documents to establish a framework for sharing information with the aim of eliminating malicious brokers, with the Philippines, Cambodia, Nepal, Myanmar, Mongolia, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Viet Nam, Bangladesh, Uzbekistan, Pakistan, Thailand, and India (as of January 18, 2021).

(5) Efforts against the demand side for trafficking in persons

i) Educating people on the demand side of sexual exploitation

- Since FY2004, the Cabinet Office has produced a poster and leaflet for raising awareness of the measures against trafficking in persons and posted it on its website every year.

In FY2020, the Cabinet Office produced about 85,000 posters and leaflets titled “You could be a victim of human trafficking!” and distributed them to about 4,600 places including local governments, airports and marine ports, universities and technical colleges, the Japan Association of Travel Agents, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and other relevant organizations. In addition to these places, since FY2016 the posters have also been put up on railway station notice boards.

In order to raise greater awareness of the measures for cases that are often known to the police and cleared in Japan, such as coercion to provide sexual services, and cases involving the use of not only physical restraint but also psychological restraint, publicity that uses the terminology “人身取引（性的サービスや労働の強要等）” is promoted.

The posters and leaflets clearly state that trafficking in persons is a serious crime and subject to penalties both inside and outside of Japan, and presents the following four cases, calling on people to “Report promptly to the nearest Police Station or Immigration Office if you find these situations!”;

- [Young people who use social media could be targeted!] A girl is seduced to send her naked photo to a man with whom she got friendly via social media. He threatens to disclose the photo and forces her into providing sexual services and prostitution work in illegal sex shops. There are many other cases of seducing children, who ran away from home for some reason, by using kind words to them.
- [People who are forced to work in sex shops] A person is forced to work in sex shops due to an involuntary debt.
- [Site of forced labor] A foreign worker is forced to work very hard and physically harmed if he disobeys.
- [People who are forced to appear in pornographic videos] A person who applied for a modeling job is deceived into signing a contract which is used to force her to appear in

pornographic videos.

- Every fiscal year since FY 2002, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has produced a booklet titled “A Handbook of Safety Tips in Foreign Countries” for Japanese nationals travelling overseas, which has been distributed at the counter of Center for Consular Services of the Ministry and at the overseas safety seminars for companies, as well as at passport centers in each prefecture and to the organizations of travel-related industry. In conjunction with this, the Ministry posted the PDF format of the booklet available on the Overseas Safety HP and made the booklet also available for viewing in the overseas safety app and on smartphones, etc.

From FY2016, the distribution has been expanded to relevant facilities at international airports. Leaflets regarding the overseas safety app were also printed and distributed mainly to prefectural passports centers. In FY2020, 270,000 copies of the booklet and two million copies of the leaflet have been printed.

In the section under “Case Studies: Examples of Problems and Countermeasures,” the booklet warns against involvement in acts of prostitution by referring to it as an example of a case where Japanese nationals become criminals. The booklet calls on the public to refrain from engaging in inappropriate activities by explaining that prostitution is illegal in many countries and can be treated as a serious crime, and that offenses relating to the child prostitution and possessing child pornography is subject to punishment for a crime committed outside Japan under the relevant Japanese law.

- The National Police Agency has set up a page titled “STOP! Child Sexual Exploitation” on its website, which provides the information that child prostitution is a malicious crime, that child prostitution in foreign countries is also severely punished, and that strong crackdowns are being carried out by the police in each country while listing examples of laws that punish child prostitution in Southeast Asia countries, etc.

In FY2020, the National Police Agency made posters in English in the joint names of the National Police Agency, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the Japan Committee for UNICEF and the ECPAT for public relations and awareness raising to inform the public that child sexual exploitation, such as child prostitution and child pornography, is a vicious crime that violates the human rights of children, and posted them both in Japanese and English on the website of the National Police Agency. In addition, they were displayed at major international airports in Japan in March 2021.

ii) Raising awareness of employers

- The police are putting effort into publicity and awareness-raising among employers, etc. through activities that include site inspections of facilities of adult entertainment businesses, etc.

- Prefectural Labour Offices and Labour Standards Inspection Offices provide inspection on implementing organizations (see (3) iii)). They also organize briefing sessions aimed at providing information and raising awareness on labor standards-related laws and regulations of implementing organizations.

[Figure 16] Poster for Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons (Cabinet Office)

Do you know? Trafficking in Persons
Anyone Can Be a Victim

In Japan in 2019, **About 70%** of the victims were Japanese citizens!
40% of the victims were under 18!

Younger people who frequently use social media are targeted!

A girl was deceived by the sweet words of a man with whom she became intimate on social media and ended up seeing a nude picture of herself. After taking advantage of that picture, the man threatened the girl and forced her to work in a bar and prostitution house. Livelihoods, who cannot stay in the family home for some reason, are frequently lured by deceiving words.

If you notice any of the cases shown below, immediately report them to the nearest police station, etc!

- Sexual exploitation in brothels:** A woman is forced to work in a brothel to work off her unfair debts.
- Forced labor:** Foreigners are forced to do unnecessary heavy work if they do not comply, otherwise a threat is used toward them.
- Forced appearance in pornographic videos:** A woman applies for a modeling job and fills in a registration form, which is actually a contract, leading to forced appearance in pornographic videos.

Trafficking in Persons damages both human dignity and rights. It is a serious crime subject to punishment in Japan and abroad.

For more information or consultation, please contact:
0120-924-839
www.tokumei24.jp

More about Trafficking in Persons
<https://www.gpc.go.jp/gpc/trafficking/>
 2013.11.12.html

Step: Report Trafficking!
 The poster showing this theme may be used as a handout. Please refer to the police or other relevant agencies.

Copyright © 2019. Cabinet Office, National Police Agency, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, Japan Coast Guard

[Figure 17] Poster titled “STOP! Child Sexual Exploitation” (in English) (National police Agency)

Never allow child sex crimes

Child sex crimes, including the sexual exploitation of children and child pornography production, are extremely heinous activities violating the human rights of children.

A heavy penalty is imposed if a sex crime is committed against a child under 18, since a child cannot legally consent. This is not limited to the production and offer of child pornography, but possession of child pornography is also subject to punishment.

STOP! Child Sexual Abuse

UNICEF / National Police Agency of Japan / U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement / ECPAT / STOP Japan

[Figure 18] Overseas Safety “Guidance Book” (in Japanese) (MOFA) (excerpt)



対策

- 海外で日本の出入国管理規則を十分に理解し、滞在許可期間を超えなご法を違反しないように注意してください。注意不足や悪意がなくても、違法行為として逮捕される可能性があります。
- 日本人による寸前詐欺も発生しています。日本人だからという理由から同情してお金を貸したりすることは控えてください。
- 多くの国で買春は禁止されており、重罪となる場合もあります。また児童買春や児童ポルノの所持等を同様であり、日本の法律でも国外犯として処罰の対象となります。
- 偽ブランド品等の模倣品や違法コピーしたCD/DVDの海陸空等を海外で購入し、日本国内に持ち込むことは違法行為となる場合がありますので注意してください。

その四

海外で日本人が現地の法律に違反して逮捕されるケースが増えています。不法滞在、不法入国等の出入国管理規則違反、強盗、買春、日本に帰るまで日本人を装って不法行為などに加担している日本人がいます。

日本人が「犯罪者」になるケース

買春は絶対ダメ!

4 Promotion of identification of trafficking victims

(1) Promotion of efforts based on “Measures for Identification of Victims”

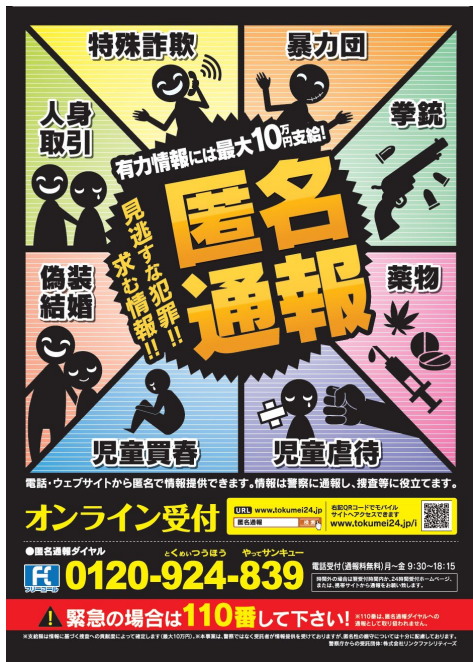
- Relevant ministries and agencies inform relevant administrative bodies about the “Methods to Deal with Trafficking in Persons (Measures for Identification of Victims)” (agreed by the June 23, 2010 Inter-Ministerial Liaison Committee Regarding Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons. 2014 Action Plan, Appendix 2), and based on this the relevant administrative bodies appropriately take measures for identification of victims.

- Through contact points such as dedicated police consultation phone lines and an Anonymous-Report Hot Line, the police are making efforts to respond to consultation requests and reports in such a way as to ensure that crimes related to trafficking in persons are not overlooked.

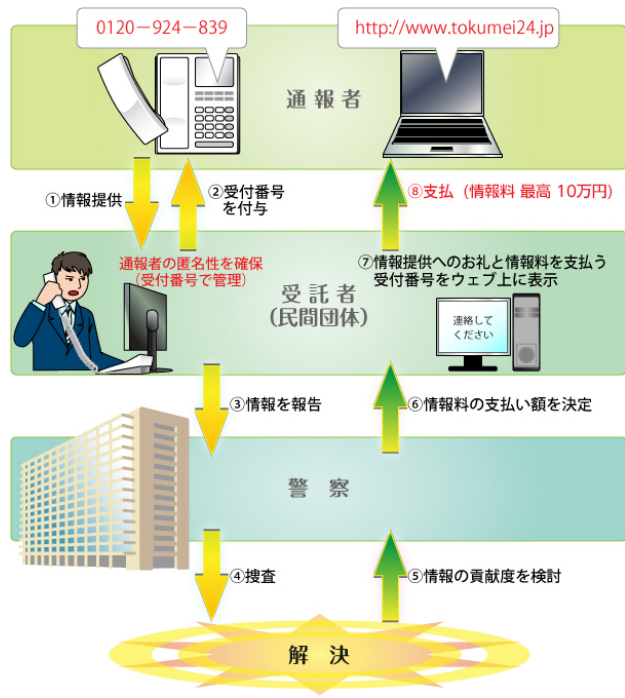
- A private organization commissioned by the National Police Agency operates the Anonymous-Report Hot Line which receives anonymous reports concerning cases of trafficking in persons and offenses suspected to be relevant to such cases (hereinafter referred to as “cases of trafficking in persons, etc.”), child welfare crimes, child abuse cases, and other such cases and crimes from citizens by telephone and through the website and pays rewards for information depending on the value of contribution which makes the case cleared and victims protected. It is making efforts to call for reporting using the website, posters, etc. and to achieve the early identification of these crimes that often remain hidden.

When a report regarding a case of trafficking in persons, etc. is received, the information is shared with the relevant prefectural police department, and an investigation is conducted in the relevant prefectural police department. In FY2017, 433 reports regarding cases of trafficking in persons, etc. were received, while 285 and 156 reports were received in FY2018 and FY2019 respectively.

[Figure 19] Anonymous-Report Hot Line poster (in Japanese) (National Police Agency)



[Figure 20] Anonymous-Report Hot Line procedure (in Japanese) (National police Agency)



- When the police receive consultation, consideration will be given to the consultation place for the consulter not to feel any psychological pressure. If the consulter is female, a female officer will interview her if she wishes, and if the consulter is non-Japanese, an officer who can speak his or her native language will interview him or her as far as possible.
 - The Immigration Services Agency has established trafficking in persons countermeasure secretariats within the General Affairs Divisions of Regional Immigration Services Bureaus to collect information relating to trafficking. The secretariat also strives to increase identification of cases of trafficking in persons acting as a contact point for related organizations and the general public to provide trafficking-related information.
 - When Japanese Embassies and Consulates come into contact with information pertaining to the victims of trafficking in persons, the information is provided swiftly to the relevant ministries and agencies through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- (2) **Informing latent victims about agencies to which they can report the crime and the measures for protecting them**
- Every year since 2005, the National Police Agency has produced leaflets in several languages calling for

people to report cases of trafficking in persons to the police, with the aim of discovering latent victims. These leaflets are distributed to the relevant ministries and agencies, embassies in Tokyo, and NGOs, and also placed in places that can easily catch the eyes of the victims and made available online.

