



Northern Thailand Video Script – LONG VERSION

INTRODUCTION: Preventing human trafficking, especially trafficking of children and women, is a continuing challenge to authorities around the world. In Thailand, the International Labour Organization is working with local NGOs and various levels of Government to reduce the vulnerability many migrants face when leaving home to look for work. As Allan Dow explains, the ILO’s Mekong project focuses on safer migration and improving job prospects closer to home.

VTR: 00:00
NARR ENDS: 03:50 (“...brighter tomorrow for everyone.”)
VIZ ENDS: 03:54
BLACK: 03:55

STORY>>

(OPENING: Establishing shot of Hill Tribe village)

High in the hills of Northern Thailand village life appears normal. For many of the elderly, their cultures and traditions continue. But change is all around. Young people from Akha, Lahu and other communities often leave their villages in search of greater prosperity. Many find it. But some fall into the hands of human traffickers, and never return.

18 year old Nagwa Lefu (Na-gay’, Lee’-Foo) is one of 400 people in this Lahu village who’s decided to stay home.

(Nagwa Lefu, Lahu Hill Tribe) “I want to stay in this village with my baby son. Later I want him to go to school and then to University. After that he can come back to the village and work here.”

Nagay’s family is participating in an eco-tourism Homestay project sponsored by the International Labour Organization’s Mekong project to combat trafficking in children and women.

(Natee Lefu, Mother of Nagwa)

“Things are better now because the tourists bring in money. They pay for food and accommodation. Sometimes I can work as a masseuse as well. So we can earn 200 or even 300 baht. [...] I know people who have gone to the city to work. But they don’t get much money. Some girls have gone to the city and disappeared. I want my daughter to stay in the village and if she can make some money and we are able to eat we’ll be happy.”

(SOUND UP: Hill Tribe musicians)

The number of tourists has been increasing each year. And many seem to appreciate the opportunity to observe the different cultures and the chance to help preserve a traditional environment in a rapidly shrinking world.

(Jane Davis, American Tourist)

“It’s amazing that many of them stay when all this is juxtaposed [...] knowing what the city – and not too far – away has to offer. [...] At least they should have a choice.”

(High angle establishing shot of Chiang Rai, Thailand)

The ILO’s Mekong project has been working in this area of Northern Thailand since 2000 and it has now joined forces with the Governors of three Thai border provinces to help prevent internal and cross-border trafficking.

Educating young people about the dangers of ill-prepared migration is promoted as a way to prevent human trafficking. So too is teaching them marketable skills.

(SOUND UP: Sewing class)

14 year old Janfong Thongdee says she feels more confident since starting this programme. And she is also more aware of the tricks human traffickers could use to lure her away to a fictitious job.

(Janfong Thongdee, student at Baan Mae Chan school): “There may be a chance that I would be trafficked but it depends on whether I trust them [...] Now I know to ask for more information. If they offer me a good salary I would be become suspicious.”

(SOUND UP: Metalwork class)

(Kusumal Rachawong, ILO project coordinator): “We hope that after our support the school can run on its own the prevention activities with their own budget and personnel”

Fighting trafficking requires a sustained campaign of awareness raising, but also examining society’s attitudes about migration and the labour exploitation of vulnerable groups. One answer is to reduce that vulnerability, and improve the chances of a brighter tomorrow for everyone.

– END –

CAPTION TIMES:

(Captions lower left, unless otherwise specified with #)

00:01 Baan Arpa, Thailand (# upper right frame)

01:06 Natee Lefu, Mother of Nagwa

02:07 Jane Davis, American Tourist

02:17 Chiang Rai Province, Thailand (# upper right frame)

02:33 Baan Mae Chan School, Chiang Rai (# upper right frame)

03:19 Kusumal Rachawong, ILO Project Coordinator

For more information, please contact Allan Dow, ILO Mekong Project to Combat Trafficking in Children and Women. Tel: +66 2 288 2057 or email: dow@ilo.org



Northern Thailand Video Script – SHORT VERSION

INTRODUCTION: Preventing human trafficking, especially trafficking of children and women, is a continuing challenge to authorities around the world. In Thailand, the International Labour Organization is working with local NGOs and various levels of Government to reduce the vulnerability many migrants face when leaving home to look for work. As Allan Dow explains, the ILO’s Mekong project focuses on safer migration and improving job prospects closer to home.

VTR: 00:00
NARR ENDS: 02:28 (“...brighter tomorrow for everyone.”)
VIZ ENDS: 02:30
BLACK: 02:31

STORY>>

(OPENING: Establishing shot of Hill Tribe village)

High in the hills of Northern Thailand village life appears normal. For many of the elderly, their cultures and traditions continue. But change is all around. Young people from Akha, Lahu and other communities often leave their villages in search of greater prosperity. Many find it. But some fall into the hands of human traffickers, and never return.

18 year old Nagwa Lefu (Na-gay’, Lee’-Foo) is one of 400 people in this Lahu village who’s decided to stay home.

Nagay’s family is participating in an eco-tourism Homestay project sponsored by the International Labour Organization’s Mekong project to combat trafficking in children and women.

(Natee Lefu, Mother of Nagwa)

“Things are better now because the tourists bring in money. They pay for food and accommodation.”

(SOUND UP: Hill Tribe musicians)

The number of tourists has been increasing each year. And many seem to appreciate the opportunity to observe the different cultures and the chance to help preserve a traditional environment in a rapidly shrinking world.

(High angle establishing shot of Chiang Rai, Thailand)

The ILO’s Mekong project has been working in this area of Northern Thailand since 2000 and it has now joined forces with the Governors of three Thai border provinces to help prevent internal and cross-border trafficking.

Educating young people about the dangers of ill-prepared migration is promoted as a way to prevent human trafficking.

(SOUND UP: Sewing class)

14 year old Janfong Thongdee says she feels more confident since starting this programme. And she is also more aware of the tricks human traffickers could use to lure her away to a fictitious job.

(Janfong Thongdee, student at Baan Mae Chan school): “There may be a chance that I would be trafficked [...] Now I know to ask for more information. If they offer me a good salary I would be become suspicious.”

Fighting trafficking requires a sustained campaign of awareness raising, but also examining society’s attitudes about migration and the labour exploitation of vulnerable groups. One answer is to reduce that vulnerability, and improve the chances of a brighter tomorrow for everyone.

– END –

CAPTION TIMES:

(Captions lower left, unless otherwise specified with #)

00:01 Baan Arpa, Thailand (# upper right frame)

00:49 Natee Lefu, Homestay Hostess

01:18 Chiang Rai Province, Thailand (# upper right frame)

01:33 Baan Mae Chan School, Chiang Rai (# upper right frame)

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