

**Six-Month Report on the  
Situation of Cambodian Migrant Workers in  
Klong Yai District, Trat, Thailand**

**June 2007**



**Migrant Support Project  
Legal Support for Children and Women (LSCW)  
Supported by Welt Hunger Hilfe (GAA)**



## **Glossary of Terms**

<b>CI:</b>	Certificate of Identification
<b>LSCW:</b>	Legal Support for Children and Women
<b>MST:</b>	Migrant Support Team
<b>Ob-Yob card:</b>	Semi-residential status card issued to Cambodians living in Thailand long-term
<b>TOR/ROR 38/1:</b>	House registration form given by local authorities
<b>VSN:</b>	Volunteer Support Network

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## Introduction

This report is comprised of information collected by migrants and the LSCW Migrant Support Team (MST) over a six-month period. This is neither research nor an assessment but rather provides information which can give an overview of the situation and issues faced both at work and in the communities by Cambodian migrants in one district in Thailand. The information in this report has been collected by the Cambodian Migrant Volunteer Support Network (VSN) which is based in eight different areas in Klong Yai district, Trat, Thailand. The information has been obtained through the following means:

- forms and questionnaires given by the LSCW VSN which interviewed migrants in their communities providing information about their work site;
- diaries from the VSN ;
- informal discussions with migrants;
- semi-structured interviews with migrants based on a specified topic.

Klong Yai district is in the far eastern part of Trat province, Thailand, bordering Koh Kong province in Cambodia and is estimated to have 70,000 Cambodian migrants living and working there with 20,000 in the one major port area. Cambodian migrants work in a number of different industries: fishing and fish processing, port work, saw mills, construction and domestic work.

The first section of this report provides data collected on participants who have attended the monthly awareness raising sessions. The information includes source provinces, gender, age and the employment of Cambodian migrants in this border district. The second section details the industries and work sites. Information has been obtained from the ten Cambodian migrant volunteers who are working in these various industries, as well as from interviews with the different workers. The third section provides information on living conditions, health, education and problems faced by Cambodian migrant workers including violations and cases reported to the MST. Information on seasonal work, mobility and returning to Cambodia is also included in this section. The fourth section contains data collected from the VSN on female migrant workers and savings and remittances. Finally, the fifth section outlines lessons learned by the LSCW MST.

## 1. Data on Cambodian Migrant Workers in Klong Yai District

The data presented below was taken from Cambodian migrants during their participation in awareness raising conducted by the LSCW Migrant Support Project. After attending the monthly sessions over a period of six months the team asked participants to fill in a form about their work, age, province of origin and gender. This was then compiled into the data below which is sorted into six months as it was realised that some of the same participants attended each month. An overall compilation of the data collected by month is available in Annex 2.

Table 1 shows that among the migrants in Klong Yai attending the awareness raising sessions most were from Kampot province. The second highest was Takeo. Social networks in these two provinces have meant that villagers, neighbours, family and friends have migrated to Klong Yai district.

**Table 1: Migrants by source province in % who attended awareness raising**

Province	May 06	Jun 06	July 06	Sept 06	Nov 06	Jan 07
Kampot	28.8	38.4	31.5	40.8	36.5	33.3
Takeo	27.5	19.7	19.9	15.1	19.6	21.0
Kandal	7.5	9.6	6.8	8.6	7.9	8.5
Prey Veng	7.5	9.6	10.3	8.6	7.6	7.7
Kampong Cham	13.8	9.6	9.0	6.3	8.8	6.7
Koh Kong	2.5	3.0	7.7	5.3	5.3	10.8
Battambang	5.0	4.0	2.9	3.9	3.2	1.8
Kampong Som	1.3	1.5	1.9	2.6	2.6	1.5
Phnom Penh	2.5	1.0	1.0	2.3	0.6	1.5
Kampong Thom	0.0	0.0	2.6	1.3	2.0	1.0
Kampong Speu	1.3	0.5	1.6	1.3	1.8	0.5
Svay Rieng	0.0	1.0	0.6	1.0	1.8	1.3
Pursat	1.3	0.5	0.3	1.0	0.0	1.5
Kampong Chhnang	1.3	0.5	1.3	0.7	1.2	1.0
Kampuchea Krom	0.0	0.5	1.6	0.7	0.3	1.0
Bantey Meanchey	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.5
Kratie	0.0	0.5	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.3

**Table 2: Migrants by type of employment in % who attended the awareness raising**

The table below shows that the highest percentage of migrants attending awareness raising sessions are Cambodian female migrants who state they are housewives. These women are largely undocumented, with husbands who are fishermen. They are forced to stay home to take care of young babies and children. Some of these women have part-time jobs as shrimp and crab processors, but this was not indicated on the question form. The second highest type of employment was in the fish processing factories of which there are two main places in Klong Yai. (See pp. 13-16)

<b>Type of Employment</b>	<b>May 06</b>	<b>June 06</b>	<b>July 06</b>	<b>Sept 06</b>	<b>Nov 06</b>	<b>Jan 07</b>
Housewife	26.1	25.8	28.0	33.9	29.2	40.8
Fish factory worker	4.5	6.1	10.0	14.5	16.7	16.4
Fish sorter	13.5	12.1	9.0	13.2	5.6	0.8
Fisherman	6.3	18.2	13.5	10.2	5.6	6.2
Port worker	5.4	1.0	2.6	8.6	10.5	10.0
Construction worker	4.5	8.1	7.4	5.6	6.1	3.1
Fish peeler	0.0	1.5	2.3	5.6	6.1	3.1
Fish head cutter	4.5	3.0	1.0	2.0	4.4	5.1
Shrimp peeler	17.1	13.6	14.5	2.0	3.8	5.1
Seller	3.6	1.0	2.9	1.6	2.6	1.3
Saw mill worker	6.3	5.6	4.5	1.6	2.3	5.9
Squid peeler	0.9	1.5	2.3	1.0	1.8	1.0
Crab peeler	0.9	1.5	1.3	0.3	0.0	0.0
Unemployed	4.5	0.0	0.6	0.0	2.6	1.0
Loading goods	0.9	0.5	0.3	0.0	2.0	0.3
Domestic worker	0.9	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.6	0.0
Ice loading worker	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

**Table 3: Migrants by age in % who attended awareness raising sessions**

Migrants in the age bracket 20-29 were the most predominant group attending the awareness raising sessions.

<b>Age</b>	<b>May 06</b>	<b>June 06</b>	<b>July 06</b>	<b>Sept 06</b>	<b>Nov 06</b>	<b>Jan 07</b>
0-20	8.9	8.1	8.0	14.8	13.5	16.7
20-29	40.0	40.4	36.7	33.2	35.7	37.2
30-39	37.8	35.9	30.2	34.5	29.2	22.1
40-49	8.9	11.6	15.1	11.8	14.6	16.9
50-59	4.4	3.0	7.1	3.9	4.4	4.4
60-69	0.0	1.0	1.6	1.3	2.0	1.8
70+	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.3	0.6	1.0

**Table 4: Sex of migrants in number and percent who attended awareness raising**

<b>Sex</b>	<b>May 06</b>	<b>June 06</b>	<b>July 06</b>	<b>Sept 06</b>	<b>Nov 06</b>	<b>Jan 07</b>
Number of males	34	70	97	66	84	64
Number of females	77	128	214	238	258	326
Male %	30.6	35.4	31.2	21.7	24.6	16.4
Female %	69.4	64.6	68.8	78.3	75.4	83.6

As seen in Table 4 above, 83% of the migrants participating in awareness raising sessions were female migrant workers. In September, the MST asked several migrant workers the reasons for the greater number of women at the awareness raising sessions. The migrants reported that there are more married than single Cambodian women in Klong Yai. Men are less visible because they are working on fishing boats which travel to other areas on Thailand depending on the season. The men tend to dock at the full moon and are more noticeable in the communities during this time. Other reasons given for the number of females attending the sessions were as follows:

Men work as fishermen in other areas of Thailand and are not regularly based in Klong Yai;

Men drink and gamble during the full moon and docking;

Men go fishing after the full moon and are therefore not available;

Women without employment taking care of children have more free time than men to attend the awareness raising.



## 2. Work Sites and Industries <sup>1</sup>

### 2.1 Port Areas (Fishing and Fish Processing)

There is one major port area (Village 1) in Klong Yai which is a busy, bustling area with shops, restaurants, karaoke shops, markets and supermarkets, beauty shops, telephone shops and residential areas located near three main ports which are not deep sea ports. The number of boats in dock varies from 50 to 150 with more during the full moon period. These boats are both Thai boats from areas such as Rayong, Pattani and Songkhla as well as boats from Koh Kong, Kampot and Sre Ambil in Cambodia. Fish, squid and shrimps are unloaded and taken to various processing areas and factories. In addition, different types of fish, fruit, and goods such as sugar are loaded onto or unloaded off boats. The work that Cambodian migrants are involved in is listed with the average salaries in Thai baht below.

Fish picking and sorting: 100 baht per day. (95% are estimated to be women and children);

Fishing: 3,000-7,000 baht per month.<sup>2</sup> The salaries are paid on docking and vary substantially depending on the type of boat and amount of fish.

Shrimp peeling: 70-100 baht per day

Crab shelling: 20 baht per kilogram (done by specialists who are usually women) 70-100 baht per day

Loading and unloading goods/fish: 200-300 baht per person per day (an estimated 100 to 150 women and men);

Packing fish in ice and freezing fish, 100-200 baht per day

Cutting heads off fish: 150-210 baht per day;

Carrying wood from boats to trucks: 100-150 baht per day

Fish drying: 100 -150 baht per day (children receive 100 baht per day)

Fish peeling at home: 40 baht per bag (1 bag = 10 kilos) 40-80 baht per day

Work is dependent on the season, the boats and the amount of fish, squid, crab and shrimp and is not regular. During the rainy season many boats move to the south of Thailand to Pattani, Songkhla

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<sup>1</sup> For more in depth information on the industries see *Needs Assessment and Situation Analysis of Cambodian Migrant Workers in Klong Yai district, Trat, Thailand*, November 2005. [www.lscw.org](http://www.lscw.org)

<sup>2</sup> The salaries are not often calculated on a monthly basis – sometimes, 20 days, 10 days or yearly or twice yearly. This is an estimation

and to the west to Rayong. Migrants report that conditions in these areas are worse for Cambodian fishermen than in Klong Yai due to arrests, fighting and the general security situation. At the end of September and October the boats return to the Klong Yai port areas and work in the Cambodian waters especially around Koh Sdach, Kampong Som and near Vietnam. Those returning fishermen with families live in Klong Yai dock for ten days before going back to sea in the local area. These fishermen can spend time with their families, and fishermen from Koh Kong can also visit their homes. This year there is reportedly less fish and shrimp. More people are migrating from Cambodia especially from Prey Veng and Kampot, so there is a large supply of migrants but fewer jobs and fishing boats. This is said to be due to the economic downturn and the price of fuel which has affected migrants' abilities to save money. In the port areas, shrimp processing and fish sorting is conducted. When the boats arrive the young female migrants work at the ports, but the hours and time always vary on the boats and the amount of fish. In the port areas, car parts, chicken, sugar, shampoo, coconuts, and other produce are loaded and taken to Cambodia. Cambodian male migrants work in teams in the port areas unloading. The teams work with boats transporting goods to various places. For example, one team of seven Cambodian migrants works with the boats transporting pigs and groceries to Bat Klong near Koh Kong and unloading crab from Cambodia. These boats are small (less than one tonne); hence the loading only takes approximately two hours. Another team works on boats coming to and from Kampong Som, Cambodia.

In May and June, work during the rainy season is very irregular due to the bad weather and lack of boats and fish. September is a quiet month in the port areas in regard to shrimp peeling. Female migrants try to find other types of fish processing work. November and December are busy months for the fish sorters, fish head cutters and fishermen as the amount of boats and fish increases in the various ports.