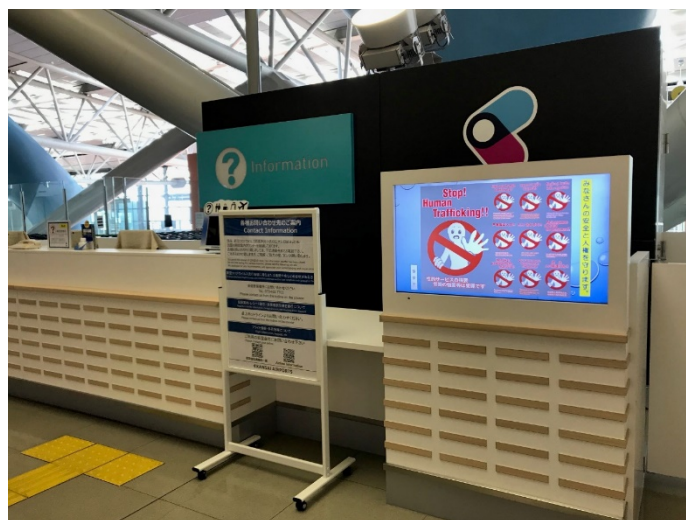
In 2020, the leaflet was revised from the perspective of victims in a significantly compact form for portability and an understandable design with key words and illustrations, reflecting feedback from NGOs and foreign embassies in Tokyo. About 290,000 leaflets were prepared and distributed.

In addition, in order to raise awareness of Vietnamese workers who tend to increase, with the cooperation of the Vietnamese Embassy, the leaflet was translated in Vietnamese and posted on the website of the National Police Agency in 10 languages (Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish, Russian, Thai, Tagalog, Indonesia, and Vietnamese) and digital signage using the leaflet data is displayed at multiple international airports in Japan.

[Figure 21] Leaflet for measures to combat trafficking in persons (National Police Agency)

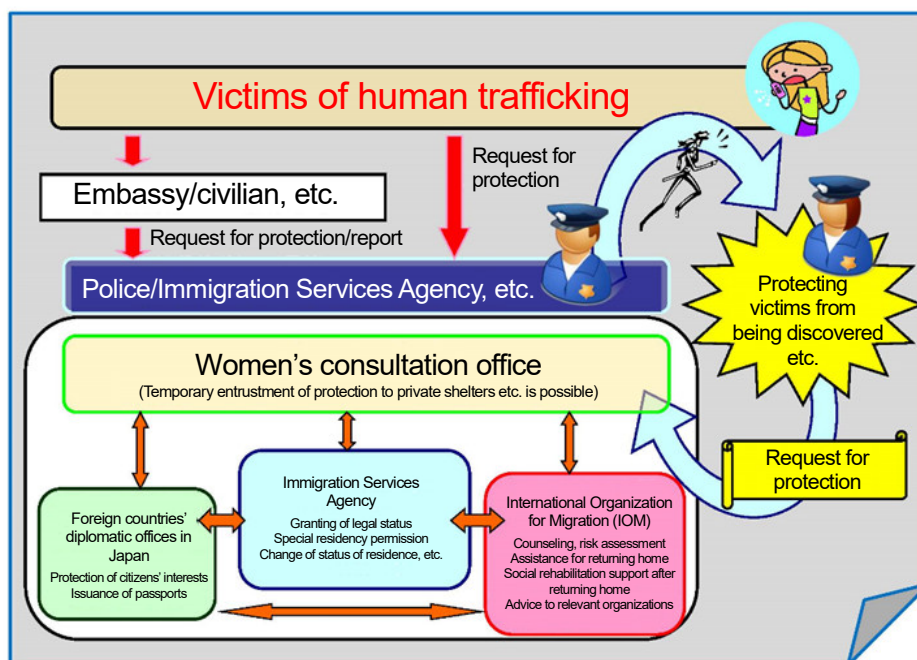


[Figure 22] Digital signage displayed at an international airport (National Police Agency)



- The Immigration Services Agency has listed on its website the contact points for consultation and providing information relating to trafficking in persons, and its policies and processes relating to victim protection measures in eight languages (Japanese, English, Chinese (traditional and simplified), Korean, Portuguese, Spanish, Thai, and Tagalog). Efforts have also been made to make leaflets produced by the National Police Agency readily available to trafficking victims by, for example, placing them on regional immigration services bureau examination counters and airport immigration counters.

[Figure 23] The process for putting victims under protection (Immigration Services Agency)



(3) Strengthening of counseling in foreign languages

- The Immigration Services Agency has established The Immigration Information Centers at eight Regional Immigration Services Bureaus and their District Immigration Offices (Sendai, Tokyo, Yokohama, Nagoya, Osaka, Kobe, Hiroshima, and Fukuoka) to provide consultation services regarding entry and residence procedures, etc., in foreign languages (languages differ by location). The centers also provide consultation services relating to trafficking in persons.

The Immigration Information Center have dedicated phone lines providing services in multiple languages (English, Chinese, Korean, Portuguese, Spanish, French, Tagalog, etc.). The phone lines are available from every prefectures.

- The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice established “Human Rights Counseling Centers for Foreigners” at Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus as well as the “Foreign-Language Human Rights Hotline” which was a telephone counseling service (provided in 10 foreign languages (English, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, Filipino, Portuguese, Nepalese, Spanish, Indonesian, and Thai).

In addition, in March 2016, Foreign Language Human Rights Counseling Service on the Internet was established in two foreign languages (English and Chinese) and increased the number of languages to 10 in March 2021 (the same as for Human Rights Counseling Centers for Foreigners and Foreign-Language Human Rights Hotline).

These contact points have been publicized on the website and in a leaflet produced in each available language..

[Figure 24] Foreign-Language Human Rights Counseling Leaflet (in Japanese) (Ministry of Justice) (excerpt)



- To be able to provide consultation services for foreigners regarding working conditions etc., the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare has established Foreign Workers Consultation Corner in 14 languages (in addition to Japanese, and depending on the location, English, Chinese, Portuguese, Spanish, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Nepalese, Burmese, Korean, Thai, Indonesia, Cambodia, and Mongolian (Nepalese and Burmese were added in April 2019, while Korean, Thai, Indonesia, Cambodia, and Mongolian were added in April 2020)) at Prefectural Labour Bureaus and Labour Standards Inspection Offices.

The ministry has also produced a leaflet titled “For All Foreign Nationals Working in Japan – Working Conditions Handbook” in 12 languages (Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, Portuguese, Spanish,

Tagalog, Vietnamese, Burmese, Nepalese, Thai, and Indonesian), and made it available online. In addition, when visiting workplaces employing foreign technical intern trainees, the ministry distributes the leaflet to foreign technical intern trainees and calls on them to consult with the Advisory Services for Foreign Workers, etc.

Furthermore, the Telephone Consultation Service for Foreign Workers was established in June 2015. Those who call the service are connected to the staff at the section for this service, making it easier for people to access the service from anywhere in the country. From April 2019, outside office hours of the Prefectural Labour Bureau and the Labour Standards Inspection Office, the “Labour standards Advice Hotline (consignment business: 17:00 to 22:00 on weekdays, 9:00 to 21:00 on weekends and holidays) accepts consultation in 14 languages (in addition to Japanese, English, Chinese, Portuguese, Spanish, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Burmese, Nepalese, Korean, Thai, Indonesian, Cambodian, and Mongolian (Korean, Thai, Indonesian, Cambodian, and Mongolian were added in April 2020)).

[Repeated from 3 (3) ii)]

- The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare has commissioned JITCO to provide a Native-Language Consultation Hot Line in five languages, allowing technical intern trainees to receive advice on details about the Technical Intern Training Program, wages, laws and regulations relating to working hours, etc.

Since the enforcement of the Technical Intern Training Act in November 2017, OTIT has been offering advice by email and telephone, and providing Native Language Consultation, etc. available in eight languages (English, Chinese, Thai, Filipino, Vietnamese, Indonesian, Burmese, and Cambodian).

[Repeated from 3 (3) ii)]

(4) Coordination with embassies in Tokyo

- In light of the fact that some foreign victims of trafficking in persons seek protection from the embassies of their country of origin, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs encourages embassies in Tokyo to establish consultation desks for victims of trafficking in persons and 24-hour telephone consultation services.

(5) Promotion of calling the attention of potential victims of trafficking in persons through overseas diplomatic missions

- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs distributes leaflets produced by the National Police Agency (see (2)) and leaflets and posters produced by the Cabinet Office (see 3 (5) i)) to overseas diplomatic missions etc.

- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs raises visa applicants’ awareness on the issues of trafficking in persons by providing them with leaflets during the visa examination process at the Embassies and Consulates. In the countries where accredited agencies handle acceptance of visa applications and issuance, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs also requests those agencies for their cooperation to alert visa applicants to bear in mind the issues.

[Figure 25] Consultation and provision of information on trafficking in persons

Consultation and Provision of Information on Trafficking in Persons
[Prefectural police]
Emergency call (Tel): 110 Police consultation counter (Tel): # 9110
[Anonymous Reporting Hot Line] (National Police Agency)
Tel: 0120-924-839 website : http://www.tokumei24.jp/
[Immigration Services Agency]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Immigration Information Center *Foreign language support Tel: 0570-013904 (IP, PHS, overseas: 03-5796-7112) ● Regional Immigration Services Bureau List: https://www.isa.go.jp/en/about/region/index.html
[Human rights counseling] (Ministry of Justice)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Human Rights Hotline Tel: 0570-003-110 ● Human Rights Counseling Centers for Foreigners *Foreign language support Tel: All of the 50 Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus nationwide List: http://www.moj.go.jp/JINKEN/jinken21.html ● Foreign-language Human Rights Hotline *Foreign language support Tel: 0570-090911
Other related contacts
[Human rights issues for women]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Woman's Rights Hotline (Ministry of Justice) Tel: 0570-070-810 ● Women's Consulting Offices (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare) List: http://www.mhlw.go.jp/content/11900000/000402436.pdf
[Human rights issues for children]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Children's Rights Hotline (Ministry of Justice) Tel: 0120-007-110 ● Child Guidance Centers (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare) List: https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/kodomo/kodomo_kosodate/zisouichiran.html
[Problems related to technical intern trainees]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● General Labour Consultation Service (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare) List: http://www.mhlw.go.jp/general/seido/chihou/kaiketu/soudan.html ● Advisory Services for Foreign Workers, Telephone Consultation Service for Foreign Workers (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare) *Foreign language support List: http://www.check-roudou.mhlw.go.jp/soudan/foreigner.html ● Labour Standards Advice Hotline (Commissioned project of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare) List: https://www.check-roudou.mhlw.go.jp/lp/hotline/ ● Native Language Consultation (Organization for Technical Intern Training: OTIT) *Foreign language support

List: <http://www.otit.go.jp/notebook/>

[Other]

- **Foreign Language Human Rights Counseling Service on the Internet** (Ministry of Justice)

URL: <https://www.moj.go.jp/JINKEN/jinken21.html#01>

- **Multilingual Information Service (Houterasu)** *Foreign language support

Tel: 0570-078377

- **Yorisoi Hotline** (General Incorporated Association Social Inclusion Support Center) *Foreign language

Tel: 0120-279-338

5 Eradication of trafficking in persons

(1) Thorough control

- Each of the relevant organizations takes thorough steps to crackdown on trafficking in persons, and at the same time, responds actively to other related issues (offenses related to trafficking in persons) that may be connected with undetected trafficking in persons (see 2 (1) ii) for more information on the crackdown on trafficking in persons).