There are three main piers in the large port area and another large port in Village 6 from which fishermen leave. The boats vary in size and length of time they go out fishing.<sup>3</sup> A smaller pier in Klong Yai town also has smaller boats called *Tuk Ouk* which catch small types of fish near Koh Kud island and *Tuk Chong* which gather snails and clams.

## 2.2 Fishing Industry in Klong Yai District

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<sup>3</sup> For more information see *Needs Assessment and Situational Analysis of Cambodian Migrant workers in Klong Yai district, Trat, Thailand* November 2005, p. 50 [www.lscw.org](http://www.lscw.org)

Location:	All areas
Average salary:	4,000 to 8,000 baht per month
Number of workers:	Dependent on boat
Origin of workers:	Prey Veng, Kampot, Kampong Cham, Takeo, Kampong Chhnang, Svay Rieng and Koh Kong
Legal status:	Mainly undocumented
Ratio of married:	Single > married
Number of children:	An estimated 10% from 15 years old

### **Pay and savings of fishermen**

The pay that fishermen receive is relatively high (between 4,000-7,000 baht<sup>4</sup> every two months; or an average salary of US\$3.50 per day<sup>5</sup>), which is what attracts Cambodian men to the occupation. This compares with annual earnings of approximately US\$300 earned in their villages as farmers. Even in the capital city of Phnom Penh the daily wage for casual labourers ranges between 3,000 and 7,000 riel (US\$0.75 – \$1.75). However, fishermen do not have much negotiating power, are undocumented and newcomers earn less even though the work for them is harder as they have no experience. Saving money is difficult as the monthly expenditure for fishermen is high because they tend to gamble, buy alcohol and clothes, and frequent karaoke shops and sex workers.

### **Undocumented status**

Cambodian fishermen arrive in Klong Yai district without documentation resulting in a constant fear of arrest and extortion by the police which limits their freedom of movement to access assistance and services.

### **Deductions of salaries**

Deductions are made from salaries for living allowances for shore leave during the full moon period<sup>6</sup> and for provisions on the boat which are charged at inflated prices. Salaries are also deducted for those who arrive late on board when the boat is leaving. Fishermen are penalised for

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<sup>4</sup> This is dependent on the boat type, boat owner and amount of fish caught.

<sup>5</sup> The Asian Migrant Center/Mekong Migrant Network 2002 Report

<sup>6</sup> Fishermen are encouraged to borrow money for shore leave and to send money to their families. This gives boat owners the opportunity to cheat fishermen regarding the amount owed.

various reasons, for example if the boat engine is not working; the fishermen are sick or make mistakes; or the boat driver has spent a lot on petrol.

## **Non-payment of salaries**

Often fishermen are not paid as the boat driver creates problems with the fishermen during the period leading up to pay day. This can include extended work hours, physical abuse, and not providing enough food or water so that the fishermen complain and make trouble with the boat driver causing them to run away or leave before being paid. One fisherman was not paid a salary of 1,500 baht per month by the boat driver unless he returned to the boat which was going to Songkhla. He refused because previously he had worked in Songkhla and had only been paid 3,000 baht for six months' work. He therefore did not receive his previous month's wage. Other fishermen report not being paid full salaries unless they go to other areas of Thailand to fish. Fishermen in Klong Yai report that if they are sick in the second half of the month they will not receive any salary. In focal group discussions, every fisherman had experienced a delay of one to two months in receiving their rightful salary.

## **Child labour**

Cambodian youths aged 15-18 years old are in demand by boat owners in Klong Yai district as they are healthy, cheap, work harder, and are easy to control and exploit. In addition, unlike experienced fishermen, they are willing to work on *Aundam* boats<sup>7</sup> where the work is harder and the pay is less.. Two recruiters operational in the port areas employ young Cambodian boys to work on boats where they know the conditions are exploitative or where the boat owner is cruel. Cambodian migrants in this area are aware of such conditions on these boats.

## **Traffickers' tricks**

Fishermen report tricks by traffickers especially focusing on new, young fishermen without experience. A common trick used is when a friendly person befriends the newly arrived fishermen and provides them with accommodation, food, money and treats them like a son with the promise to find a job on a boat. However, this person sells the fisherman to a boat owner without the knowledge of the fisherman. Another trick is when the generous man provides drink, food and visits to sex workers. Then this "generous person" puts drugs in the drinks of the fishermen. When the fisherman wakes up, he realises he has been sold to the boat owner.

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<sup>7</sup> For more information on boat types, please see Annex 2

Newcomers, especially young Cambodian youths under 18, are at great risk of being cheated as they usually have no contacts in the fishing business. Those with more experience who migrate seasonally are always on the look-out to improve their conditions and to find a "good" boat. When asked to define a "good" boat, the fishermen stated that such a boat has a kind boat driver who never abuses the fishermen and can catch a lot of fish as well provide extra fish and seafood for the crew. In addition, the employer pays the fishermen on time. Hence, it is often the "bad" boats in which exploitation and trafficking is rife as the reputation of the boat, boat driver and owner is known to the fishermen; therefore, in order to fill the demand, tricks and cheating are common. Fishermen report being forced by boat drivers to board boats and escaping from "bad" boats by leaping from the boat and swimming to shore.

Yet another trick used is en route to Thailand. Traffickers take young fishermen to Thailand through the Poipet and Lem borders in Battambang province to Rayong and Samut Prakan, Thailand, respectively. The latter two places are far from the Cambodian border and the recruiters know it would be hard for the migrants to find their way back. Hence they are more likely to continue to work on exploitative boats.

### **Newcomers at risk**

Young Cambodian migrants who have no experience of living and working in Thailand or no knowledge of the fishing industry are at risk of being trafficked and exploited. There is demand by employers and boat owners for such young Cambodians on the various types of boats such as *Aun Dam*, *Aun Sang* and *Aun Lak* boats where the boat drivers and employers are cruel. Due to their trust in the recruiters and lack of experience, they are willing to board such boats. Experienced fishermen in Klong Yai are not willing to work on these boats as the boats travel far away, and they are unable to see their families. The salary is also only paid every 21 months with sometimes a three or four month extension. These boats dock in Rayong, Samut Prakan and Pattani, Thailand, and sometimes dock in Klong Yai to sell fish but word has spread in the Klong Yai port areas that those who have gone to fish in these other locations have only been paid 6,000 baht for one month's work. As a consequence, experienced fishermen are not willing to take this risk. Those with relatives and friends in the port areas and who have a network of support are unlikely to be cheated into exploitative situations. Experienced fishermen are aware of newcomers being trafficked in the port areas of Klong Yai but state they are unable to warn them or give them correct information, as they are afraid of the boat owners.

## **Missing fishermen**

In every village, migrants report missing male fishermen relatives. On average, four cases in every village were reported. In the port areas, migrants report fishing boats returning without the crew and are concerned about the whereabouts of the fishermen. Fishermen report that boat drivers are very cruel and sometimes kill the fishermen and throw the bodies in the sea. In addition, fishermen face arrest in all of the ports and are often imprisoned in other fishing areas in Thailand.

## **Health problems and accidents**

Cambodian fishermen work long hours (7pm-7am) in difficult circumstances, regularly suffering from mental and physical abuse by boat drivers. In two separate incidents on boats, fishermen were killed or injured while diving down to the seabed. The fishermen have to dive to the bed of the sea, 20 to 30 metres deep, to prepare the net and also try to frighten/attract the fish hiding in the rocks/stones. The fishermen are attached to an oxygen pipe which is linked to a generator on the boat. One 50 year old fisherman suffered paralysis after working on the sea bed for two to three hours. The fisherman never received any money or compensation for his injury. In December 2006, a fisherman, Mr. Pheap, died at 2am after working on the same type of boat catching fish on the sea bed. According to the crew members, the victim was working with four other migrants from Koh Kong, Cambodia. While working he started to suffer pain. The boat owner gave him an injection and while the rest of the crew slept, Pheap died. The boat owner and driver paid for the funeral and compensated the relatives for this accident.

One lady whose brother worked on *Aun Dam* boat died on the fishing boat he was working on. He was beaten severely by the boat driver as he was sick and could not work. Two weeks after the incident, he died on the boat and the boat owner contacted the woman to come and collect his body from the port. The police took the dead body to the pagoda for cremation. The boat owner did not pay any money or compensation to his relatives.

Fishermen regularly report seeing dead bodies of other fishermen floating in the sea especially in stop off places like Koh Kud and Koh Chang, Thailand. Fishermen are also known to die from lack of oxygen when they try to get the fish out of the hold. Others die from illnesses sustained over a long period of time. Some fishermen have been killed by the propeller of the boat when they go to untie the net.

### 2.3 Fish and Squid Processing in the Port Area

Number of migrants working:	70 migrants (25 females, 25 males and 20 children)
Average age of children	17 years old
Average age of men	23 years old
Average age of females	22 years old
Province of Origin	Kampong Cham, Prey Veng, Takeo, Battambang, Kampong Speu and Svay Rieng, Cambodia
Border Crossing:	Had Lek border; or crossing the Kao Wong mountain
Average time living in Thailand	Between five and seven years
Marital Status:	Nine are married; the rest are single
Daily/monthly wage	100 baht per day; 3,000 baht per month
Average number of days worked:	29 days per month
Legal status:	13 females and ten males have work permits; 47 are undocumented

In January 2007, some of the fish sorters who work in the main port areas moved to a port further south of Klong Yai to the other employer's work site. When there is a shortage of fish in one place and abundance in another location, migrants are moved to work in other areas. The employer provides transportation to these other factories but female migrants complain of being car sick and some have stopped working to seek work in their place of residence. Once the fish has been categorized it is sent to Bangkok for processing. In 2006, an agreement was made among the fish sorters and the employer regarding fish being stolen. The employer promised to increase their salaries if the workers did not take the fish. However, the workers never received an increase in salary and so the fishing taking has resumed. Each worker can make money (200 to 300 baht per day) from this additional fish. 200-300 baht, however, is cut from fish sorters' salaries if they take time off work with the approval of the employer or foreman.

### 2.4 Shrimp peeling

Location:	Port areas
Number of migrants working:	30 women and 30 children
Average age of children:	10-15 years old
Ages of women:	Between 25-50 years old



Province of Origin:	Kampot, Takeo , Kampong Thom, Kandal, Kampong Cham, Svay Rieng, Prey Veng, Kampong Speu, Koh Kong, Battambang, Pursat, Kampong Chhnang, Banteay Meanchey, Kratie, and Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Border Crossing:	Had Lek border; crossing the mountain at Kao Wong; or through Phum Thmei
Average years living in Thailand:	Some are newcomers, but usually five to ten years
Marital status:	Most are married to fishermen
Daily salary:	67 baht
Legal Status:	An estimated 30% of the work force has a work permit or another document called a TOR/ROR 38/1 (house registration form) which is issued by the district
Problems:	The work is not regular and it is hard. The nails and fingers on the skin flake off due to the salty water. Migrants are cursed at if they do not work fast and sometimes have their salaries cut if they do not obey the employer.

In many of the living areas around the ports, especially Village 5, women who have small children supplement their husbands' incomes by doing shrimp and crab peeling and squid processing at home. The produce to be processed is bought in red plastic containers and the women and small children sit and process them near their houses. They work until all the shrimp has been peeled. Shrimp peelers are paid five baht per kilo. If they peel the shrimp at the work place/piers, they can get ten baht/kilo, but working at home is more convenient. The middleman takes his cut and therefore the peelers do not get such a good price. For crab, they can get 30 baht per kilo and squid processors receive 70-120 baht per day. Normally people can peel 1.5-2 kilos of crab per day, but it is time-consuming work. Shrimp and crab are only available for processing fifteen days per month. The female migrants report the shrimp is used for food and cakes and is taken to other businesses and factories in Pattaya and Bangkok, Thailand. When there is no shrimp available, the women go to Paiy Ye Kim port to wait for available work in fish head cutting.