- In June 2014, the Law Enforcement Task Force against Trafficking in Persons, comprising members from the National Police Agency, the Ministry of Justice, the Supreme Public Prosecutors Office, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, and the Japan Coast Guard was established. In addition to cooperating and sharing information about offenses related to trafficking in persons, in September 2014, the Task Force produced “Handbook on Measures against Trafficking in Persons,” which summarizes information such as the laws applicable to trafficking in persons and specific examples of the application of these laws. It is actively utilized by the police, the Immigration Services Agency, the Public Prosecutors Office, the Labour Standards Inspection Offices, and the Japan Coast Guard in conducting investigation and other activities.

i) Thorough control of prostitution

- In 2020, the police arrested 396 people in connection with 400 cases of violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act.

ii) Rigorous response to child sexual exploitation

- The police are promoting measures such as crackdowns on child prostitution and pornography-related crimes, prevention of the distribution and viewing of child pornography, and early detection and support of child victims etc., while working closely together with the relevant ministries and authorities. In 2020, 564 people were arrested in connection with 637 cases of child prostitution crimes, while 1,965 people were arrested in connection with 2,757 cases of child pornography crimes.

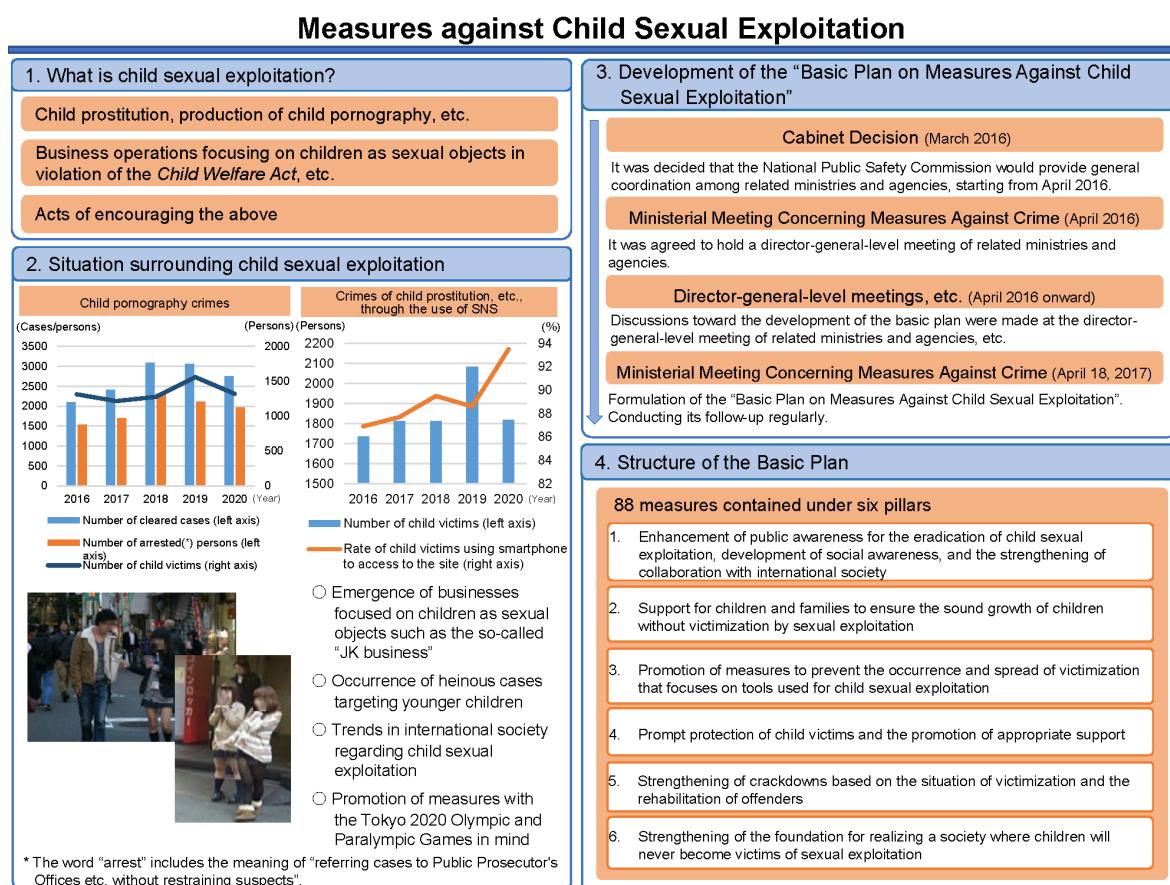
- With the intent of confirming the policy to date of strictly responding to cases of trafficking in persons, in March 2018 the Supreme Public Prosecutors Office notified public prosecutors nationwide that when applying the Child Welfare Act to cases of trafficking in persons they should take care to ensure the imposition of strict sentences, primarily imprisonment with work.
Most of the cases of applying the Child Welfare Act to trafficking in persons after this notification have been sentenced imprisonment.

○ As part of efforts to eradicate the sexual victimization of children resulting from child prostitution and production of child pornography etc. and advocate the rights of child victims, on March 29, 2016, a cabinet decision was made on “Regarding the Basic Policy for Practices Relating to Measures against Child Sexual Exploitation.” According to this decision, the National Public Safety Commission has been designated to govern the overall coordination of measures against child sexual exploitation.

From April 2016, a series of discussions, led by the National Police Agency at the Liaison Conference of the Relevant Ministries and Agencies concerning Measures against Child Sexual Exploitation, had been conducted with the aim of drafting “Basic Plan on Measures against Child Sexual Exploitation,” and the plan was approved at the Ministerial Meeting Concerning Measures Against Crime on April 18, 2017.

The plan maps out the policies and measures that need to be implemented to realize the eradication of crimes relating to child prostitution and child pornography, which are offenses related to trafficking in persons. Since the plan also includes direct measures against trafficking in persons such as implementation of public relations and awareness-raising activities for the eradication of trafficking in persons, and promotion of the protection of trafficking victims, etc., the implementation of policies based on this basic plan is expected to contribute to the prevention of trafficking in persons.

[Figure 26] Implementation of countermeasures based on the Basic Plan on Measure against Child Sexual Exploitation (National Police Agency)



iii) Thorough control of vicious employers and brokers

- With regard to crimes relating to the employment of foreign workers, in 2020, 402 people, including employers and brokers, were arrested in connection with 337 cases.
- In 2020, the Immigration Services Agency cracked down on 69 workplaces suspected of illegal employment. In addition, based on the policy concerning the "Promotion of the Measures against Illegal Employment of Foreigners" agreed between the National Police Agency and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (see 3 (2) i)), the Immigration Services Agency is proactively reporting malicious brokers and employers to the police and bringing charges against them.

[Repeated from 3 (2) ii)]

- In 2020, Prefectural Labour Offices and Labour Standards Inspection Offices conducted inspections on 8,124 implementing organizations (preliminary figures).
Of these, 5,766 implementing organizations (preliminary figures) were found to be in violation of labor standards-related laws and regulations and were instructed. Among these cases, 35 cases (preliminary figures) were referred to prosecutors. These cases involved serious/malicious violations

of labor standards-related laws and regulations in relation to technical training interns, such as illegal overtime work/working on days off, and lower premium wages for overtime work than legal ones.

[Repeated from 3 (3) iii)]

- In 2020, Prefectural Labour Offices, Labour Standards Inspection Offices, and OTIT carried out joint inspections or investigations on 35 implementing organizations (preliminary figures) in relation to cases of suspected infringements of their human rights of technical intern trainees such as forced labor.

As a result, Prefectural Labour Offices and Labour Standards Inspection Offices instructed to 31 cases (preliminary figures) where violations of labor standards-related laws and regulations were found. In addition, OTIT issued correction orders to 24 cases (preliminary figures) out of the 35 cases of joint inspections on implementing organizations.

[Repeated from 3 (2) ii)]

iv) Rigorous response to the problem of being forced into appearing in pornographic materials

- Regarding the problem of women being forced into appearing in pornographic videos against their will, in 2020 the police promoted a crackdown taking into account the application of a full range of laws and regulations, including arresting suspects (one suspect in one case) for violation of the Employment Security Act, and responded appropriately to consultations.

- The Government compiled a report on the current situation and related issues on March 14, 2017, under the Specialist Committee on Violence against Women of the Council for Gender Equality, through hearing on the issue of sexual violence against youths from private organizations, experts, local governments and relevant ministries.

At the “Inter-ministerial meeting on countermeasures to the issues of so-called forced appearance in pornographic materials and “JK business” on March 31, a range of emergency countermeasures were approved including a decision setting April 2017 as a month of prevention for victimization. On May 19, 2017, the “Countermeasures going forward to the issues of so-called forced appearances in pornographic materials and “JK Business” were formulated based on the result of initiatives conducted during the month of prevention for victimization.

The said actions combine various measures for tackling forced appearance in pornographic materials as an offense related to trafficking in persons, through further grasping the actual situation, strengthening the crackdown, bolstering education and awareness raising, developing the consultation system, and strengthening initiatives for protection and support for independence. Promoting these countermeasures should contribute to the prevention of trafficking in persons.

(2) Crime control across borders

i) Strengthening of cooperation with relevant foreign organizations

○ The National Police Agency has convened Contact Point Meetings on trafficking in persons once every year since 2004, at which officials from embassies in Tokyo, relevant ministries and agencies, prefectural governments, NGOs, the International Organization for Migrants (IOM), and so on, discuss issues and share information. Although the conference was not held in 2020 from the viewpoint of preventing infection of COVID-19, the National Police Agency distributed materials regarding overview of cases of trafficking in persons and measures of the police to relevant organizations to share information on trafficking in persons.

○ From 2002 to 2016, the National Police Agency held the Conference of Investigators on Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Southeast Asia annually, inviting overseas investigative organizations based in Southeast Asia and Tokyo to the Conference to expand and strengthen cooperation on investigations related to crimes committed abroad.

From 2017, in order to further strengthen measures to prevent child sexual exploitation, the Conference was developed into a form that enables international organizations and private organizations taking measures to prevent child sexual exploitation to participate in addition to officials from relevant ministries, foreign organizations, and prefectural police. The title of the Conference has now been changed to “Specialist Group Meeting on Child Sexual Exploitation.” In addition to the efforts of the government and the police, the activities of the private organizations and foreign organizations are also introduced to promote understanding of the situation and to work on exchanging information and strengthening collaboration with related organizations and groups.

At the above-mentioned conference (online) held in February 2021, doctors who work on supporting victims of child sexual exploitation, online game-related organizations, private organizations, and Chiba Prefectural Police made presentations respectively.

○ The police share information through INTERPOL with investigative organizations in countries from which victims of trafficking in persons originate. Specifically, in cases of trafficking in persons cleared in Japan pertaining to foreign victims, the police provide information to the police authorities in the home countries of the victims regarding the overview of the case and foreign brokers.

○ Since November 2004, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been providing information on lost and stolen travel documents (such as passport numbers) to INTERPOL through the National Police Agency, and this information is utilized in immigration screening conducted by Interpol member countries.

ii) Enhancement of international mutual legal assistance

- When a mutual legal assistance request related to trafficking in persons is made to Japan by foreign states, Japan positively provides assistance based on the domestic law (the Act on International Assistance in Investigation and Other Related Matters) and the treaties and agreements on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters concluded with other states.

- Japan has concluded treaties and agreements on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters with the United States (effective from July 2006), the Republic of Korea (effective from January 2007), China (effective from November 2008), Hong Kong (effective from September 2009), the EU (effective from January 2011) and Russia (effective from February 2011), and is proactively considering the possibility of concluding such treaties with other countries.

- As a result of the conclusion of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime in July 2017 (see 7 (1) i)), for the crimes stipulated in Article 18, Paragraph 1 of the Convention, it is now possible to provide mutual legal assistance promptly with the States Parties and regions of the Convention through the central authority rather than through the diplomatic channel.

6 Protection and support of trafficking victims

(1) Promotion of efforts based on “Measures for Protection of Victims”

○ Relevant ministries and agencies provide information to relevant administrative organizations regarding the “Methods to Deal with Trafficking in Persons (Measures for Protection of Victims)” (agreed by the July 1, 2011 Inter-Ministerial Liaison Committee Regarding Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons. 2014 Action Plan, Appendix 3), and based on this the relevant administrative organizations collaborate with each other to appropriately take measures related to the protection of victims.

○ With regard to victims of trafficking in persons, in full consideration of their standpoints and based on their wishes, the Immigration Services Agency makes efforts to stabilize the legal status of victims by permitting extension of the period of stay or change the status of residence, or by granting them special permission to stay.