## 2.5 Shrimp and fish sorting

Location:	Port areas
Number of migrants working:	60 migrants (25 males, 25 females, 20 children)

Marital status:	Most are single
Age range of the males:	23-30 years old
Age range of the females:	20-25 years old
Age range of the children:	17 -18 years old
Province of Origin:	Kampong Cham, Prey Veng, Takeo, Battambang, Kampong Speu, and Svay Rieng province.
Border crossing:	Had Lek border; crossing the Kao Wong mountain; or through Phum Thmei
Number of years living in Thailand:	Between five and seven years
Daily/monthly salary:	100 baht/day; 3,000 baht/month
Number of days worked:	Usually 29 days a month
Legal status:	The majority of migrants are undocumented
Problems at work:	Long hours even into the night to complete the work

## 2.6 Loading and Unloading Goods

Location:	Port areas
Number of migrants working:	27 men in this area
Marital Status:	18 are married and nine are single
Age of the migrants:	20-50 years old
Province:	From Kampong Cham, Kampot, Battambang, Banteay Meanchey and Prey Veng
Crossing the border:	By boat from Kampong Som (700 baht) or from Bak Klong (300 baht) or through the Kao Wong mountain crossing (300 baht)
Years living in Thailand:	From two to eight years
Daily or monthly salary:	From 200- 300 baht per day
Number of days worked:	15-18 days per month
Legal status:	15 have a work permit and 12 are undocumented
Problems:	Working condition is hard and the migrants have to pay the owner if the goods are lost. The workers sometimes fall into the sea and the work is not regular. The cost of living and getting legal documents is high.

## 2.7 Fish Processing Factories

### Village 2, Klong Yai

Number of migrants working:	200-300
Marital Status:	More single, young females
Age:	15 -50 years old
Province:	Kampot, Takeo, Prey Veng and Koh Kong
Border Crossing:	Hat Lek, boat from Kompong Som
Years living in Thailand:	More new-comers (1 or 2 years)
Daily/monthly salary:	(See the Table below)
Number of days worked:	Three days off in one month
Legal status:	50 workers have work permits
Problems:	No major problems

The working hours are from 6am to 11am and from 11.30am until 6pm, or sometimes later. The amount of salary is dependent on the size of the fish as seen in the following diagram.

**Table 1: Salaries paid per kilogram**

Size of fish	Price per kilo
Smallest fish (Bla Cheav)	5 Baht
Small fish	3 Baht
Medium fish	2.5 Baht
Big fish	2.5 Baht
Jumbo (largest fish)	2.5 Baht

Migrants in this industry come from Kampot, Takeo, Prey Veng and Koh Kong provinces in Cambodia. There are about 300 to 400 workers working in different sectors such as peeling, gutting, sorting, boiling, loading and unloading, cleaning and packing the fish into the plastic bags and working as foremen. The heavy work is done by the men especially loading and unloading and the salary ranges from 3,700 to 7,000 baht per month. The daily wage ranges from 140-150 baht depending on the size and amount of fish processed. The over-time rate has been set at 10 baht per hour in the morning and 20 baht per hour in the evening. No distinction is made between documented and undocumented migrant workers. However, if there are fewer fish at the factory then the Thai foreman provides more fish to the documented migrants. All workers are required to have a free health check every year at Klong Yai hospital. If anyone has a serious illness the

employer may suspend the worker until the illness/disease has been cured. The fish are taken to Rayong, and after processing again they are sent onto Bangkok. The workers are required to buy their own uniforms such as apron, cap, shirt, gloves, boots and mask which totals 500 baht. Workers can be dismissed from work if they did not ask permission to take leave from work.

## **Health problems in Village 2**

The majority of female migrant workers in Village 2 are working in the fish factory above and in fish processing industries such as drying and cutting the heads off fish. Previously, the prevalent industry was squid processing but the employer changed businesses. One woman complained she had been unable to go to work cutting the heads off fish as she is allergic to the plastic gloves that are provided and her hand had swollen. Another said her health was fine. She received 200 baht per day, but the experienced workers can earn 300/400 baht per day depending on how quickly they work and the amount of fish processed. One Cambodian migrant worker whose job it is to load and unload the baskets of the crab has sores on his thigh due to the salty water. One pale and thin female migrant worker from Village 2 used to work in the saw mill but due to the irregularity of the work decided to work for the fish processing plant for seven months. Before she worked there she had no problem with her health, but now, due to the chemical used to keep the fish fresh, she is no longer healthy. She said that when she handles the fish she is affected by chemicals used to preserve the fish, which is affecting other workers as well. Some Thai people have suggested that she not continue to work there; they have tried to encourage her to find another job. She is now attempting to recover her health by resting at home.

## **Village 4, Klong Yai**

Number of migrants working:	Approximately 115 female workers and 25 male workers. Total: 140
Age range of males:	20-30 years old
Age range of females:	16-35 years old
Province of Origin:	Koh Kong, Kampot, Takeo, Prey Veng, Svay Rieng, Kampong Cham and Kandal province. The workers live with their relatives who come from the same village.
Border crossing:	Even though migrants are not coming from Koh Kong province, they use the border pass to cross the border through

	Had Lek. Others use Kao Wong mountain or go by boat from Kampong Som or Sre Ambil to the port areas.
Marital Status:	Approximately 60-70 are married and 50-60 are single. Information for 20-30 was not available.
Salary per day/month	Daily wages are between 130-140 baht per day; monthly wages are 3,800 baht with an additional 10 baht per hour of over-time.
Legal Status:	There are 45 female migrants and an estimated 10 men with work permits. The rest have border passes. <sup>8</sup>
Number of days worked:	25 days per month
Years working in Thailand:	The average is seven years, and some newcomers came three months ago.
Number of days worked:	Workers work every day and are occasionally given a day off
Problems:	The work is like a conveyor belt system. The migrants have to stand for a long time.

The factory processes and cans a type of tuna for the international market. There are approximately 300 migrants working for the fish processing factory but there are only 40 migrants with work permits and the rest have border passes. The workers leave for work at six in the morning and return between 7pm and 9pm if there is abundance of fish which has to be processed. There is also a nightshift when fish is prepared for the following day.

There are a variety of different jobs at the factory. One female migrant worker from Prey Veng who has lived in Thailand for ten years works as a skin peeler in the factory and her salary is dependent on the amount of fish she can process. She works from 5am until 12.00pm when she has an hour for lunch. Depending on the fish, she works until 6pm or as late as 9pm with no overtime rate for those whose salaries are based on weight. If she is not sick or does not take leave, she can earn 300 baht extra per month. The workers are living in a number of areas near the fish processing factory.

In January 2007, the MST met one female migrant worker from Takeo who was paid two baht per kilo of fish for draining the blood. Previously, for jumbo fish, they were paid 3 baht/kilo; for medium fish, 4 baht/kilo; and small fish 5 baht/kilo. Now the price is a standard 1.5 baht/kilo for all sizes. The

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<sup>8</sup> The border pass can be issued to residents of Koh Kong to travel to Klong Yai province as the authorities in Trat and Koh Kong province have signed an agreement. Travel outside of Klong Yai district is not permitted and this document is also not a work permit. The permit requires stamping every seven days at the international Hat Lek border.

price was reduced as there were more new migrants arriving every day than there were available jobs; hence, the employer reduced the migrants' wages due to the change in supply and demand. The foreman has warned those who are not satisfied with the reduction in pay to find new jobs. Undocumented workers stated they would join their documented colleagues to complain but cannot do so alone. Even though the salary is less, the migrants feel that due to the competitive job market, they have no choice but to continue. Migrants who worked fast in the past could earn 1,500 to 2,000 baht per week, but now they can only receive 900-1,000 baht per week. The foreman is reportedly very strict on time of work and rest periods. The workers receive a 300 baht bonus if they do not take one day off during the month which encourages many workers to work even if they are sick. They have only half an hour for lunch, are not permitted to rest in between, and are scolded if they are late back from break. Previously the workers were permitted to leave the premises to take lunch but now they have to eat on site as the employer stated that many were late back to work. During the time before, during and after the Khmer New Year holiday, there is a lack of workers. Thus, staff who continue to work must work overtime every night until 8pm in order to process all of the fish.

#### **Health problems in Village 4**

The workers are required to stand for their entire shift, which can be as long as 13 hours. The workers are shouted at if they take a rest when their legs ache or get tired, despite being able to sit in the past. Many newcomers without experience of standing for long periods of time often leave this job after a few weeks due to the physically hard conditions. There is insufficient fresh air, and it is very hot though they are required to wear masks. The migrants often get sick working for long hours with the strong smelling fish.

One female migrant worker reported her health has deteriorated; her doctor recommended she stop working at the factory. However, she is unable to stop working as she has to pay off the money that she borrowed from her relatives to build a new house in her hometown. She supplements her income further by playing 'Tong Tin' at the plant with a group of employees; workers can get a lot of money from this game to send home to support the children and build new houses. In November, this female migrant worker stopped working for a week due to her worsening health and the foreman gave her a month off to try to regain her strength. She has since returned to the factory as a supervisor in order to prevent future illness.

A Cambodian male fish boiler who works at night at this factory is suffering from severe health problems. The MST have witnessed a deterioration over the last few months. He has only worked in the fish factory for four months but he is becoming weaker and weaker. Chemicals are put into the fish to keep it fresh and preserve it. Steam from the boiling pots produces a toxic gas as a result of the chemicals which the migrants then breathe, causing dizziness due to the fumes. The fish boiler receives 4,000 baht per month but worries about his health if he continues to work at this factory and states that the work is as arduous as working on a fishing boat. The migrant states he has seen the work-force getting pale, weak and sick very often due to the smell of the fish and the chemical substances used. He hopes to find work on a fishing boat rather than at this factory. Many other migrants also report feeling dizzy from the chemical used to keep the fish fresh, especially the fish brought from Maachai in Samut Sakon province, just South of Bangkok. The chemical is said to be the same used in the embalming process for dead bodies. Once the fish is processed it is returned to Maachai.

#### **Cheating by supervisors in Village 4**

The workers state that the Thai foreman cheats the migrants on the amount of fish processed and also cuts the salaries of any workers who accidentally drop a tray of fish. The workers are not permitted to weigh and record the amount of fish they have processed. On collection of their salaries, the migrants question why they are receiving the same salaries despite the fact that they did over-time and worked faster than previous months. In the past a group of workers who were fed up with this cheating complained to the employer who then fired the foreman. However, the present foreman is no different and treats the Cambodian migrants badly in terms of cursing, shouting and cheating. The migrants are aware that the labour supply of Cambodian migrants is higher than the demand. They know that any perceived troublemakers are fired with little care for the conditions in the factory as workers who complain are easily replaced by new workers. Previously, the workers in this factory were required to have a work permit or border pass the cost of which was deducted from their salaries, but now undocumented workers are being hired.

#### **Other industries in Village 4**

A number of the men from Takeo province work as construction workers in the local areas. If this work is not available then migrants wait on the main road for Thai employers to hire them in various types of work. One seasonal migrant worker who had previously worked as a construction worker had found work in this way as a window fitter cutting glass for which he could earn 170 baht per

day. However, due to police checkpoints set up around the port areas where he was working, he had to jump off from the work car before he was arrested by the police. Previously, he had a border pass<sup>9</sup> but this had been destroyed by water when his wife did the laundry, and he had been unable to raise the money to renew it. (He paid 800/900 baht for the border pass)

## 2.8 Small-scale Fish and Crab Processing

Number of migrants working:	100 female migrants
Marital Status:	More single than married
Age of the migrants:	18-40 years old
Province:	Kampot and Koh Kong
Years living in Thailand:	From two to eight years
Daily or monthly salary:	30 baht per kilo
Number of days worked:	27 days a month
Legal status:	All workers have either a border pass, work permit or ob-yob
Problems:	Salaries are cut if the crab is not properly processed and if they are talkative they are given more crabs to process. The large crabs are given to Thai workers.