The number of non-Japanese victims who were put under protection by the Immigration Services Agency in 2020 was 8. Of these victims, one victim possessed the status of residence and she was permitted to change the status of residence. The remaining seven victims, who had illegally overstayed and were therefore in violation of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act, were granted special permission to stay.

[Repeated from 2 (1) i)]

With regard to victims who wish to stay in Japan and victims who are unable to return to their countries, the Immigration Services Agency considers the situation of each individual while respecting their wishes, and where necessary, permits them to change their statuses of residence to ones that allow them to work in Japan. In 2015 five were granted the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of Japanese National” (one year) and three were granted the status of residence of “Long-term Resident” (one year), and in 2017 one was granted the status of residence of “Spouse or Child of Permanent Resident” (one year).

○ The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare has placed consultation and interpretation staff at Hello Work offices (employment service centers) mainly in regions with a large number of foreign workers in order to provide advice and support with a view to realizing stable employment for foreign nationals, including victims of trafficking in persons.

Training Courses for Promoting Stable Employment of Foreign Residents are also held with the aim of promoting stable employment by enhancing participants’ communication skills at the workplace and assisting them to acquire knowledge about Japan’s labor laws and regulations, etc.

(2) Strengthening of protection

- As part of the remedy procedures, the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice launched a system to provide human trafficking victims, including male victims, with temporary accommodation as an emergency refuge in October 2015.
- The Technical Intern Training Act that was enforced on November 1, 2017 establishes, in particular, regulations prohibiting acts that infringe the human rights of technical intern trainees etc. and the required penalties for violations, and puts in place measures relating to the protection etc. of technical intern trainees including appropriate response to issues raised and reported by technical intern trainees, and liaison and coordination relating to transfers/relocations of technical intern trainees. The act also established and incorporated the Organization for Technical Intern Training (OTIT), which engages in the administrative work related to the abovementioned, as a legal entity on January 25, 2017 and started operation. [Repeated from 3 (3) i)]

(3) Provision of support to victims

i) Further improvement of temporary protection and assistance at Women’s Consulting Offices

- Women’s Consulting Offices work together with various relevant organizations to protect female victims of trafficking in persons, regardless of nationality and age. The offices provide them with food, clothing and shelter that respects their religious beliefs and dietary habits, gives consideration to their accommodations, bath and meals, and deploys security personnel as part of its night-time security system. These offices are putting effort into improving these systems.

The victims who were put under protection temporarily at Women’s Consulting Offices in 2020 were provided with interpretation support, medical services, and psychological care.

[Repeated from 2 (1) i)]

- Women’s Consulting Offices have also put in place budgetary provisions to supply funding for commissioning the temporary protection of victims of trafficking in persons to shelters in the private sector when provision of appropriate protection is expected for the victims concerned.
- In cases where the victims are children, Women’s Consulting Offices provide the required protective measures in coordination with Child Guidance Centers where necessary.

ii) Provision of information to victims during the process of investigation

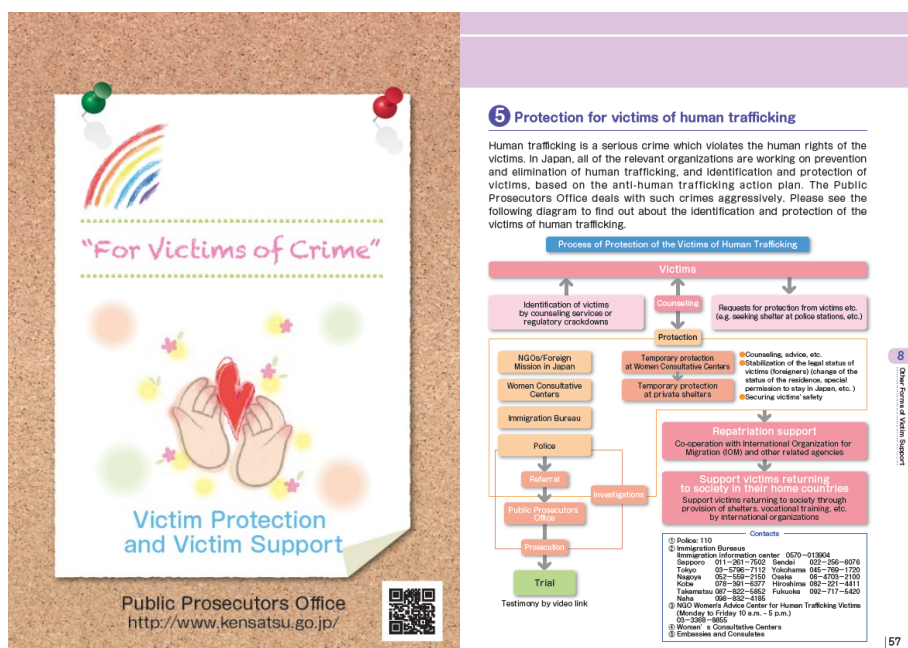
- The police disseminate information about protective measures and provide victims with full explanations about legal procedures, including procedures for obtaining special permission to stay in Japan. The police also provide as much information as they can about perspective of investigations, and put effort to respond by fully considering the victims’ situation.

- At the Public Prosecutor's Office, the pamphlet, “For Victims of Crime” (Japanese and English versions are available) produced by the Ministry of Justice, is handed to victims, etc. when they are to be questioned. In addition, this pamphlet is also available on the website of the Ministry of Justice and the website of the Public Prosecutors Office.

This pamphlet provides easy-to-understand explanations about various systems that provide support and protection to victims of crimes. These include the Victim Support Officer system, which responds to various consultations by victims as well as provides support on matters such as guidance to the courts, and various systems that put in place measures to shield victims when they are required to testify in court as witnesses, in cases deemed necessary by the court.

In particular, the section “Protection for victims of human trafficking” in this pamphlet clearly states that the Public Prosecutor’s Office responds strictly to incidents of human trafficking and illustrates the process of protection of the victims of human trafficking in an easy-to-understand way.

[Figure 27] For Victims of Crime (Public Prosecutor’s Office) (excerpt)



- The Japan Coast Guard explains to victims of crime including victims of trafficking regarding matters such as outlines of criminal proceedings and the status of investigations, the status of the arrest/remand of perpetrators, the rescue of victims, and other matters that it is thought may contribute to relieving the anxiety of victims. The Japan Coast Guard also publicizes initiatives relating to the provision of support for victims of crime on its website and on leaflets entitled “Regarding support for victims of crime.”

iii) Provision of legal support to victims and dissemination of legal support

- The Japan Legal Support Center (Houterasu) cooperates with victim support organizations and groups nationwide, collects information about support contact points, and provides victims with the information they require based on their specific circumstances.

While paying careful attention to preventing the whereabouts of victims from being revealed, Houterasu refers victims requiring legal support to attorneys with experience and understanding of crime victim support, and provides victims who are not financially capable with support through Civil Legal Aid or through Aid Services Entrusted by the Japan Federation of Bar Associations.

Civil Legal Aid involves free legal consultations and lending money to pay for representative's remuneration and expenses, etc. "Japanese citizens and foreign nationals lawfully residing in Japan (hereinafter collectively referred to as "citizens and legal foreign residents") who lack the financial means to pay the necessary expenses incurred in preparing to exercise and exercising their own rights in civil, family, and administrative court proceedings (including negotiations that are found to be necessary to settle a dispute in advance of civil, family, and administrative court proceedings), or who would experience serious financial difficulties if they were to pay those expenses themselves" . (the main paragraph of Article 30 (1) ii) of the Comprehensive Legal Support Act).

Aid Services Entrusted by the Japan Federation of Bar Associations are the services entrusted by the Japan Federation of Bar Associations that offer legal support by attorneys and grants for legal fees, etc. from the perspective of help relating to human rights to people who are not covered by Civil Legal Aid or the court-appointed attorney system for victims participating in criminal trials.

- Houterasu disseminates Civil Legal Aid and the court-appointed attorney system for participating victims by publishing leaflets and showing them on its website, and distributing them to Women's Consulting Offices, etc.
- Houterasu has been operating "Multilingual Information Service" that provides foreign nationals with information on laws and justice systems and relevant organizations or authorities to ask for consultation in multiple languages (from January 2021, Indonesian was added to make the total of 10 languages). In FY2020, the number of cases as of March 31, 2021 was 1,191 in Portuguese, 1,151 in English, 807 in Chinese, 606 in Tagalog, 487 in Spanish, 161 in Vietnamese, 119 in Thai, 53 in Korean, 52 in Nepalese, and 13 in Indonesian.

[Figure 28] Multilingual Information Service (Houterasu)

多言語情報提供 (たげんごじょうほうていきょう)
JAPAN LEGAL SUPPORT CENTER
0570-078377
Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm *Call rates will apply.

NEW!
Bahasa Indonesia
English
Español
Tiếng Việt
한국어
Tagalog
中文
Português
ภาษาไทย
नेपाली भाषा

- The Japan Legal Support Center (Houterasu) cooperates with the General Incorporated Association Social Inclusion Support Center, which provides the telephone consultation service called the “Yoriso Hotline” that offers advice on issues faced in everyday life including sexual violence.

The Yoriso Hotline project is subsidized by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, and provides services in 10 languages (English, Chinese, Korean, Portuguese, Spanish, Thai, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Nepalese and Indonesia) as of the end of FY2020.

iv) Return and reintegration assistance to foreign trafficking victims

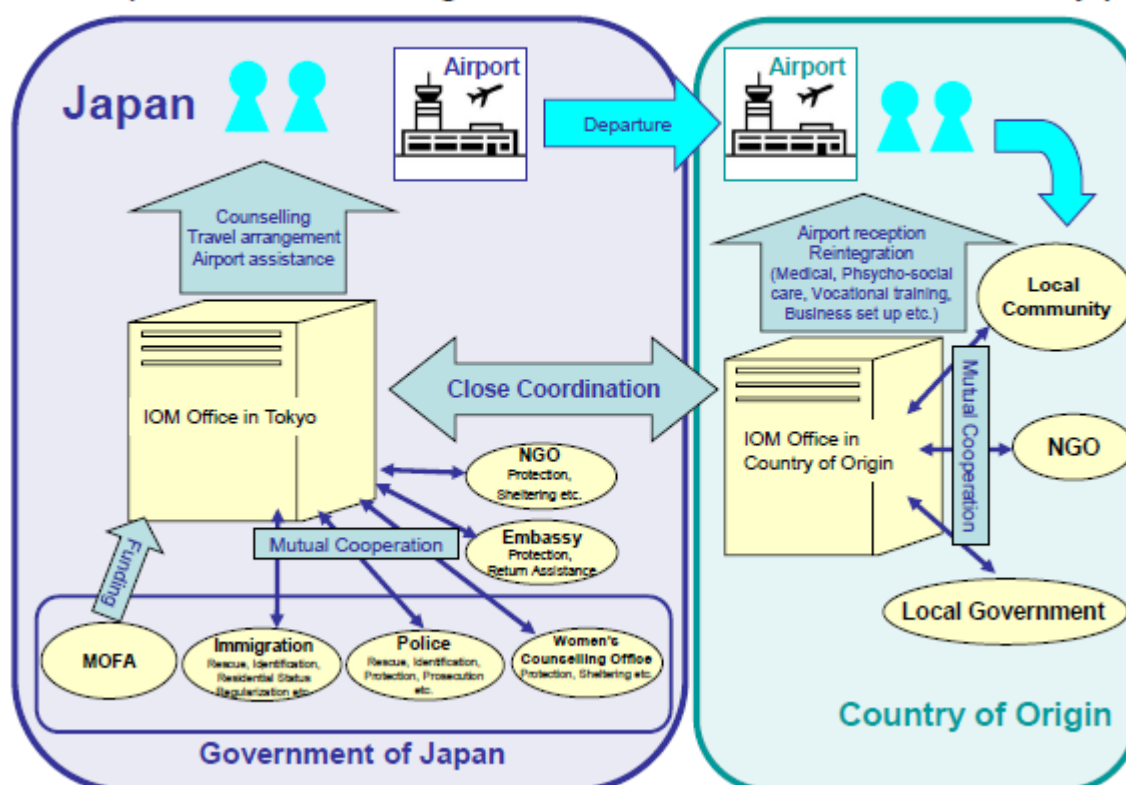
- Since 2005, Japan has been running the project to provide repatriation and reintegration support (e.g. employment and vocational support, and provision of medical assistance) to foreign victims of trafficking in persons identified in Japan through the International Organization for Migration (IOM). In 2020, Japan contributed US\$110,000 to the IOM. Since 2005, this project has provided support to 343 victims to return to their home countries (as of March 31, 2021).