Opposite the new police station is a horseshoe crab processing factory. There are 100 Cambodian female migrants working there on a regular basis mainly from Koh Kong and Kampot province. They work from 6.30-7pm at night and receive 30 baht per kilo and are paid every seven days. The amount the workers can earn depends on how fast they work. Skilled workers can earn 2,000 baht, medium skilled 1,200 baht and those slow/new workers 750 baht per week. There is one day off a week on Sundays and if the workers work they receive 35 baht per kilo over-time. The crabs are brought from Vietnam to the port areas and once processed are sent abroad. In order to work at the factory the workers need to have a work permit, border pass or Ob-Yob. The workers are required to follow hygienic rules while working at this plant.

## Village 6

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<sup>9</sup> Border passes are for Koh Kong residents to use only in Klong Yai district. However, migrants from other provinces in Cambodia are able to obtain this border pass by paying brokers. The border pass needs to be stamped at the border.



In a number of villages in Klong Yai, small fish processing businesses are established employing Cambodian migrant workers. This work is available all year round. The small fish are brought to the nearby port on *Baón* boats<sup>10</sup> and then are fried and dried at a small processing plant. The fish are distributed door-to-door to female migrants by a middleman who also picks up the peeled fish. The women can earn 35 baht for ten kilos of fish. In the past the migrants were required to split the fish into two parts (head and body). Recently, the employer has requested that the migrants split the fish into four pieces for which they can receive 50 baht for ten kilos of fish. The salary has increased, but the migrants complain that the fish are too small to be split into four parts and this work now takes them one or two days to peel ten kilos. These tiny fish are used to add to rice dishes in Thailand as well as being exported to Malaysia. November to May is a quiet season in this industry and the documented female migrant workers find other work as fish sorters at the nearby port. The employer also delays the payment of the salaries. At the beginning of January 2007, this fish processing industry had been reduced substantially as the employer had a dispute with his partner. Due to this problem many women who are in crisis and without other family support decided to leave Klong Yai in April to do seasonal fruit picking in Aow Chor, another district in Trat, Thailand. The employer came to collect the migrants who were accompanied by their children to take them to the work site where they intend to pick rambuttan fruit for 150 baht per day, working from 8am-4pm. The employer will be providing lodging for these migrants. The migrants stated they will return to Klong Yai after a couple of months.

In another area of Village 6 there is a mixed community of Cambodian migrants and Thai Koh Kong referring to Thais who were originally from Cambodia and who now have been living there permanently. The migrants state that the village is quiet and there is no trouble or fighting or problems with the police. However, work opportunities compared to the port areas are scarce. In the wet season the Cambodian male migrants have their own long poled shrimp nets which they use to go out fishing near the mangroves. The shrimp are then processed by the women at home and sold to middlemen for 60 baht per kilo who transport it to Bangkok. The migrants state they can earn between 100-500 baht per day processing these shrimps themselves. Some also hunt for snails and other shell fish at low-tide which they then sell to make money. Many of the Cambodian migrants living here are long-term migrants (four to 12 years) who used to work in the saw-mills which have since closed down. In the dry season the male migrants work as construction workers. The migrant children also attend the local Thai school.

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<sup>10</sup> For more information on type of boats see Annex 2

## 2.9 Saw mill industry

Number of migrants working:	60 people (38 men, 18 women, 4 children)
Years working in Thailand:	Between 3 and 15 years
Age range of children:	14-15 years old
Age range of men:	26-50 years old
Age range of women:	25-46 years old
Marital status:	23 married and 8 single person (unknown the rest)
Province of origin:	Kampong Cham, Takeo, Kampot and Prey Veng province
Border crossing:	Kao Wong mountain; or boats from Koh Kong to Klong Soan.
Daily/monthly salary:	There is a monthly wage and daily wage: 7,000 baht/month average wage. The daily wage is around 300 baht per day depending on how much wood and the type of wood cut.
Legal status:	3 women and 15 men have work permits

### Health problems

The nature of the work is hard and dangerous as migrants often cut their hands and fingers on the saws. In addition, due to the sawdust, migrants have severe health problems, especially coughing and breathing. Neither safety equipment nor protective clothing is provided. The workers have to work eight hours per day, and there is no rest during work hours. Migrants suffer from physical exhaustion.

### Saw mill 1

In the past in Klong Yai there were a large number of saw mills but in the last few years the number has dramatically decreased due to the difficulty in logging in Cambodia. Now there are three operational saw mills in the area. Work in Saw mill 1 started to become irregular in July 2006 as the wood from Cambodia was often confiscated by the Thai military or environmental protection groups in Cambodia. Migrant workers without work during the six-month period in this industry have found alternative forms of income to support their daily expenses as construction workers, shrimp farm workers, and by drying and cutting the heads of fish. Many have incurred debts to support themselves. One of the VSN volunteers did not work in the saw mill for four months and others have been forced to move to other areas in Trat, Thailand or to find other jobs. In November 2006

the owner decided to start processing other types of wood, and work began again at the saw mill. Different types of wood are brought from Mulut, Thailand, half an hour south of Klong Yai, as the owner has a connection with a partner there. People who are clearing land to make a plantation cut the wood; then it is sent to the saw mill for processing. Much of the wood is cut in Klong Yai, transported to another saw mill in Trat, and then taken onto Bangkok. Some of the wood is possibly used for furniture to send abroad. Those who are on daily pay receive 300 baht, dependent on the quality of the wood. The saw mill employs wood carriers and processors. Previously, the workers lived on site, but the owner built a village (Village 2) one kilometre away on the hill. The rents of the house and electricity bills are deducted from the migrants' salaries.

### **Saw mill 2 (Village 3)**

Number of migrants working:	60 (52 males and 8 females)
Marital Status:	46 married; 14 single
Age range of the migrants:	Males 21-60; females 20-38
Province of origin:	Cheoung Prey district of Kampong Cham, Kandal, Kampot and Siem Reap
Border crossing:	Had Lek with border pass; by boat at Klong Soan.
Time spent living in Thailand:	They have worked in Saw mill 2 for three to 12 years.
Daily/monthly salary:	On average 120-200 baht per day, depending on output
Number of days worked:	15-28 days per month
Legal Status:	36 males and 4 females have work permits
Problems:	Work is not regular and there are no rest periods during working hours. The secretary and foreman curse and threaten the migrants. If they fail to respond to their requests, or the migrants are unable to work for five-ten days or are fired and have to move from the living quarters.

### **Additional Information**

This saw mill is five kilometres south of Klong Yai district and has continually had wood to process. A purpose-built village was erected to house the workers and their families. Saw mill 2 is owned by a high ranking police officer in Bangkok. Approximately 70 workers are working, and the majority of

them have a valid work permit. The employer deducts the cost of the work permit from the salaries. The workers are paid 1,000 to 3,000 baht every two weeks if there is available work to do.

**Table 2: Saw mill 2 rates of pay**

<b>Means of payment</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Monthly	3500 - 4000 baht
Daily	200 baht
Measure by one cubic metre	70 baht

The wood comes from Cambodia and Thailand, and it is unclear where it goes once processed.. Saw mill 2 had little work for the migrants in September 2006, and male migrants worked only for two weeks earning a total of 1,000 to 1,100 baht. The migrants complain that they do not have sufficient money for their daily expenses. During quiet periods when no wood is available, documented migrants at the saw mill receive food and necessities such as 15 kilograms of rice, 30 eggs and vegetable oil twice per month from the saw-mill owner. There is a water reservoir at the back of the migrant houses. The saw mill owner does not charge rent to the migrants, but electricity is available which the migrants need to pay for (six baht per kilowatt). Migrants can raise chickens in front of their houses if they want.

Those migrants who were employed in Saw mill 2 but have since changed jobs are allowed to continue living in Village 3. If migrants and their family members get sick, then they can request a letter from the saw mill owner to be given to the private clinic in Mor Malat near Klong Yai market which is also owned by the employer and is free of charge. In November 2006, migrants report that provincial soldiers came to check work permits. No one was arrested, but since then the saw mill owner has erected a tall fence and gate to keep out outsiders. Female relatives of those working in the saw mill work for the fish processing factory or peel small fish at home.

### **3. Living Conditions, Health, Education and Problems Faced by Cambodian Migrant Workers**

#### **3.1 Education of Cambodian Migrant Children**

The main reason for non-attendance of migrant children at Thai schools is financial. Migrant parents state they cannot afford to pay the fee, uniform and materials for the school especially as work is not regular. They reported that cost of 1800 baht for uniform, food and books, and the school fee 700 baht the first time and eight baht per subsequent day. For many of the industries in Klong Yai district, salaries and savings depend on the boats and fish to be processed.

Migrants have stated that there is also a communication problem with the school authorities and teachers, and they are afraid to go and ask for clarification. Some parents are asked to show a birth certificate, work permit or house registration (TOR/ROR 38/1); they fear if they are undocumented the school will inform the authorities. Priority is given to Thai children and then to migrants whose children were born in Thailand and who have a Thai birth certificate or Thai sponsor. In a small survey conducted in different villages, only 16 out of a 100 migrant children attended the Thai school.

In addition to the reasons given above, additional reasons given for non-attendance at Thai schools include the following:

- Cambodian migrant children can only study to Grade Nine though this depends on the individual school policy;

- A birth certificate, Ob-Yob (semi-residential status), Thai citizen work permit or house registration (TOR/ROR 38/1) is required in order for the children to be registered at the school;

- There is a limited number of places for Cambodians students;

- A Thai resident is required to help their children register at the school. The migrants have found it difficult to find such persons;

- Migrants keep moving from place to place to find a job;

- The parents do not see the benefit of their children learning to read, write and speak Thai especially if they plan to return to Cambodia.

Children in the various villages who do not attend school stay at home taking care of their younger siblings, playing, and collecting scrap; or, they are taken care of by neighbours or other relatives depending on the age of the child. Occasionally, some migrants employ fellow migrants to baby-sit the smaller children for 30 baht per day; migrants state that their daily wage is often not enough to pay the babysitter. Many female migrants stay at home to take care of their young babies especially if they are breastfeeding. For many of the women, work is not an option since the

children are young, and the work hours are too long. In source provinces some families have no relatives to take care of the children. Industries such as shrimp processing and fish drying employ children from a very young age. Some construction companies employ older children.

As so few children are attending Thai schools, many migrant parents have requested a good quality, experienced mobile teacher for their villages in order that their children can learn to read and write Khmer. In the port areas a small education centre is being organised by the NGO The Raksthai Foundation <sup>11</sup> for 54 Cambodian children to learn to read and write Khmer, but the number of places is limited. In other villages away from the port, no such service exists despite the desperate need. In every village the main priority for migrants is to have Khmer education for their children. In the future such a need will increase due to the number of migrant children being born in the villages in this area.

### **3.2 General Living Conditions and Health Resources**

During the dry season (November-April) when the weather is hot in the port areas, the health of Cambodian migrants who live over stagnant water suffers due to unsanitary conditions such as exposure to raw sewage, rubbish and rotten fish. Particularly old people and children are susceptible to disease during this time. A 65-year-old woman reported that she got sick, lost her appetite and broke out in red spots on her skin. She tries to go to the piers where the air is fresher. Recently she spent nearly two thousand baht because of her health problems.