In 2020, 12 victims were voluntary repatriated through support from the IOM sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Six victims were provided with temporary accommodation assistance. Following their repatriation, all the 12 victims based upon their needs and requests were provided with support for family reunification, two were provided with medical support, two others were provided with housing support, and 11 victims based upon request were provided with reintegration assistance within one-year (e.g. assistance for retail business, food and restaurant business, etc.) [Repeated from 2 (1) i)]

- The Immigration Services Agency coordinates closely with the IOM office in Japan and embassies in Tokyo while also working to provide protection for victims and support for them to return to their countries, and engaging in a sustained exchange of information and communication through meetings, training, and everyday works.
- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs receives regular reports from the IOM on the performance of the victim repatriation project. With regard to this project, the IOM office in Japan has conducted a tracer survey between 2017 and 2018 from the psychosocial, social, and economic perspectives of Filipino victims who received repatriation and reintegration support from this project in the past, with the aim of measuring the effectiveness of support and identifying the challenges. The results of the survey were released in March 2019. According to the report on this survey, more than 90% of the respondents indicated that repatriation support had been beneficial, while about 50% of the respondents indicated that reintegration support met their expectations.

[Figure 29] Procedure of return and reintegration assistance (IOM)

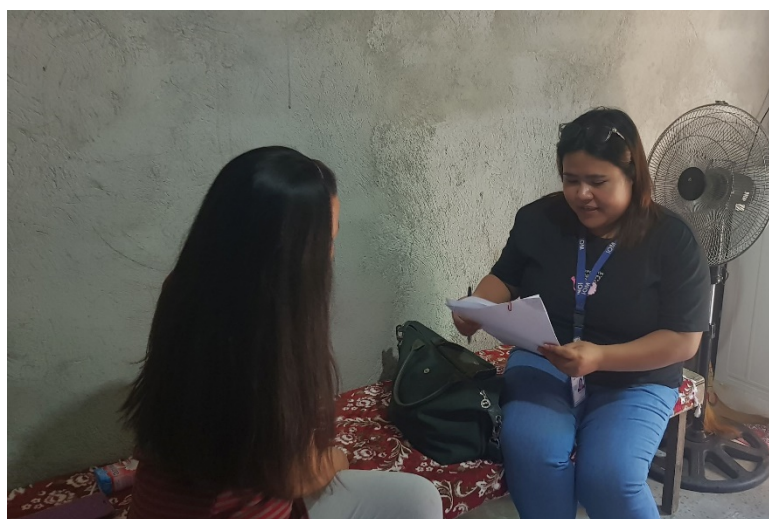
Voluntary Return and Reintegration Assistance for Identified Victim in Japan



[Figure 30] An example of reintegration assistance after returning home through a project sponsored by Japan (a store opened by a victim with the support from IOM) (IOM)



[Figure 31] Monitoring and interviewing of a victim by an IOM staff member in Manila(IOM)



7 Establishment of foundations for promotion of measures against trafficking in persons

(1) Participation in international efforts

i) Conclusion of the Trafficking in Persons Protocol

- Japan obtained approval of the Diet in June 2005 for the conclusion of the Trafficking in Persons Protocol. Furthermore, on June 15, 2017 the Act for Partial Revision of the Act on Punishment of Organized Crimes and Control of Crime Proceeds, etc., an implementing legislation for the conclusion of the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the parent Convention to said Protocol, was passed in the 193rd Diet session, and the Act was enforced on July 11, 2017. Consequently, on that day, Japan concluded and became a State party to the Convention and the Protocol, etc.

[Repeated from 1 (1)]

[Figure 32] Bailment of the consignment note for the Trafficking in Persons Protocol, etc.
(Ministry of Foreign Affairs)



ii) Strengthening of cooperation with other countries

a) Coordination with G7 member countries

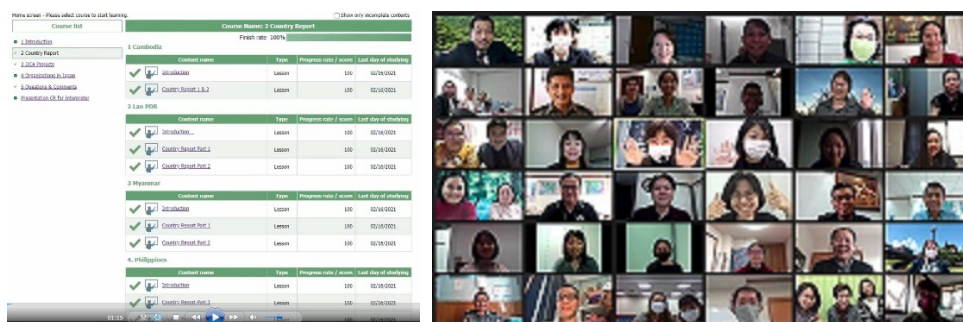
- Every year Japan attends the G7 Roma Lyon Group Migration Experts Sub-Group Meetings (MESG) to hold discussions with the delegates from the relevant countries on enhancements to protection programs for preventing trafficking, tracking down the sources of falsified travel documents, and other matters.

Japan attended each of the meetings held in March 2016 in Tokyo, November 2016 in Hiroshima Prefecture, April and October 2017 in Rome, Italy, March 2018 in Ottawa, Canada, and March 2019 in Rome, Italy.

b) Assistance etc. provided to countries in Southeast Asia and elsewhere from which victims of trafficking in persons originate.

○ The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has invited relevant personnel engaging in anti-human trafficking measures of ASEAN countries to Japan to conduct training program every year from 2012, in collaboration with the National Women's Education Center, etc. In order to promote mutual understanding of measures against trafficking in persons (especially prevention, protection of victims and support for self-independence) and to promote more effective regional collaboration in ASEAN countries, JICA has conducted Knowledge Co-Creation Program; the “Promotion of Networking among ASEAN countries on Anti-Trafficking in Persons” project since 2015. In 2020 when it was difficult to hold the program in Japan due to the pandemic of COVID-19, inviting personnel from six countries (Thailand, Myanmar, Viet Nam, Laos, Philippines, and Cambodia) in charge of measures against trafficking in persons who previously participated in the programs, JICA held an online conference for the purpose of confirming each country’s system against trafficking in persons shared in the program every year, mutually learning about victimization of trafficking in persons which were faced by migrant workers during the pandemic as well as each country’s countermeasure against this, and strengthening the personnel network. Taking advantage of online conference, without restriction on the number of participants, participants from telephone consultation service centers, private support organizations, consulting bodies for migrant workers that trainees visited in the past, in addition to experts in JICA-related projects and local officials, could attend the conference.

[Figure 33] Online conference held by participants of the past training (JICA, National Women’s Education Center)



○ In Thailand, JICA implemented “the Project on Capacity Development on Assisting Victims of Trafficking in the Greater Mekong Sub-regional Countries” from April 2015 to April 2019.

Based on the results of the Project on Strengthening of Multi-Disciplinary Teams (MDTs) for Protection of Trafficked Persons in Thailand, which was implemented solely in Thailand from March 2009 to March 2014, this project was expanded its scope to other countries in the Mekong region (Myanmar and Laos) in order to enhance the capabilities of organizations in the Mekong region that

engage in the repatriation/return and social reintegration of not only Thai victims of trafficking but also victims of other neighboring countries who suffered in Thailand, enhancing inter-organizational coordination

- JICA supported holding a “Mekong Region Workshop” in Bangkok, Thailand by inviting government officials concerning trafficking in persons from each country in the Mekong region. The workshop was held nine times as part of the “Project on Strengthening of Multi-Disciplinary Teams (MDTs) for Protection of Trafficked Persons in Thailand” (once every year from 2010 to 2014) and the “Project on Capacity Development on Assisting Victims of Trafficking in the Greater Mekong Sub-regional Countries” (once every year from 2016 to 2019). These nine workshops helped strengthening the network in the Mekong region and promote the sharing of knowledge and lessons on measures against trafficking in persons across borders.

Six countries (Japan, Thailand, Viet Nam, Myanmar, Cambodia and Laos) participated in the 9th workshop held in January 2019, and introduced their own country’s initiatives and exchanged views and opinions on protection of victims, facilitation of repatriation and social reintegration etc.

- JICA is implementing the “Project for Strengthening the Operation of Hot Line for Counseling and Supporting Trafficked Survivors” in Viet Nam from November 2018 to November 2021. This project aims to further strengthen prevention of trafficking in persons and collaboration with related organizations, based on the fact that Viet Nam’s hot line operation system (telephone consultation service) has been developed by the “Project for the Establishment of Anti-Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Hotline in Vietnam” implemented from 2012 to 2016. In 2020, JICA and IOM sponsored by the Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs worked together to support the workshop regarding the revision of decrees on bylaws of the Act on Anti-Trafficking in Persons in Vietnam. In addition, JICA held training for telephone counselors.

[Figure 34] Anti-Trafficking in Persons Hotline, Hanoi Operation Center (JICA)



[Figure 35] JICA Viet Nam Anti-TIP Hotline Report (Report on cooperation in the revision of ordinances regarding restrictive measures against trafficking in persons in Viet Nam and implementation of training of telephone counselors) (in Japanese) (JICA)

ベトナム Anti-TIP ほっとライン便り

被害者支援及びカウンセリングのための人身取引対策 (Anti-TIP) ホットライン運営強化プロジェクト ニュースレター

第7号

今回の内容

- Decree No. 09 改定ワークショップを開催し、最終化しました！
- DOLISA フォーカルポイントセミナーを開催しました！
- 電話相談員研修を実施しました！
- コロナ禍での進展によるプロジェクト活動の進捗
- 今後の主な活動予定

11月30日

Decree No. 09 改定ワークショップを開催し、最終化しました！

2020年10月13日に、ハノイにて Decree No. 09 (人身取引対策法の施行に際しての改正) 改定にかかるワークショップを、労働者福祉委員会 (MOLISA) の主催で、国際移住機関 (IOM) と共に実施しました。Decree No. 09 は、人身取引 (TIP) の被害者/サバイバーがどのような支援を受けられるかを定めた重要な法律です。この改定に際しては、2019年に被害者支援と被害者保護に携わっている職員やサバイバーへのインタビューを行い、1年がかりで改定案の最終化に近づけることができました。参加には中央・地方の関係者、NGOや国際機関、メディアから合計112人が参加しました。

今年中のパネルディスカッションで追加のコメントを、年後はグループディスカッションを行い、幅広い意見交換と関係者からの意見の集約を行いました。ワークショップで得た意見を再整理した上で、法務省・財務省などの部局を経て、最終的に12月中旬に閣議前に提出することができました。以前の Decree No. 09 から改定された点は、以下のとおりです。

- 当プロジェクトが支援している Anti-TIP ホットラインの位置づけ、機能が正式に記述されました。
- 心療的・身体的被害への支援が被害者支援活動だけでなく受けられるようになりました。無償で健康保険証が交付されることとなりました。また、定期的な健康診断を受けられるようになりました。
- 初級研修支援 (一時金助成) が、認定された被害者の出身者のみならず、各省

の判断が必要なものに対し3か月を上限に支給されることになり、金額も上げられました。

- 初期支援及び回復支援の対象として、ベトナム経由で TIP に遭った外国人も含められました。
- 職業訓練支援の選択枠を増やすこととなりました。
- 種別支援 (ローン) はニーズが高いが、サバイバーが返済を滞らせることは無い場合があるため、立案から支援することとし、ガイドラインを作成することとした。
- 貧困あるいは被災・火事などのため住居がなくなるには住宅再建支援の一時金を支給することとした。
- 支援プロセスを明確にし、手続きにかかる時間を短縮し、効率化を図った。