In Cambodian villages in other areas, the living conditions are cramped and strewn with rubbish and sewage; disease and illness such as dengue fever are rife. The houses are mainly small wooden structures with no electricity and no access to running water. Water must be hand-carried from wells. In September 2006, migrants in one community were short of water after a couple of days of no rain as there is no main supply of water there.

Residents have a few material possessions, such as motorbikes or hand-phones. They have a gas stove and clothes, and food is not substantial. The migrants have to buy one basket of water for one baht from a Thai business next to their houses. Villages near the sea along the coast tend to have better conditions with small wooden houses a few metres from mangroves. The price of land

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<sup>11</sup> The Raksthai Foundation are a local Thai NGO working as part of the PHAMIT project (Prevention of HIV/AIDS among Migrant Workers in Thailand) A collaboration among seven NGO groups mainly focusing on HIV/AIDS, health with some education components. For more information please see [www.phamit.org](http://www.phamit.org). LSCW Migrant Support Group is working along side the Raksthai team based near the port areas.

rental here is cheaper than in the port areas, and residents experience less harassment from the authorities and police; however, work is less abundant.

### **3.3 Health Resources**

Most migrants use the local Klong Yai hospital for serious problems. Those who are documented can use the 30 baht health scheme which requires documented migrants with an insurance card to pay 30 baht per disease although it is unclear in the last few months whether this will continue under the new Thai government. There are also voluntary Khmer interpreters who can assist patients. Undocumented migrants have to pay higher fees for consultations and medicine. Some migrants go to a private clinic, Mor Malad, behind the market in Klong Yai.

Migrants in the port areas use a local clinic and basic pharmacy. Two Cambodian women run a private (but illegal) health service for migrants, selling medicine and providing injections. The migrants complain that they spend a lot on health issues such as delivering babies (4,000-5,000+ baht) and general illnesses, especially if they are undocumented. One night in the hospital can cost 200 baht. Nowadays, the hospital has a new policy for sex workers to be able to buy a health card for 1,900 baht and pay 30 baht when they have health problems.

### **3.4 Problems and Incidents**

The LSCW Volunteer Support Network (VSN) based in the port areas reports high incidences of drinking, fighting, violence and killings during the full moon period when 150-200 boats dock, and the fishermen disembark to eat, drink and go to the karaoke shops. The police, especially those in immigration, are very active during this period. Among the fishermen, peer pressure to drink and go to karaoke shops with their crew is notorious; other fishermen will beat those who are unwilling to join in. Those who refuse end up having their savings stolen or face being picked on by the other drunken fishermen. They also are reported to fight over the karaoke girls.

In other villages drinking is common especially amongst those without work. This regularly leads to fights, domestic violence, motorcycle accidents, killings, murders and injuries. The VSN in the port areas reports cruelty by the boat owners and drivers. One *Aun Sang* boat fisherman was beaten severely on the head at one of the piers for trying to escape from the boat.

**Table 3: Incidents reported by the VSN in the port areas**

<b>Incidents</b>	<b>Number</b>
Thai/police violence	5
Fishermen fighting/violence/death	13
Boat accident/winch killing or injury	1
Arrest because undocumented/illegal border crossing	5
Arbitrary arrest	4

**Issues commonly reported**

Two Cambodian families moved back to Kampot province from Village 2 as some Cambodian fishermen who were gangsters were drinking and fighting, threatening to kill people in the village. The families reported the incident to the police and the fishermen who were arrested threatened to kill those families who had complained. The families sold their houses for 5,000 baht and fled back to Cambodia.

A Thai man broke into the house of some Cambodian fishermen the night after they had been drinking, watching pornography and singing karaoke until 11pm. Apparently, he was annoyed the fishermen had not bought the beer from his shop. The Cambodian fishermen fought back and injured the Thai man who then made a complaint to the police. Their equipment was confiscated though the police did not arrest the fishermen who were protected by the boat owners. Two days later the fishermen went back to sea.

On December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2006, fishermen fought with a boat driver in a port restaurant as they did not want to get back on the boat after receiving their salaries.

Fake policemen are reported to operate in the port areas extorting money from Cambodian migrants.



In Klong Yai the Thai police arrest Cambodian migrants for the following reasons:

Undocumented status at work sites, communities and at check-points<sup>12</sup>: The VSN reported that the uniformed officials take financial benefits from Cambodian migrants if they have no documents. One VSN reported that he and his wife went to Trat to look for jobs as construction workers. He was ordered off the minibus by the soldier at the checkpoint on the road to Trat as his wife did not hold any documents. After some negotiation he paid 600 baht;

Migrants are arrested for breaking the law such as card playing, making noise, fighting, violence and drinking;

Riding motorcycles without licences or helmets;

Selling yamma and yaba (synthetic drugs);

Stealing (though they are often not the real perpetrators).

Example cases:

Two construction workers were accused of stealing a music amplifier from the owner of the house that they were working on. The house owner made a complaint to the police, and the workers were put into police detention for two weeks. The house owner stated that the price of the machine was 100,000 baht. The machine was recovered, but the two workers were not released for six months.

20 migrants from Koh Kong with market passes<sup>13</sup> were arrested for selling illegal cigarettes near the border (Nov/Dec 2006) and taken to Trat prison.

Five Cambodian migrants, one man and four women, were arrested for playing cards and taken to the district police station. The migrants reported that another Cambodian migrant informed the police of their card playing as she was jealous of this group because they wore

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<sup>12</sup> Check points are randomly set up along major roads in the district, and police check documents. There are three military police check points on the road from Klong Yai to Trat town.

<sup>13</sup> The daily market pass allows Cambodians to cross the international Hat Lek border in order to visit the market on the Thai side. The cost of the market pass is 20 baht.

gold yet rarely had work. The five migrants were required to pay 2,600 baht each to be released, but they were still taken to the Trat court. One of the female migrant workers with an Ob-Yob<sup>14</sup> card and whose husband is Thai negotiated a price with the police to secure their release. The migrants who were arrested were aware that playing cards was illegal, but in the past there had been no problems. Only when the police received a complaint did they act. The migrants were deported through the Had Lek border to Koh Kong but returned through the illegal mountain crossing, Kao Wong, the same day.

Provincial police and the Thai military regularly come from Trat and further afield to arrest Cambodian migrants. On January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2007, many undocumented migrants were arrested in the port areas and some nearby villages. Migrants reported seeing fishermen and undocumented migrants jumping down below the houses over the sea to hide from the police. Employers often inform their undocumented migrants to stay at home or be alert for police/military raids. In Village 2, the immigration police arrested eight people including one pregnant woman. The migrants stated that in order to be released the whole group had to pay 2,000 baht per person or they would be deported. Migrants who were detained stated that they preferred to be deported to Cambodia as it is cheaper for them to travel back to Thailand from Koh Kong across Kao Wong mountain illegal (300-400 baht) than pay the higher sums for being released from jail.

Twelve Cambodian migrants worked carrying and loading rubber trees for 27 days. The employer agreed to pay 400 baht per truck and needed to load 20 trucks for a total of 8,000 baht. The Cambodian foreman went to collect the wages on completion of the loading. The employer stated he had no money and promised to pay eight days later. Upon returning, the employer was unable to pay again. On March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2007, the workers went to the employer's house where they found his wife. They waited for three hours and had fifty baht to buy bread and water to share. The migrants appealed to the employer who still refused to pay and they left empty-handed when he threatened to call the police.

One of the LSCW VSN volunteers worked as a construction worker for several months on a private construction site building a warehouse near his home. He had been paid only 7,000 baht (of the 13,000 which he was owed) and hence had decided to stop working at this site since the workers had been continually cheated by the foreman who did not paid them in

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<sup>14</sup> Semi-residential card issued to Cambodians living in Thailand long-term

full. The workers were not united and therefore did not complain but left the worksite to find additional work.

On May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2006, in a village south of Klong Yai, seven documented Cambodian migrants and three with the Ob-Yob were arrested by the forestry protection police for cutting wood and clearing the land in Bor-rai, not far from Klong Yai district, in order to make a rubber tree and cashew plantation. (The case was reported on the local news channel.) However, the migrants encroached on land and wood which was reportedly owned by the King of Thailand. The migrants had not been given proper supervision by their Thai employer who had not informed them of the exact location of where they should have been working. The employer and his Cambodian wife were also arrested but were released after they gave the police money. In order to prevent being sentenced, the accused were told they would have to pay 20,000 baht. Eight children of the accused have been abandoned because of this case. Luckily, some Cambodian friends and neighbours looked after the children. Approximately seven of the migrants were released on the 9<sup>th</sup> of September 2006 and deported to Had Lek after staying in jail for three months and 20 days. After a police investigation, it was determined that the migrants were ordered by the Thai employers to work on the land in question and had not voluntarily cut down the trees. All were released.

On the 10<sup>th</sup> of April a Cambodian fishermen well known to the LSCW Migrant Support Team was hacked to death and body dumped into the sea in the port areas at 2.am by an unknown assailant. The reason for the death was believed to be revenge by either fishermen or gangsters. The assailant remains at large.

## **Rape cases**

A 6-year-old girl was raped by a 16-year-old boy in mid-September 2006 behind the saw mill near the port. The perpetrator was a neighbour of the victim, and he dared the victim and her younger sister to play on the beach behind the saw mill. When they arrived at the quiet place by the seashore, the teenager raped the girl in front of her younger sister. The girls' parents, informed by the younger sister about the incident, complained to the perpetrator's parents. The boy's parents said they would beat their son, but the victim's parents were not satisfied and informed the saw-mill owner who owns the houses where they live who then advised a medical check-up for the girl. During the medical examination they found sperm from the perpetrator, and the employer made a complaint to the police to arrest the

perpetrator. The perpetrator was then taken to the district police station and later transferred to Trat. The second trial is underway. It is unclear what will happen to the perpetrator who is also a minor. The victim remains in the village and has not been provided with any assistance.

An 18 year old man tried to rape a 7 year old girl who was living in the same row of houses. The perpetrator lured the girl to the back of the house near some trees. The perpetrator tried to anally rape her but was not able to complete the act as the girl managed to stop him and ran to her parents. After informing her parents, they threatened to kill the perpetrator with a knife and axe. The perpetrator fled the village. The parents did not file a complaint against the man because they felt their daughter had not suffered physically from the incident. However, the MST has witnessed abnormal behaviour in this child especially towards older men. She remains living with her mother in the village.

### **3.5 Other Problems Faced by Migrants**

#### **Restricted freedom**

Migrants without documents are not free to leave their villages as they fear being arrested by the police. This prevents them from seeking new employment opportunities or accessing services.

#### **Delay in payment of salaries**

Many migrants complain that they often have to wait between two weeks and two months to be paid their salaries despite appealing to the employers. Employers do not always abide by the salary agreed on, giving a basic salary instead rather than on the amount of fish processed as agreed.

#### **Surviving on a daily basis**

Migrants complain that over the years their salaries have not been increased, but the price of goods and daily living expenses keep increasing. Migrants in this area can only make enough money to survive from one day to the next (if they have work). If work is unavailable, migrants frequently get into debt, especially to the local shop owner for food and groceries. Often such situations can lead

to a crisis for migrants and their families should an illness, death or unforeseen debts arise. Large numbers of children also place a huge strain on the families' daily survival.

### **Ton-Tin**

Ton Tin is a pyramid-type savings scheme that many Cambodians use to increase their savings. However, there is a high element of risk and some Cambodians are cheated of their life savings by the Ton Tin leader.

A group of migrants had invested a lot of money into Ton Tin in order to receive higher interest. One lady with HIV/AIDS and her daughter lost 70,000 baht. They had put into the loan scheme just as the migrants who were organising it ran away with all the money that other migrants had invested. The victims said there was no proof or evidence to make a complaint to the police. As Ton-Tin is illegal, they could not recover the money.