Decree No. 09 の実施評価では、サバイバーの方たちの境遇は様々であることがわかりました。「職業訓練も良いけれど、それよりも『稼ぎたい』という気持ちがあれば、『父業が欲しいサバイバー』のご要望も出てきて、驚かす一歩出ると言う。父親と母親の関係も悪くなってしまっているという方もいました。

ワークショップの様子、日本人専門家とIOMで議論に参加しました。

DOLISA フォーカルポイントセミナーを開催しました！

10月29-30日に、ハノイにて2020年のDOLISA フォーカルポイントセミナーを開催しました。DOLISA フォーカルポイントの全国的な都市労働者福祉委員会 (DOLISA) の TIP 対策コーディネーターともなる人たちが、その多くは TIP サバイバーを受け入れ支援しているソーシャルワーカーの長です。コロナ下で開催を延期してきたのですが、日本人専門家の派遣に目途が立たないことから、オンラインで開催しました。

2020年のTIPの現状について、公安省 (MPS) より報告があり、2020年1-6月はCOVID-19の影響もありTIP件数が増えつつあると報告されました。2019年の上半期と比較して、件数は39%減(1,162/1,908件)、犯罪率は46%減(1,546/2,861人)、被害者は24%減(2,814/3,717人)でした。

プロジェクトより、2020年10月までの活動の進捗状況、DOLISA フォーカルポイントの連絡の仕方や今後の活動予定、目標指標の達成状況を報告するとともに、COVID-19下での各省の経済・雇用状況についてDOLISAフォーカルポイントから意見を頂きました。コロナ下で開催を延期してきたこと、効果的な広報活動に向けてDOLISAフォーカルポイントの協力を依頼しました。効果的な広報活動について得られた意見は以下のとおりです。

- ソーシャルメディアを通じた広報活動が効果的だと感じました。Facebookなどのプラットフォームを増やす努力も必要だと感じました。
- 山岳地域の情報は、非都市化地域もあり、スマートフォンやPCを日常的に使わない人も多く存在する。ソーシャルメディアを通じた広報活動は即時で効果的な活動ではない場合もあるため、コミュニティのリーダーや地域で影響力を持った人々と協力した広報活動が効果的だと感じました。
- ポスターや広報資料を国境地点(出入国地点)に置いてほしい。
- 通関手では、市全体に届くのがスピーカーでの情報伝達が効果的だと感じました。このことから、ポスターの情報を広げてもらうのが効果的だと感じました。
- ターゲットグループには、中小高次生をまとめる。Anti-TIPの知識に関するコンテンツを学校で行うことも可能だと感じました。頂いた意見を基に、広報活動にも力を入れていきたいと思っています。

電話相談員研修を実施しました！

10月11日に計3回、各4日間の電話相談員研修を実施しました。COVID-19の感染拡大防止のため、ハノイ、ダナン、アンザン市の電話相談員及び全国のソーシャルワーカーのカウンセラーを対象に、3地域に分けて実施しました。内容は、性的虐待の被害者に対するカウンセリングの5つのステップ(1)被害者の関係構築、(2)関係の特定、(3)支援計画の立案、(4)個人支援、(5)評価と実施)について、特に後半3つのステップを重点的に取り扱いました。講師は、カウンセリングの質の外部評価を行った、心理学教授でカウンセラーの Dr. Tran Thi Minh Duc に依頼しました。研修は、カウンセラーを始める前に、シフトワークを始めとする経験豊富なカウンセラーは傾向的に対応できていたが、近年採用した新しいカウンセラーはまだ適切な対応が難しい様子がありました。また、経験豊富なカウンセラーと相談者の話を十分に聞かずにうしろめたに入り、カウンセラーの抱き過ぎや相手もよく聞かない状況が続いています。そのため、研修の中心としてサポート体制を整えています。今後引き続き研修を実施していくとともに、特に新人カウンセラーについて徹底的に研修に参加する機会を設けていく必要があると感じました。

コロナ禍での進展によるプロジェクト活動の進捗

新型コロナウイルスは世界的に世界中で蔓延を続けており、当プロジェクトにおいても、昨年の2月以降、日本人専門家の現地派遣ができず、活動の進展は限られたにとどまっています。活動に遅れがないことについては、現地スタッフやカウンセラーの活躍によること、対面でも話し合えることができないという制約にも対応し、広報活動など情報伝達が必要となる活動についても、ある程度の限界があると感じています。

現在、プロジェクトでは4月初旬に派遣再開に向けて調整していますが、日本国内の感染状況や、ベトナム側の水際対策によっては、再開の予定の見直しが必要となってしまうかもしれません。プロジェクトも調整しながら、一日も早く現地入りができるよう、引き続き現地での調整に取り組んでまいります。

昨年12月に追加したWEBミーティングの様子

人々も多く存在する。ソーシャルメディアを通じた広報活動は即時で効果的な活動ではない場合もあるため、コミュニティのリーダーや地域で影響力を持った人々と協力した広報活動が効果的だと感じました。

ターゲットグループには、中小高次生をまとめる。Anti-TIPの知識に関するコンテンツを学校で行うことも可能だと感じました。頂いた意見を基に、広報活動にも力を入れていきたいと思っています。



研修の様子、ベトナムでDOLISAフォーカルポイントを中心に話し合いました。

今後の主な活動予定

- IAWT ミーティングの開催
- 人身取引対策国家計画 (2021~2025年) へのプロジェクトの反映
- WWU との NPA の実施状況調査
- ルポルタージュの作成
- 国際労働機関の研修資料の作成
- Anti-TIP ホットラインのシステム更新と人材の育成
- 各種広報活動の実施

プロジェクトメンバー

- 岩島 賢子：総括/初級研修講師/研修管理/人身取引対策センターコーディネーター
 - 栗田 真之：IT/資料翻訳/資料活動1
 - 岡野 鉄平：資料翻訳/研修管理/2級発給者
- 本ニュースレターやプロジェクトに関するお問い合わせ先は、t.okano@jica.go.jp (担当: 岡野) または宛先にご連絡ください。

- JICA is implementing the “Project on Capacity Development and Promotion of Networking on Assisting Victims of Trafficking” in Myanmar from July 2018 to July 2021. This project aims to further strengthen capabilities and collaboration of Myanmar’s organizations pertaining to protection, repatriation, and social reintegration of victims of trafficking in persons in Myanmar, based on the results and issues of the Project on Capacity “Project on Capacity Improvement of Recovery and Reintegration Assistance for Trafficked Persons” implemented from 2012 to 2016.
 - The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been contributing to the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund (CPCJF) managed by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) every year since FY2015, for the implementation of a project to enhance the criminal justice capacity (including trafficking in persons countermeasures) of law enforcement authorities in Southeast Asia. In FY2020, it contributed US\$200,000. Officials seconded from the Ministry of Justice (prosecutors) are leading this project.
- c) Working with countries from which technical intern trainees are sent
- Though not required in the Technical Intern Training Act, with the objectives of eliminating organizations that improperly send technical intern trainees as well as collaborating to carry out technical intern training properly and smoothly, Japan has signed memorandum of cooperation (MOCs) with 14 of the countries from which technical intern trainees are sent (Viet Nam, Cambodia, India, Philippines, Laos, Mongolia, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Bhutan, Uzbekistan, Pakistan, Thailand, and Indonesia) (as of March 31, 2021).
- [Repeated from 3 (3) i)]
- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with the attendance of officials from the relevant ministries and agencies, has been utilizing opportunities such as consular consultations with dispatching countries of technical intern trainees, to bring up and request improvements on their countermeasures to handle cases of missing persons and human rights infringements.
- d) Sharing of information through the Bali Process
- Since 2002 Japanese government officials have been participating in meetings relating to the Bali Process (a follow-up process implemented following regional ministerial meetings relating to migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons and other related transnational crimes). The officials introduced Japan’s anti-trafficking initiatives and joined in discussions with representatives from other member countries, regions, and international organizations regarding future directions for the Bali Process.

In the Seventh Bali Process Regional Ministerial Meeting held in Bali, Indonesia in August 2018, participants from 67 nations, regions and related international organizations held discussions about the present state of trafficking in persons, etc. in the region, future initiatives, etc. Participants from Japan presented Japan's initiatives to combat trafficking in persons and its contributions to the Bali Process. (The Bali Process meeting or online meeting was not held in FY2020 due to the pandemic of COVID-19)

- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has also contributed US\$10,000 to the Bali Process website, which is operated and managed by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), every year since 2005 and is endeavoring to improve information sharing among the related countries.

e) Trainings by the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI)

- UNAFEI held the international training courses for criminal justice practitioners in French-speaking African countries, covering the themes "Basics of investigation, prosecution and adjudication" and "Combating terrorism and organized crime" (February 2016), as well as the international training courses for criminal justice practitioners from developing countries around the world, covering the themes "Criminal Justice: Children as Victims and Witnesses" (May/June 2016), "Criminal Justice Procedures and Practices to Disrupt Criminal Organizations" (May/June 2017), and "Criminal Justice Responses to Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants" (May/June 2019) respectively.

Through these training courses, UNAFEI enhances the capacity of criminal justice practitioners of developing countries, strengthens their network, and supports their efforts to combat trafficking in persons.

(2) Acquisition of people's understanding and cooperation

i) Further promoting of government public relations

- The government provides information regarding trafficking in persons countermeasures on the Public Relations Office of the Government of Japan portal website, which is operated by the Cabinet Office, and calls on people to contact their local police station etc. when asked for help from victims of trafficking in persons who have been forced into prostitution and work, etc.
- The Cabinet Secretariat provided information to citizens about the actual situations of trafficking in persons and call for reports of victimization through postings on social media (Twitter) etc.
- The Cabinet Office positioned the promotion of trafficking in persons countermeasures as one of the fields relevant to the eradication of all types of violence against women in the Fifth Basic Plan for

Gender Equality (approved by a cabinet decision on December 25, 2020).

During the campaign period for eliminating violence against women, from 12 to 25 November every year, the Cabinet Office produces posters and leaflets and distributes them to local governments and other relevant organizations. Since 2016, the Cabinet Secretariat has publicized information on its Twitter account during the same period.

- Every year since FY2004, the Cabinet Office has produced educational posters and leaflets relating to measures taken against trafficking in persons and also made this information available online.

In FY2020, the Cabinet Office produced about 85,000 posters and leaflets titled “You could be a victim of human trafficking!” and distributed them to about 4,600 places including local governments, airports and marine ports, universities and technical colleges, the Japan Association of Travel Agents, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and other relevant organizations. In addition to these places, since FY2016 the posters have also been put on railway station notice boards.

In order to raise greater awareness of the measures for cases that are often known to the police and cleared in Japan, such as coercion to provide sexual services, and cases involving the use of not only physical restraint but also psychological restraint, publicity that uses the terminology “人身取引（性的サービスや労働の強要等）” is promoted.

[Repeated from 3 (5) i)]

- Every year since 2005, the National Police Agency has produced leaflets in several languages calling for people to report cases of trafficking in persons to the police, with the aim of discovering latent victims. These leaflets are distributed to the relevant ministries and agencies, embassies in Tokyo, and NGOs, and also placed in places that can easily catch the eyes of the victims and made available online.

In 2020, the leaflet was revised from the perspective of victims in a significantly compact form for portability and an understandable design with key words and illustration, reflecting feedback from NGOs and foreign embassies in Tokyo. About 290,000 leaflets were prepared and distributed.

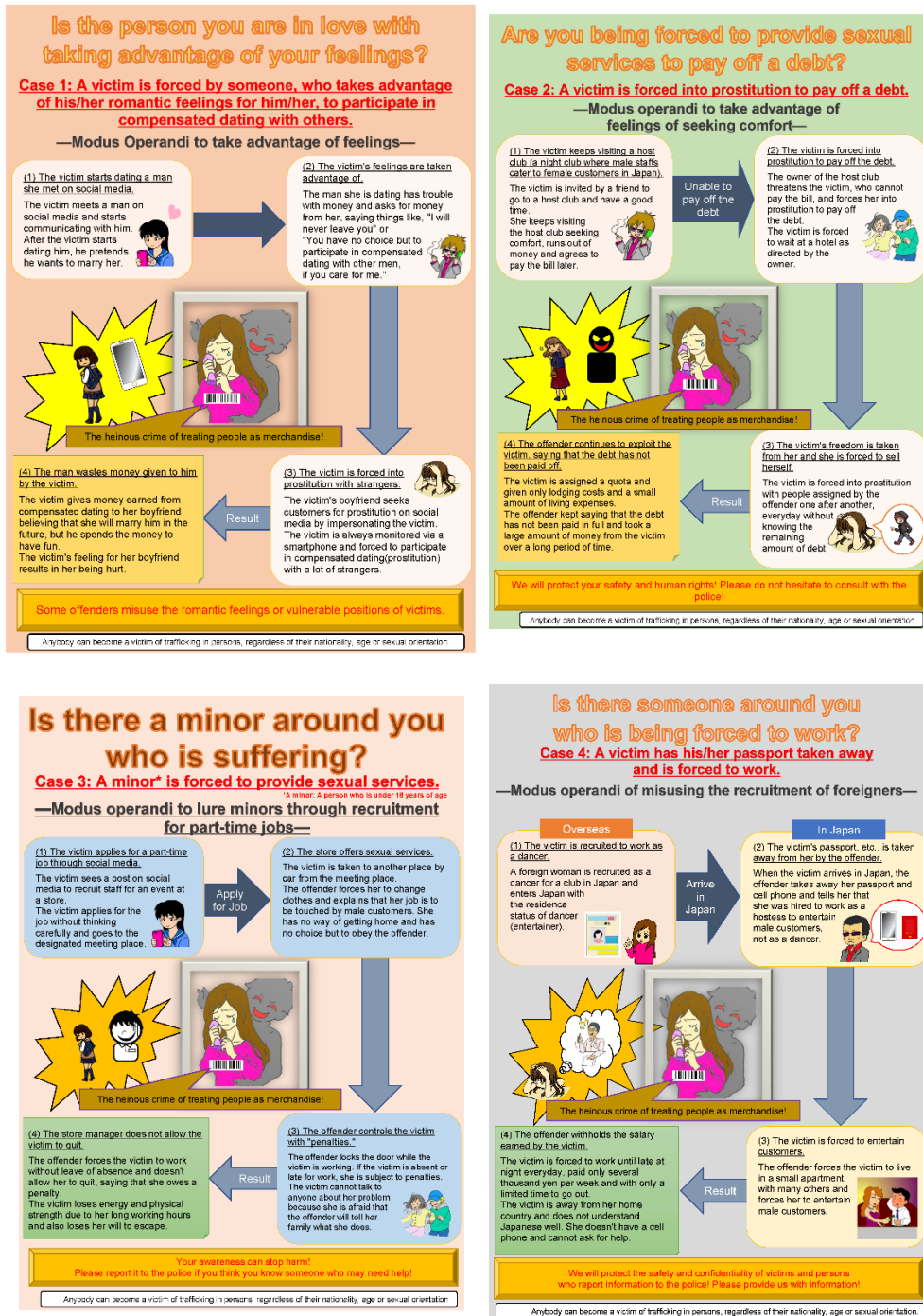
In addition, in order to raise awareness of an increasing number of Vietnamese workers, with the cooperation of the Vietnamese Embassy, the leaflet was posted on the website of the National Police Agency in 10 languages, adding Vietnamese (Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish, Russian, Thai, Tagalog, Indonesia, and Vietnamese) and digital signage using the leaflet data is displayed at multiple international airports in Japan.

[Repeated from 4 (2)]

- The National Police Agency collected major methods of trafficking offences from nationwide and prepared materials with understandable words and illustrations by exchanging views with NGOs in order to raise awareness of as many Japanese people as possible on important points. The data of the

leaflet is posted on its website and written on Twitter several times to promote public relations.

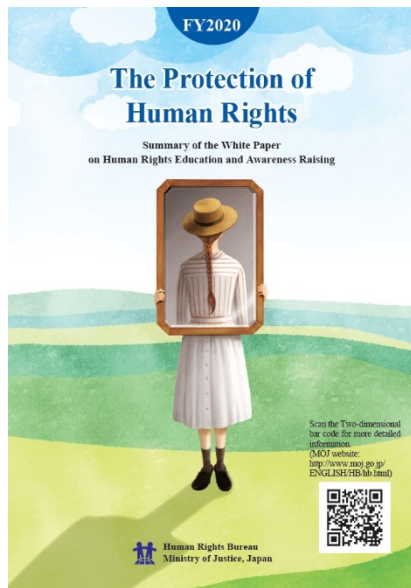
[Figure 36] Major methods of trafficking offences (National Police Agency)



○ Having set “Stop Trafficking in Persons” as one of the priority targets of awareness-raising activities, the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice conduct public relations activities on the fact that trafficking

in persons is a serious crime and provides human rights counseling services on the Ministry of Justice's website, as well as producing and distributing a booklet titled "The Protection of Human Rights."

[Figure 37] The Protection of Human Rights (Ministry of Justice) (excerpt)



16- Trafficking in Persons (Coercive Sexual Services and Labor)

Trafficking in persons (coercive sexual services and labor) is a grave violation of human rights and requires prompt and appropriate response from a humanitarian perspective as trafficking in persons causes serious psychological and physical pain for the victims and recovery from such damage is very difficult.

The national government formulated the 2014 Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons at the Ministerial Meeting Concerning Measures against Crime in December 2014 with the aim of responding with appropriate measures to the situation against trafficking in persons and carrying out integral and comprehensive countermeasures as a government-wide initiative.

Additionally, under this Action Plan, the national government has held the Council for the Promotion of Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons as necessary to ascertain the current situation of trafficking in persons in Japan, and to promote prevention and elimination of trafficking in persons and proper protection of victims. At the same time, it has been carrying out PR



Poster "Measures against Trafficking in Persons"

activities concerning these efforts and seeking cooperation of the general public to make a report when finding any suspected victimized person. In this manner, measures have been taken cooperatively by relevant ministries and agencies.

The human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice carry out human rights awareness-raising activities and conduct human rights counseling and human rights remedy activities, thereby endeavoring to deepen people's interest and understanding regarding the issue of trafficking in persons.

■ The number of human rights violation cases regarding trafficking in persons for which remedy procedures were commenced

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Human rights violations regarding trafficking in persons	1	0	0	0	0

- The Immigration Services Agency has listed on its website the contact points for consultation and providing information relating to trafficking in persons, and its policies and processes relating to victim protection measures in eight languages (Japanese, English, Chinese (traditional and simplified), Korean, Portuguese, Spanish, Thai, and Tagalog). Efforts have also been made to make leaflets produced by the National Police Agency readily available to trafficking victims by, for example, placing them on regional immigration services bureau examination counters and airport immigration counters.

[Repeated from 4 (2)]

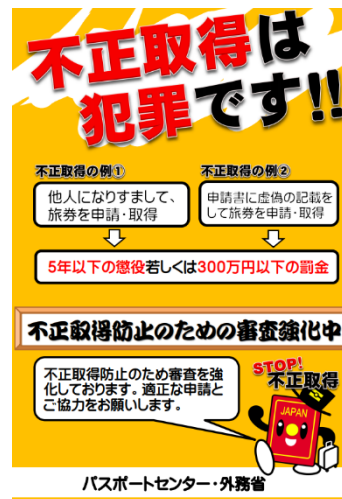
- Based on the results of investigations and research into trafficking in persons conducted by the National Women's Education Center of Japan between FY2005 and FY2010, the center has made display panels and leaflets titled "Eliminating trafficking in persons and violence against women," regarding the importance of raising awareness of trafficking in persons and also made this information available online.
- In 2020, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs designated two periods (a two-week period from February 20 to March 5, and another two-week period stipulated by each prefectural government between July and October) as campaign periods for strengthening screening to prevent the improper acquisition of travel documents through identity theft. During these campaign periods, passport offices in each prefecture engaged in public relations activities including posting information on websites and displaying posters titled "Application for passport issue is strictly examined" in order to prevent improper acquisition of

passports, which has the potential to aid and abet international terrorism and transnational organized crime such as trafficking in persons and illegal immigration.

[Figure 38] Leaflet (National Women’s Education Center of Japan) (excerpt)



[Figure 39] Posters for the Prevention of improper acquisition of passports (in Japanese) (MOFA)



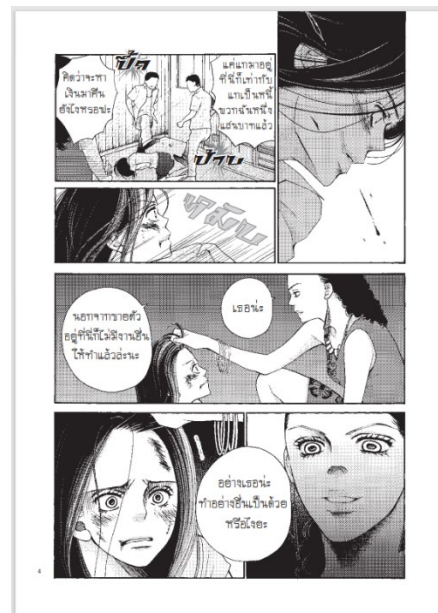
- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs distributes leaflets produced by the National Police Agency (see 4 (2)) and leaflets and posters produced by the Cabinet Office (see 3 (5) i)) to overseas diplomatic missions, etc.

[Repeated from 4(5)]

- In February 2020, JICA, in cooperation with Shogakukan Inc. and young female manga artists, produced a publicity manga on the current situation for trafficking in persons in Thailand and close support provided to victims, based on JICA’s cooperation on anti-human trafficking measures in Thailand to date. This manga production has been published in a female comic magazine by Shogakukan, and has also been published on JICA’s website. In July 2020, JICA translated it into Thai in order to strengthen awareness of trafficking in persons as well as JICA’s support project against trafficking in persons in Thailand.

[Figure 40] Publicity manga on the current situation for trafficking in persons in Thailand
(in Japanese and Thai)

(Source: Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) (Collaboration between JICA and Shogakukan))



In Japanese (including introduction of manga)

https://www.jica.go.jp/topics/2019/20200205_01.html

In Thai

<https://www.jica.go.jp/publication/manga/trafficking.html>

ii) Efforts through education

- The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology has always strived to promote education that raises awareness of respecting human rights through school education and social education, based on the spirit of the Constitution and the Basic Act on Education. Based on the National Curriculum Standards, the ministry also promotes education that puts emphasis on nurturing respect for life of oneself and others.

- On the basis of “the Policy for Enhancement of Measures against Sex Crimes and Sexual Assault” that was determined in June 2020 and in cooperation with relevant ministries and agencies, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology promotes “Life safety education” that is education for students to learn about the importance and value of life, respect themselves and others as well as to prevent them from becoming a perpetrator, victim or bystander of sex crime or sexual assault. In 2020, the Ministry and the Cabinet Office worked together to create textbooks and a guidebook and published them in April 2021.

iii) Raising awareness of associations of small and medium enterprises

- At the meetings for optimizing the operation of the Technical Intern Training Program held every year, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry gains the cooperation of the relevant ministries and agencies on complying with labor-related laws, and disseminates information to the relevant organizations. In 2020, the meeting was held in June.

- The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries holds meetings of the Specified Agricultural Skilled Worker Council and Steering Committee that was established in March 2019 with a view to ensuring the proper acceptance of foreign human resources based on the actual situation in the agricultural industry, as well as protecting their human rights. Comprising members from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries as well as other relevant ministries and agencies, and agricultural organizations, the council and steering committee shares information on the status and challenges of the system, responds to human right issues, exchanges opinions to address these challenges and issues, and disseminates good practices regarding organizations accepting foreign human resources.

iv) Raising awareness of overseas travelers

- The Japan Tourism Agency continues to raise awareness amongst travel agencies with the aim of ensuring that travel agencies do not become involved in unsound travel. Specifically, the Japan Tourism Agency encourages travel agencies every year, when conducting their annual self-

assessments relating to compliance with the Travel Agency Act, to look at whether or not they have been involved in facilitating unsound travel and the purchasing of counterfeit goods, etc. It also conducts on-site inspection of travel agencies, including such self-assessment, in accordance with the Travel Agency Act. The Travel Agency Act Article 13, Paragraph 3, Item 1 prohibits the mediation etc. of actions that violate the laws and regulations enforced in travel destination countries.