### **Arbitrary arrest**

Cambodian migrants can be accused of crimes they did not commit. After incidents such as killings, many migrants are wrongly accused. In other cases, they are accused of taking and selling drugs by the authorities who have been wrongly informed by jealous neighbours and other migrants.

### **Discrimination/salaries**

Migrants in all villages complain that they do not have the same rights or pay as Thai nationals doing the same job. They are paid less and treated badly. If migrants complain about the conditions, it is easy for the employer to replace them as there is a surplus of migrants compared to the number of jobs.

One Cambodian man was earning 240 baht per day, but his Thai co-workers were paid 400 baht for doing the same job. In the fishing industry Cambodian migrants are paid 3,000 baht on certain boats whereas their Thai counterparts are paid 5,000 baht. Harder jobs are also kept for Cambodian migrants if there are Thai workers working alongside them. Cambodian migrants are also not allowed to run businesses in Thailand.

### **Border authorities**

Cambodian immigration police extort and cheat migrants even when they have documents. An example is with the market and border passes. Migrants are asked inflated costs for getting the stamp. Even when migrants pay for the border pass to be stamped the authorities refuse; the next time the migrant comes to get the document stamp he or she is fined for not having it stamped.

### **3.6 Documents**

Continual frustration is being felt by migrants about the arrests of migrants with work permits. They indicate that the work permit does not protect them from arrest. Hence, they are reluctant to get them. In addition, the majority of migrants who obtained the Certificate of Identification (CI) from the Cambodian working group (under the MOU) did not go to get the visa for the CI <sup>15</sup>because the Thai authorities issuing the visas required many costly documents as well as travel to Trat, one hour away. Those who already had a valid work permit did not want to get the visa and new work permit. Other migrants stated that they had lived in Thailand for ten years without any papers. Because they have never been arrested by the police, they did not see the added value in spending money on a work permit or CI.

A male migrant working at loading and unloading fish told the MST that he had spent 7,000 baht on his new CI visa and work permit which he had obtained through the help of the wife of a local Thai policeman. However, he stated that others had paid as much as 12,000 baht for the visa and work permit. Other migrants who have the CI were unable to get the CI visa due to a lack of money to pay for the transport and visa or a lack of ability to meet with the visa team because of work, travel and inaccessibility. <sup>16</sup>

#### **Tor- Ror 38/1 (House registration)**

Local authorities in the port areas appealed to all undocumented migrants to get house registration in January 2006. In order to apply for this card, the migrants are asked about their background, parents' names, current occupation and present address. The card identifies the person as living at

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<sup>15</sup> In 2006 one Cambodian working group team were issuing and identifying Cambodian migrants already living and working in Thailand. Documented Cambodian migrants were issued with this CI. However, they had to travel a second time to Trat to be issued with the visa from the Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Without the visa the CI is deemed worthless.

<sup>16</sup> In April 2007 the Cambodian working group returned to Thai to issue Certificates of Identification (CI) and visas at One Stop service centres but did not return to offer such a service in Trat. (Info June 2007)

this address but cannot protect the migrants from being arrested. It is not clear how this document can be used.

### **Ob-Yob**

This refugee card is a semi-residency card which was given to Cambodian refugees fleeing the Khmer Rouge regime 20 years ago and was issued up until the 1990's. Many older Cambodians who are long-term migrants have this card. The Ob-Yob allows them to open their own businesses (unlike other migrants), such as laundry and coffee shops and fruit selling. It also allows them access to health and education for themselves and their families. However, it is believed to take 20 years to become a fully fledged Thai citizen. Some migrants are still required to pay a fee to police in order to sell produce.

### **3.7 Making Complaints and Claiming their Rights**

Migrants in focal group discussions expressed fear of losing their jobs if they complain about work conditions, salaries and exploitation. Currently, migrants report an increase in the number of Cambodian migrants seeking work in Klong Yai; therefore, employers can fire migrants for complaining or making trouble, knowing that they can be easily replaced. The supply in labour also has affected the pay of many of the fish processors as the price per kilo of fish processed has been reduced. Cambodian migrants are reticent to complain about this reduction as they fear that the employer will make a complaint to the police informing them that they are undocumented and cause trouble. Getting a reduction in salary is deemed to be better than getting nothing. Undocumented migrants indicated they are not brave enough to make complaints due to a lack of legal documents.. Even documented migrants are not brave enough to approach employers on behalf of other workers as the employers would accuse them of rioting or disturbing the work environment. Cambodians agreed that there is a lack of solidarity among the workers to gather and file a complaint. Instead migrants prefer to quit the work and seek other employment by networking with their friends, relatives or neighbours.

Undocumented Cambodian migrants often express their wish to be documented. However, if they arrived after 2004, or have not re-registered, they have no chance. Often documented migrants are paid more than undocumented workers.

In some areas migrants with ob-job, work permits or those who are married to Thais can assist those who have problems with the authorities, especially the police. In some cases, migrants pay Thai foremen or businessmen who have a good relationship with the police and are able to negotiate for the release of arrested migrants. Thai foremen and employers sometimes help to release their workers. In some villages, there is no key focal point to turn to for help.

### **3.8 Seasonal Work, Mobility and Returning**

Cambodian migrants work as construction workers in Klong Yai district as well as further afield in Mulu and Trat. Unlike in Bangkok, migrant workers in this area either work in the local vicinity and return home every evening or stay at the work site with regular visits to their families. During the rainy season the work for construction workers, labourers and fish processors is very irregular, and there is a migration internally within Trat province of migrants to Koh Chang and Aow Chor for fruit picking; to Bor-lye for construction work; and to Mulu and Trat towns for construction work and rubber plantations. For example, in November a number of the men moved together to other construction sites in Mulu for six months to work on building new tourist bungalows. Usually every ten days they are allowed days off to return to their main village. Wives and children are left in Klong Yai in the "home" village. Cambodian migrants from the same village migrate to other areas together and use each other's connections to find work. A few migrants travel further afield to the provinces of Chonburi but usually the majority stay within Trat province. In Klong Yai, Cambodian girls also work as domestic workers, cleaners in hotels, restaurants, shops, cafés and as market workers. In the port areas there are an estimated 100 girls working as sex workers in karaoke establishments.

#### **Seasonal workers**

Seasonal workers are mainly from the neighbouring Cambodian province of Koh Kong. These tend to be fish processors and fishermen who cross back and forth to Klong Yai in search of employment. Other migrant workers return to Cambodia during the rainy season to do rice farming and harvesting, especially some male migrants who are unable to find work as construction workers during the rainy season. Some migrants who have previously left Thailand return due to financial crises or unforeseen problems at home. Three migrants from Kampong Speu returned to Klong Yai after living in Cambodia for three years as they could only make 6,000 riel per month as construction workers. They found work carrying wood at the Saw mill 1.



Seasonal workers also transit through Klong Yai district to other locations. In January 2007, the team met two new arrivals from Kampong Som who were waiting for a taxi to take them to Koh Chang. They had paid 800 baht per person to get on a goods boat from Kampong Som which included 50 baht for the motorcycle taxi, 50 baht for the police and 700 baht for the boat. These migrants had previously lived and worked in Koh Chang, Thailand, but had returned to do rice farming. They were waiting for their relatives to come and escort them to their new jobs in Koh Chang in a resort. However, migrants report that many employers on Koh Chang require documents and, for a price, a work permit could be bought. (We are unsure if this can actually be done.) The migrants, despite their status, could organise a taxi in which the driver was known to have had connections with the military on the road from Klong Yai to Trat. There are three military check-points from Klong Yai to Trat which the migrants have to pass through in order to reach the port where they can get a boat to Koh Chang.

### **Returning to Cambodia**

During the six months in which the team conducted informal interviews, migrant workers stated that the decision to come to Thailand was influenced by family members, friends or neighbours. In many cases the husband, close relative or neighbour came to Thailand and returned or contacted their relatives to join them. Ten to 15 years ago, border crossings were easier, but nowadays there are more checks and controls. Few Cambodian migrants return to Cambodia for minor holidays such as Pchum Ben or the Water Festival as they cannot earn enough to travel back to their home town. However, for the Khmer New Year holidays Cambodian villages in Klong Yai district are deserted. Only those who cannot afford to return remain. In response to the question about whether migrants want to return permanently to Cambodia, many reported that, though it is hard to earn money, at least the work is available, unlike in Cambodia. Many migrants state that if they can save 30,000-40,000 baht to start a business or buy land then they would return to Cambodia. Many long-term migrants state they will never return to Cambodia. These migrants tend to speak fluent Thai, are documented, have strong family and social networks, and have well established jobs.

## **4. Female Migrant Workers**

The information below was collected by the Volunteer Support Network (VSN) through the use of questionnaires. Migrants in each project location were interviewed and the information compiled by the MST. Additional information was collected in semi-structured interviews with the MST.

### **4.1 Female Migrant Workers and Children**

During the rainy season in Klong Yai, there are visibly more women and children than men. Wives and children are left for four to five months while their fishermen husbands work in other areas of Thailand. During the busy seasons for fish processing, married women leave their children with older relatives who often accompany their families to take care of the children. Migrant female workers report that they are informed that women can make money selling goods in Thailand. One woman from Kampot who has been in Thailand three years was in debt as her small business selling groceries had not worked; too many of the migrants had taken credit and owed her money, so the business failed. She hopes she can start a business again in the future.

In smaller Cambodian villages along the coast female migrants supplement their husband's income by doing fish processing at home such as shrimp peeling and peeling small fish. Usually the employer brings the fish to their house, and they are paid per bag completed (80-100 baht per day). Many children are unable to access school and are left unattended in the villages. Babies and smaller children are cared for by relatives, grandmothers and neighbours while the women work. Some migrant workers leave their children with grandparents and elderly relatives in Cambodia and support their education through remitting money.

### **4.2 Data about Female Migrant Workers**

The following information was collected in October 2006 by the LSCW VSN of whom all are Cambodian migrants. The VSN is based in eight different locations in Klong Yai district and provides access to the Migrant Support Team as well as collecting and distributing information. The VSN were asked to find female migrant workers, preferably Cambodian domestic workers in Klong Yai district, to interview using a short basic questionnaire. However, some VSN were only able to interview female migrant workers and not domestic workers. Thus, the information is a combination

of data from Cambodian domestic workers and also female migrants. Two of the respondents were interviewed in Koh Chang, a Thai island off Trat province. While this is a small sample of respondents it is hoped that the information can be useful in looking at the general situation of female Cambodian migrants in this district of Thailand. It should be noted that this is not research but data from respondents collected by the target group. Hence, in some cases, information was missing due to the VSN not being able to clarify more clearly about the respondents' answers.

**Table 1: Age of the respondents**

The majority of respondents were eighteen to twenty-five years old.

Age of female migrants	Number
Under 18	1
18-25	11
25-30	3
31-35	5
36-40	2
Over 40	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>

**Table 2: Province of origin of respondents**

The majority of respondents were from Kampot province. Prey Veng was the second highest, especially Mesang District.

Home province	Number
Kampot	7
Prey Veng	5
Svay Rieng	2
Battambang	2
Koh Kong	2
Takeo	2
Kampong Cham	1
Siem Reap	1
Kandal	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>

**Table 3: Marital status**

The majority of respondents were single which corresponds with the age of the respondents.

Marital status	Number
Married	8
Single	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>

**Table 4: Children or no families**

Most of the respondents stated that they had no children.

<b>Children</b>	<b>Number</b>
Yes	8
No	13
No answer	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>

**Table 5: Type of employment of respondents**

Most of the respondents were domestic workers

<b>Type of work</b>	<b>Number</b>
Domestic work	9
Cleaning bungalows	2
Serving food/drink	2
Selling/shop assistant	2
Shrimp peeling	1
Fish sorting	2
Fish processing	1
Housewife	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>

**Table 6: Decision to work in Thailand**

The migrants decided on their own to come to work in Thailand.

<b>Who decided</b>	<b>Number</b>
Own decision	16
Husband	1
Parents	2
Someone encouraged me (not specified)	2
Friend	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>

**Table 7: Forced or cheated to come to Thailand**

Most respondents stated that they were not forced or cheated to come to Thailand. Only one respondent was tricked and trafficked.

<b>Forced/cheated</b>	<b>Number</b>
No	20
Yes	1
No answer	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>

The person who answered that she was forced to come stated that she was cheated by someone, though it was not clear who, who said that they could help her find her husband. When she arrived

at the port in Klong Yai, she couldn't find her husband and she was forced to work in the coffee shop where the employer tried to force her to have sex with the customers.

**Table 8: Reason for leaving Cambodia**

Most of the respondents stated they left Cambodia as there was no work; they were poor and didn't have enough money.

<b>Reason for leaving</b>	<b>Number</b>
No work, poor, shortage of money	10
Better salary than Cambodia/find money	5
Help family	3
Find her husband	1
Came with husband (fishermen)	1
Heard can sell produce/earn money	2
No answer	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>

**Table 9: Person with whom the respondent travelled**

Most of the female respondents travelled with their parents to Thailand

<b>Person</b>	<b>Number</b>
Parents	4
Neighbour	3
Brother/sister	3
Aunt	1
Husband	1
New employer	2
Friends	2
Alone	3
Another women (not specific)	3
Recruiter	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>

**Table 10: Number of years in Thailand**

Two years was the most common answer for how long they had been in Thailand, indicating that Cambodians are continuing to migrate.

<b>Number of years</b>	<b>Number</b>
1 yr	1
2 yrs	7
3 yrs	3
4 yrs	2
5 yrs	3
6 yrs	4
7 yrs	1
9 yrs	1
11 yrs	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>

**Table 10: Recruitment methods: person who assisted the respondent to find a job**

The majority of respondents indicated that the person who helped them to secure a job was a known person<sup>17</sup> or family member.

<b>Person</b>	<b>Number</b>
Family/relatives	6
Knew someone	7
Found by oneself	4
Friends	2
Been in Thailand before	1
Recruiter	1
No answer	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>

**Table 11: Number of hours worked**

The least number of hours worked was for two cleaners in bungalows in Koh Chang. Generally, the conditions are alleged to be better in Koh Chang than in other areas of Trat, and many Cambodian migrant workers have work permits as the police are very active in arresting those without work permits. The highest number of hours worked was three domestic workers who stated they had to work 13 to 14 hours. One female migrant had to serve food and alcohol from 9pm to 3am in the morning.

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<sup>17</sup> It was not specified who this person was.

Number of hours worked	Number
8 hours	2
10 hours	6
11 hours	4
12 hours	4
13/14 hours	3
No answer	1
depends on fish	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>26</b>

**Table 12: Salary in baht**

Four women were paid 1,500 baht, of which one was forced to be a sex worker in a coffee shop<sup>18</sup>, and three others were domestic workers. The best salaries were received by those female migrants working in Koh Chang. They also worked the fewest hours every day.

Amount of salary in Thai baht	Number
1,500	4
2,000	4
2,500	5
3,000	1
3,500	4
3,800	1
4,500	1
Daily salary (70-80 a day)	1
No answer	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>

**Table 22: Deductions from salary by employer**

Three stated the reason for the deduction was failure to come to work on time or work regularly. One said if she breaks something in the house then the employer will reduce her salary. Three said the employer takes a certain amount of money for the cost of the work permit which was borrowed from the employer.

Deductions from salary	Number
Yes	8
No	14
No answer	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>

<sup>18</sup> The team found out that this happened in the past. The woman in question was now married and had one child. Her husband had helped her to escape from this trafficking situation.

**Table 23: Documented or undocumented**

<b>Work permit or CI</b>	<b>Number</b>
No	16
Yes	8
<b>Total</b>	

**Table 24: Who they live with**

Nearly half of the respondents replied that they lived in the employer's house.

<b>The person they live with</b>	<b>Number</b>
In the employers house	12
With relatives	6
With husband/children	2
Rent a room	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>

**Table 25: Type of work activities**

Respondents had a variety of work activities.

<b>Work activities</b>	<b>Number</b>
Domestic work and selling produce	4
Selling rice/food products	1
Take care of children and housework	3
Domestic work and help in the coffee/karaoke shop	4
Domestic work only	5
No answer	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>

**Table 26: Living situation**

Two domestic workers and one shop worker said their living conditions were hard; they had lost weight, were ill, and there was little time to rest. One domestic worker stated she was not satisfied with the physically hard work and small salary.

<b>Living situation</b>	<b>Number</b>
Difficult living and work	9
Normal	6
Fear of the police	2
Small salary	1
No answer	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>



**Table 27: Food**

The majority of respondents stated that they had sufficient food to eat.

<b>Sufficient food</b>	<b>Number</b>
Yes	20
No	2
Enough food too tired to eat	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>

**Free time**

When asked about rest time, eight respondents said that they had time to rest. Two said they were allowed one to three days per month off. One port worker stated that she could rest if there was no fish and three said if there were no customers. Three domestic workers stated they were allowed no time to rest.

**Table 28: Freedom to leave the work site/house**

One female migrant worker stated she was afraid to leave her rented room as the house owner had warned her that the Thai police could arrest her as she had no work permit. A coffee shop worker said she had no right to leave the work site and was followed by other staff if she did. She had been informed that if she wished to leave she had to pay 5,000 baht to the employer to compensate the amount of money he had paid to bring her to Thailand. Four said they could not leave as they were working with the employer to sell things. Another one was locked in and could not leave.

<b>Freedom to leave worksite</b>	<b>Number</b>
Yes	17
No	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>

**Table 29: Problems faced**

Those working in restaurants or coffee shops particularly in the port areas complained of being afraid when the customers argued, fought and used violence. Violence and fighting is common particularly in the port areas during the full moon.

<b>Problems faced</b>	<b>Number</b>
No problem	15
Cannot sleep due to work	2
Employer threatens and scolds	3
Cannot save money	1
Customers fighting	1
No answer	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>

**Table 30: Reasons for fear in the work situation**

Three girls working in restaurants/coffee shops were afraid of the customers when they were drunk, or fighting. They were also afraid of being forced to be sex workers. Domestic workers fear being blamed by their employer especially when they are new to the work.

<b>Problems faced</b>	<b>Number</b>
Police arrest	2
Fear of being sold and forced to work as a sex worker	1
Customers drinking and fighting	2
Cannot save money for expensive living	1
Fear of the employer when don't understand work	6
Not afraid	8
Fear being a woman working at night	1
Cost of living	1
No answer	2
<b>Total</b>	

**Table 31: Problems with sexual harassment or violence**

One housewife stated she faced the problem of domestic violence; one stated she had been abused but did not give details; and one girl working in a coffee shop said she faced both sexual harassment and violence many times but she did not agree or allow advances from the customers.

<b>Problems with sexual harassment/violence</b>	<b>Number</b>
No	17
Yes	3
No answer	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>

**Table 32: Decision to come to Thailand**

Sixteen female migrants stated that the decision to come to Thailand was a good decision for the following reasons: jobs; available and regular work; normal family life; solution to their family crisis; can earn and save money to help their families because in Cambodia some stated they were poor, had a shortage of finance and food, had no work, low salaries, lack of education opportunities and corruption. One female migrant said she could tolerate the work; no one makes trouble for her; the pay is better; and she has a good employer.

However, one coffee shop worker stated the decision was the wrong decision as she was forced to work as a sex worker. One domestic worker said she could not save money and spent more than she earned. The three female migrant workers who'd said the decision to come was the wrong decision stated that it was due to being cheated; the work was hard; the money was not enough to cover their daily spending; and that they would have never left Cambodia if they had had enough to

survive on in Cambodia. One had sold land and her house in order to come to sell things in Thailand, but this business had failed.

<b>Decision to come to Thailand</b>	<b>Number</b>
Good	16
Bad	3
No answer	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>

### **4.3 Positive Working Experience**

In one of the port areas, one female VSN fish sorter stated that her employer had renewed the work permits of 20 of the migrant workers without a deduction from their wages. The workers are provided with two main meals a day and other sweets and snacks during working hours. They are never scolded by the employer. Additionally, the employer takes the workers to the hospital if the workers have an accident during or after work.

In informal interviews held in November 2006 with a group of five women, four women said the decision to come to Thailand for work was a good decision as they could be with their families; earn money to buy cattle; send money to Cambodia to build houses; and spend money on their children. One woman said the decision to come to Thailand was a bad decision as the work was hard.

#### **Information requested**

Female migrant workers stated that they would like the following information in the future from the LSCW Migrant Support Team:

- Legal documents (work permits, passports, etc.);
- how to find new jobs and employment;
- Rights while living in Thailand;
- Thai labour law;
- Women's rights;
- How to avoid being cheated;
- National Thai laws.

#### **Services requested**

The following were services that female migrant respondents stated they required:

- Cheap place for migrants to call Cambodia (or home );

A place for saving money;  
A place where migrants can go when in danger or have problems;  
Assistance in cases of critical accidents or crisis situations;  
Services for women and children;  
An NGO to help assist women who are forced to sell sex and are cheated (recommendation from a female migrant who was previously trafficked).

### **Health information and services requested**

The female migrant respondents stated they required the following health information and services:

Information on dengue fever and malaria;  
HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, sexually transmitted infections (STIs);  
Free vaccinations;  
Reproductive health;  
Medicines and cheap services;  
Health assistance for those in crisis;  
Help with doctors and hospital.

### **Educational services requested**

The respondents stated they required the following educational services:

Children's education to learn to read and write in Khmer;  
Education on Khmer literature;  
Educational services in their village;  
Library.

## **4.4 Female Migrant Self-Help Group**

The LSCW Migrant Support Team asked about female migrants' needs in regard to participating in self-help groups in various Cambodian villages in Klong Yai district. All respondents welcomed the idea of a female migrant self-help group where they could meet, form a Cambodian community and support other female migrants in crisis. Some female migrants in this village were keen to start this group because the problems for women were huge; they would like to work together to find some solution. These problems include:

Domestic violence caused by drunkenness and drugs in the village;  
Female migrant workers becoming pregnant and the husband disappearing;

Female migrant workers with large numbers of children and no form of income as their husbands have not returned from fishing for many months;  
 No money to return to Cambodia.

## 5. Savings/Remittances

The Migrant Support Team asked the VSN to interview between three and five members of their own communities to answer questions regarding patterns of savings and remittances. The following contains information gathered by the VSN and has been combined into tables. A total of thirty-two migrants were interviewed by the VSN.

**Table 1: Age of migrants**

Most of the respondents were aged 18-25.

Age of migrants	Number
18-25	13
26-30	4
31-35	7
36-40	5
41-64	2
No info	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>

**Table 2: Marital status**

The majority of the respondents were married.

Marital status	Number
Married	21
Single	8
Unknown	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>

**Table 3: Source provinces of respondents**

The majority of migrants who were interviewed in this survey came from Kampot province.

<b>Province</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>Total</b>
Kampot	Kampong Trach	3	9
	Banteay Meas	1	
	Kampot	4	
	Uncore Jaiy	1	
Koh Kong	Smach Meanchey	1	3
	Mondol Seima	1	
	Tumsakoh	1	
Takeo	Kirivon	1	1
Kampong Cham	Tbum Kmom	2	7
	Soksetorkanal	1	
	Kampong Seam	1	
	Stung Troeng	1	
	Unknown	2	
Prey Veng	Seetorkanal	1	6
	Mesang	3	
	Kanchiet	1	
	Unknown	1	
Battambang	Unknown	1	1
Svay Rieng	Janchier	1	1
Kandal	Seporn	1	1
Siem Reap	Unknown	1	1
Kampong Speu	Sruit	1	1
Unknown		3	1
<b>Total</b>			<b>32</b>

**Table 4: Type of work**

Most of the respondents were shrimp processors.