- In the booklet titled “A Handbook of Safety Tips in Foreign Countries,” distributed to Japanese nationals travelling overseas, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs warns against involvement in acts of prostitution, citing it as an example of a case where Japanese people become criminals in the section under “Case Studies: Examples of Troubles and Countermeasures.” The booklet calls on the public to refrain from engaging in inappropriate activities by explaining that the prostitution is illegal in many countries and can be treated as a serious crime, and that offenses relating to the child prostitution and possessing child pornography overseas is also subject to punishment for a crime committed outside Japan under the relevant Japanese law. [Repeated from 3 (5) i)]

(3) Strengthening of the system for promoting measures against trafficking in persons

i) Improvement of relevant administrative officers’ knowledge and awareness

a) National Police Agency

- The police school provides training on measures against trafficking in persons for newly hired police officers and promoted police officers.
- In order to contribute to improving the professional skills of police officers, training is conducted by National Experts designated by the National Police Agency.
- Every year the National Police Agency offers training on measures to combat offenses related to trafficking in persons, as part of the specialized courses targeted at executive staff across Japan who are responsible for cracking down on adult entertainment-related offenses. In 2020, the training was cancelled from the viewpoint of preventing infection of COVID-19.

b) Ministry of Justice

- The Immigration Services Agency puts efforts into advancing the knowledge and awareness of its officials on measures to combat trafficking in persons through lectures on human rights at training programs according to their careers. In addition, in cooperation with external instructors from the relevant ministries and agencies, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and NGOs, specialized training on human rights and measures to combat trafficking in persons was also conducted targeting mid-level officials who deal directly with such trafficking cases. An initiative

was also implemented in which the officials who received this training fed back what they learned to provide training for frontline staff.

In specially-developed training on trafficking in persons countermeasures, the agency carries out a lecture emphasizing the practical work involved in identifying victims, including case studies that clarify the main points to consider when identifying victims.

- The Public Prosecutor's Office provided trafficking in persons-related lectures etc. to public prosecutors during training workshops etc. provided them in correspondence to the years of experience. Furthermore, the Public Prosecutor's Office widely informs the approach to be taken at various meetings at which nationwide public prosecutors gather together that they should actively respond to cases of trafficking in persons. Particularly, in meetings of public prosecutors responsible for combatting organized crime, specific examples and experiences of cases of trafficking in persons in Public Prosecutor's Offices nationwide are shared.

c) Ministry of Foreign Affairs

- In the training course for newly appointed consular officers conducted every fiscal year, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs delivers lectures on measures to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, including the role that visas play as a border control measure, as well as considerations to take when interviewing former victims. A total of 175 officials attended the lectures in FY2020. Similar lectures were also delivered during training for 91 security officers to be stationed at Japanese Embassies and Consulates.

For those who are eligible for these training and also for other consular officers who are currently or to be posted at Japanese Embassies and Consulates lectures are given not only on knowledge of travel documents, but also on collaboration with the relevant organizations in the countries of posting.

- To staff members of prefectural passport offices, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs implements training courses on the screening process of issuance of travel documents in order to prevent the improper acquisition of travel documents by people connected with trafficking in persons and terrorists etc.

d) Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

- Every year, in the training given to labor standards supervisory officers in about their fifth year of service, training is provided regarding the role of labor standards supervisory bodies in the promotion of measures to combat trafficking in persons.

- At the annual research council meetings for the heads of Women’s Consulting Offices and senior officials for women’s protection services, training is provided featuring lectures given by the IOM on responses to victims of trafficking in persons. In 2020, the lecture was cancelled from the viewpoint of preventing infection of COVID-19.
- At the conference held in February 2021, labor standards inspection offices were instructed to conduct a joint site-inspection with OTIT on implementing organizations in the case of identifying a suspected violation of trafficking of technical intern trainees and carry out thorough investigations into the possibility of trafficking in persons.

e) Japan Coast Guard

- Japan Coast Guard gives lectures on the actual situation of human trafficking and the importance of protecting victims of trafficking through annual training programs for mid-level officials so that they can recognize trafficking during the process of investigations.

f) Courts

- Some of the training programs for judges conducted at the Legal Training and Research Institute of Japan feature lectures delivered by university professors or other experts specializing in international human rights. The lectures cover various issues pertaining to international laws and regulations relating to human rights issues including trafficking in persons.

ii) Promotion of cooperation and information exchange with relevant administrative agencies

- The police, the Immigration Services Agency, the Japan Coast Guard and other relevant organizations, inform prefectural police, the Regional Immigration Services Bureaus and their District Immigration Offices, and the respective Regional Coast Guard Headquarters about the “Methods to Deal with Trafficking in Persons (Measures for Identification of Victims)” (see 4 (1)) and “Methods to Deal with Trafficking in Persons (Measures for Protection of Victims)” (see 6 (1)), and instruct them to ensure an appropriate approach is taken toward the identification and protection of victims in cooperation with relevant organizations.
- When cases of trafficking in persons are detected, prefectural police hold local liaison conferences with the relevant organizations to provide appropriate protection for victims and enhance coordination between local organizations.
- In September 2012, the National Police Agency produced materials “the Police procedure for

handling trafficking in persons crimes”, and distributed these through the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare to Women’s Consulting Offices in each prefecture with the aim of facilitating closer coordination.

Women's Consulting Offices in each prefecture use these materials as a reference in their efforts to protect victims of trafficking.

- When the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice come into contact with cases of suspected trafficking in persons through human rights counseling, they commence investigations on these cases by treating them as human rights violation cases, and work together with the relevant organizations to provide an appropriate response.
- Although every year, the Immigration Services Agency held “Committee on measures to prevent and detect crimes violating the Immigration Control Act,” in FY2020, it was replaced by information sharing to share information on the current state of crimes relating to trafficking in persons and measures against such crimes with relevant organizations such as the National Police Agency, the Public Prosecutors Office, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Japan Coast Guard, and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare.
- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs provides travel document issuance information to the Immigration Services Agency for passport control of Japanese citizens at airports and ports in Japan.

iii) Cooperation with NGOs, IOM, etc.

- Relevant organizations such as the Cabinet Secretariat, the National Police Agency, the Immigration Services Agency, and the Japan Coast Guard, make effort to strengthen cooperation by exchanging their viewpoints and information and providing training programs with NGOs, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and other entities through the Contact Point Meeting on Trafficking in Persons (see 5(2) i)) and their daily works. The National Police Agency also distributes leaflets (see 4(2)) to NGOs, IOM, and other entities and calls for cooperation.
- The government holds discussions with NGOs and examines specific cases of trafficking in persons. In the discussions in 2020, NGOs expressed their views regarding the identification of victims among technical intern trainees and minors, protection of victims, improvement of the knowledge and awareness of the staff who address trafficking in persons on site, etc., and the status of efforts by the relevant ministries and agencies was shared (see 3 (3) i) ii) and 7 (3) i) for more information on these efforts).

○ In order for the person in charge at prefectural police to deepen their understanding, each Regional Police Bureau requested, NGO staff to conduct a lecture on the actual situation of victimization and support for victims. In FY2020, the lecture was cancelled from the viewpoint of preventing infection of COVID-19.

○ Through public-private cooperation between the Immigration Services Agency and some airline companies, in cases where foreign nationals who may be victims of trafficking in persons are discovered on a flight, the taking of appropriate actions is promoted, such as placing the person under protection during the landing procedures after receiving the information from the airline company.

The Immigration Services Agency also coordinates closely with the IOM office in Japan and embassies in Tokyo while also working to provide protection for victims and support for them to return to their countries, and engaging in a sustained exchange of information and communication through meetings, training, and everyday works.

From FY2020, as a new initiative, the Agency sends its lecturers to OTIT to provide new employees with training regarding response to trafficking in persons.

[Repeated from 6 (3) iv)]

○ The Ministry of Foreign Affairs receives regular reports from the IOM on the performance of the victim repatriation project. With regard to this project, the IOM office in Japan has conducted a tracer survey between 2017 and 2018 from the psychosocial, social, and economic perspectives of Filipino victims who received repatriation and reintegration support through this project in the past, with the aim of measuring the effectiveness of support and identifying the challenges. The results of the survey were released in March 2019. According to the report on this survey, more than 90% of the respondents indicated that repatriation support had been beneficial, while about 50% of the respondents indicated that reintegration support met their expectations.

[Repeated from 6 (3) iv)]

8 Future efforts

The measures against trafficking in persons in 2020 has showed steady development. Specifically, while the arrest and punishment of suspects pertaining to trafficking in persons continue to be carried out and the number of arrested suspects significantly increased compared to that in 2019, multiple languages service pertaining to the provision of information and consultation on various matters has been developed, and the consultation environment has been improved, where potential victims can feel more at ease about going for consultation. In 2020, as public-private joint initiatives, reflecting feedback from NGOs and foreign embassies in Tokyo, we actively conducted public information and awareness-raising activities, including revision of the leaflet in a significantly compact form and understandable design using QR code, display of digital signage using the leaflet data at international airports in Japan, and posting posters on the website in the joint names of the National Police Agency, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and the Japan Committee for UNICEF. In addition, in response to suspected cases of trafficking in persons for technical intern trainees, efforts were made; Prefectural Labour Offices assigned a certain official in charge of anti-trafficking, and when a suspected case is grasped, Labour Standards Inspection Office and OTIT should carry out joint inspections on implementing organizations so that they should handle the case by coordinating with relevant organizations as necessary.

Under these circumstances, the number of victims of trafficking in persons recognized in 2020 decreased compared to that in 2019. By nationality, as in recent years, Japanese victims accounted for more than half. This is considered to be the result of investigating cases of Japanese victims handled by the police with a view to searching for any potential crimes and victims relating to trafficking in persons. For the identification of victims of trafficking in persons, it is important that each staff member who handles cases on the front line should have the possibility of trafficking in persons in mind and take actions specified in the arrangements determined by the relevant ministries and agencies (see 4 (1)). In 2020, despite some restrictions due to the pandemic of COVID-19, we worked on increasing knowledge and awareness of staff members of the relevant administrative organizations through online conferences and data sharing. Going forward, it is necessary for the relevant administrative organizations to make efforts to further improve their knowledge and awareness.

On the other hand, crimes of trafficking in persons targeting foreign victims have drastically decreased since 2005. Although this is the result of countermeasures implemented through coordination between the government, relevant organizations, NGOs, etc., there is no question that this does not mean that the entire damage from crimes and human rights violations involving foreigners have been solved. In order to ensure that foreigners visiting Japan will not become victims of trafficking in persons, we should continue to make steady efforts with due consideration to the potential trafficking in persons.

Japan will continue to steadily implement measures from the perspective of victims based on the various government action plans with the aim of eradicating trafficking in persons.

[Figure 41] List of ministries and agencies involved in measures to combat trafficking in persons

Cabinet Secretariat	Secretary to the Assistant Chief Secretary
Cabinet Office	Division on Gender-Based Violence, Gender Equity Bureau
National Police Agency	Safety Division, Community Safety Bureau
Ministry of Justice	Public Security Division, Criminal Affairs Bureau Investigation and Remedies Division, Human Rights Bureau Human Rights Promotion Division, Human Rights Bureau
Immigration Services Agency	Adjudication Division, Immigration Department Residency Management Division, Residency Management and Support Department
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	International Safety and Security Cooperation Division, Foreign Policy Bureau, Foreign Nationals' Affairs Division, Consular Affairs Bureau
Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology	Education Policy Bureau Gender Equality, Cohesive Society Learning and Safety Division
Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare	Inspection Division, Labour Standards Bureau Family Welfare Division, Child and Family Policy Bureau Office of Counsellor for Overseas Human Resources Development, with a Director-General for Human Resources Development
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Young Farmers and Women Division, Management Improvement Bureau
Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry	Office for Industrial Human Resources Policy, Economic and Industrial Policy Bureau
Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism	Policy Division, Policy Bureau
Japan Coast Guard	International Criminal Investigation Division, Rescue Department