Type of work	Number
Fishermen	2
Fish processing Factory	5
Shrimp processing	6
Domestic workers	1
House-wife	2
Fish drying	1
Fish sorting	2
Unload/loading	3
Buying squid	1
Construction	5
Selling water	1
Freezing fish	1
Saw mill	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>

**Table 5: Salary of migrants**

The highest number of respondents stated they earned between 4,000-4,500 baht per month.

Salary in Thai baht	Number
No salary (housewife)	1
1000-1500	4
2000-2500	6
2600-3000	4
4000-4500	10
5000-5500	2
6000-6500	3
7,000	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>

**Table 6: Number of days worked**

The majority of respondents said they worked from 21–30 days per month.

Number of days worked	Number
15-20	3
21-25	13
26-30	13
Depends on fish/wood	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>

**Table 7: Amount spent on water (in baht)**

Most migrants spent 100-200 baht per month on water

<b>Water Cost in Thai baht</b>	<b>Number</b>
No cost	1
Less than 100	6
100-200	22
300	2
450	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>

**Table 8: Amount spent on Electricity**

150-200 baht per month was the most common answer regarding money spent on electricity.

<b>Electricity Cost in Thai baht</b>	<b>Number</b>
No cost	1
Less than 100	1
100-150	5
150-200	12
250-300	9
400-550	3
Over 600	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>

**Table 9: Amount spend on Food**

The majority of migrants spend 2000-2500 baht per month on food.

<b>Food Cost in Thai baht</b>	<b>Number</b>
Less than 1000	1
1000	5
1000-1500	10
2000-2500	11
3000	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>

### **Amount Spent on Petrol**

Only twelve of the thirty-two migrants interviewed spent money on petrol. This ranged from 80-600 baht per month.



**Table 10: Amount spent on Clothes**

<b>Amount spent on clothes in Thai baht</b>	<b>Number</b>
No cost	6
Less than 100	1
100-200	9
300-400	3
400-500	5
700-1000	4
Over 1500	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>

**Amount spent on children's education**

The majority of migrants (22 out of 32 respondents) did not spend any money on their child's education as many are undocumented and cannot access education.

**Other expenses**

Migrants stated they spent money on soap, toothpaste, shampoo, washing powder, cakes, deodorant and medicine.

**Table 11: The item most money is spent**

Most respondents reported spending most of their money on food and materials for the house.

<b>Items on which most money is spent</b>	<b>Number</b>
House and food	23
Work permits and food	2
Clothes and food	3
Education and food	1
Petrol and food	1
Debt	1
Health	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>

**Table 12: Amount saved per month**

17 out of 32 migrants saved 500-1,000 baht per month.

<b>Savings per month in Thai baht</b>	<b>Number</b>
None	3
100-500	4
500-1,000	17
1,000-2,000	5
More than 2,000	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>

**Table 13: Main reason for not saving**

Thirteen respondents said expensive living expenses and the lack of regular work created a problem for saving money.

<b>Reasons for not saving</b>	<b>Number</b>
Expensive living/irregular work	13
Need to pay for family health and education	5
Debt	3
Send money home	2
Food	1
Small salary	1
Snooker, beer and going out	1
Husband spends the money	1
Problems with the family	1
No answer	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>

Single men especially spent money on beer, snooker, gambling on volley-ball and going to the karaoke shops<sup>19</sup> while married migrants stated they needed money for health, education and clothes for their families. Those without work permits had difficulty finding new or additional work as they were afraid of the police. Some complained about the expense of the work permit which caused them to be unable to save money.

**Table 14: Placement of savings**

Fifteen of the respondents said their savings were kept in the house.

<b>Where savings are kept</b>	<b>Number</b>
In the house	15
Given to family to take care of	5
Used to pay back debt	4
Kept by family in Cambodia	1
Used to buy clothes	3
Used to play Ton Tin	3
Kept in bank	0
No answer	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>

<sup>19</sup> There is a strip of karaoke bars where there are Cambodian sex workers. Some indirect sex workers work in restaurants and coffee shops in the port areas.

**Table 15: The amount migrants send home**

Many of these with families were unable to send money home. Six respondents indicated they sent 3,000 baht home to their families.

<b>Amount in Thai baht remitted per year</b>	<b>Number</b>
18,000	1
12,000	3
10,000	2
7,000	2
6,000	2
5,000	1
4,000	3
3,000	6
2,000	2
1,000	2
500	1
Cannot send	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>

**Table 16: People in Cambodia receiving remittances from respondents.**

Parents were the main people receiving remittances from Cambodian migrant respondents

<b>Receiver of remittance</b>	<b>Number</b>
Parents	17
Parents and children	4
Brothers	4
Grandparents	3
Wife and children	2
Not sending	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>

**Table 17: Use of remittances in Cambodia**

Most respondents reported that their remittances were used for religious ceremonies and festivals. Health was the second highest remittance expenditure, then food and education.

<b>How remittances are used in Cambodia</b>	<b>Number</b>
Religious ceremonies and festivals	17
Health	15
Food	11
Education of family members	9
Family (for saving)	8
House and land	4
Buying animals	3
Paying off debts	2
Buying goods	2
Buying household products	1

<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>
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All migrants gave the following reasons for not being able to save:

- No regular work (highest)
- House rental and electricity
- Food
- Work permit costs
- Health problems of migrant and children
- Clothes
- Low salary
- Debts
- Alcohol
- Children
- Wedding and festivals
- Sending money to support family in Cambodia

When asked if the migrants had ever received information on how to save and organise money, the majority of migrants (27) stated that they had never received information on how to save money. Four migrants said they had received information, and one person said they had tried a community savings plan but it had not worked.

When migrants were asked if they would be interested in receiving more information on how to save money all migrants interviewed stated that they wanted to receive true, clear information in Khmer about how they could organise and save money. Only one migrant said he was too busy with work to learn about saving money.

## **6. Working with Cambodian Migrants: Lessons learned**

### **6.1 Accessing Communities and Worksites**

Migrants are suspicious of any strangers who come into their communities. LSCW have learned that it is better to introduce NGO staff through another trusted person in the community, rather than entering migrant communities and creating fear especially when the team is new. It is important to listen to the fears of the migrants regarding the presence of an NGO and also to ask if outsiders can visit. Migrants know who to trust and what would place them in danger, so it is very important to be sensitive to these issues. The LSCW team has not attempted to approach migrants at their work-site for fear of reprisals and misunderstandings by employers. Cooperation with employers needs to be carefully planned using authorities and other established NGOs to initiate contacts. Employers fear NGOs who are assisting migrants; therefore, at the initial stages of any project it is best to work with migrants in their villages and communities rather than at the work place.

### **6.2 Introducing the NGO**

Migrants often confuse the name, activities and aim of the NGO or group. Information about the NGO activities need to be repeated and migrants given short, fun tests to avoid any confusion about the NGO, staff and the work activities, especially if there are other agencies working in the same project area. The MST used the LSCW logo and showed it to communities during awareness raising sessions. In addition, it is advisable to explain clearly to the migrants the role and goals of the project, how the project can assist them, and the areas of focus. This needs to be repeated at every awareness raising session and meetings with migrants.

### **6.3 Migrant Volunteers**

The LSCW MST at first decided to use migrants as unpaid volunteers in order to gain trust and access the communities. This has helped the team gain some credibility and some firm cooperation has been achieved. It was envisaged that the team could train the volunteers on the given awareness raising topics and then ask volunteers to disseminate information in the communities.. However, due to the complicated nature of the information such as registration and legal processes, this strategy had to be rethought. One of the main problems faced was that volunteers did not

understand the information clearly; thus, information was not properly disseminated causing more confusion among migrants. As a result, the MST decided to conduct the awareness raising sessions themselves in each target community and have continued to use volunteers to gain access to the communities and to organise community members for awareness raising sessions.

#### **6.4 Training of Migrant Volunteers and Collecting Information**

The LSCW Migrant Volunteer Support Network (VSN) received training on monitoring their communities and collecting information. Simple questionnaires were used, and the MST team found it useful to go through the questionnaires carefully to explain the purpose and what was required. Tick boxes and multiple choice questions were the most useful and easier for migrants to fill in. The team found training volunteers in groups worked well, provided the length of time was limited. The quality of information depended on the capacity of each individual volunteer. Migrants work very long hours; therefore, it is important that any training is done regularly but not too often and for only short periods of time.

Care is needed in choosing migrant volunteers. Firstly, migrants who are long term residents in the project area are best to use especially if they are not planning on moving to other locations. Migrants should be respected in the community; hence older migrants with experience in Thailand could be potential volunteers. Volunteers who are regular drinkers and create problems are also not recommended. Volunteers with higher education who can read and write and who are willing to assist their communities were ideal volunteers.

Migrant volunteers were not paid since the work was to help with accessing the communities and collecting information from their communities and industries. However, once every two months, information was collected from volunteers who then received household goods as payment.

The selection of, and criteria for, volunteers need to be explained to the other community members in order to prevent misunderstanding. Ideally, each community should choose their own representatives and volunteers.

## **6.5 Dissemination of Information to Migrant Communities and Strategies**

### **6.5.1 Materials and methods of dissemination**

Materials for awareness raising (education and information) should be very simple with as little writing as possible and pictures which are colorful and amusing, especially picture story books and cartoons, in order that they are attractive to the migrants. Any written presentation should be explained carefully by the trainer using simple Khmer writing which is short and concise. Visual aids, games, quizzes and role-plays work well and captivate the audience. Migrants can also be actively involved by participating in the methods of dissemination such as acting in role plays and being asked questions and giving examples that relate to their work and lives. Considerable care is needed in messages that to be given out to migrants and the type of information must be useful, practical and meaningful to the migrants' every day lives. While laws and rights are important to migrants, ways to make complaints and organise themselves are equally important.

The information disseminated can be tested after the session with migrants by dividing migrants into teams and having a small competition to answer questions about the information to check for understanding. The MST has used fruits and prizes to attract migrants. The activities need to be varied, fun and participatory.

### **6.5.2 Flexible awareness raising sessions and number of participants**

Conducting awareness raising sessions must be dependent on migrants with a flexible schedule that accommodates the work situation of the migrants; for example, the sessions should be at night when they are free from work or on days off. In some target areas, large numbers of participants have created problems with the authorities and with the team not being able to handle the numbers. Hence, limiting numbers but increasing the number of sessions in one place could be helpful.

### **6.5.3 Labour rights/policies**

Thai labour rights and policies can be confusing for migrants. The information needs to be given over a period of several sessions and repeated. Follow up should be conducted in order to assess how much the participants have understood. Documents such as CIs and work permits should be shown and held up during awareness raising sessions so migrants recognise the documents and do not confuse them. The team showed migrants the CI, the red Cambodian passport and the green border pass, explaining the difference, how they could be used and their benefits. This was

felt to be a very effective method. In addition, it is important to find migrants who are documented in order that they can explain the advantages.

Information on registration and policies need to be checked carefully with the relevant government agencies. If possible, it is also useful to obtain their approval so that the government logo can be included. It is important to make sure any information disseminated to migrants includes copies in Thai language and as well as in the migrants' languages, being careful to check the translation. If information is not clear regarding new information on Thai policies, it is better to wait for official announcements. Those disseminating information on policies need to be very clear about the information and able to respond to questions from migrants. For the MST, any questions which could not be answered by the team were written down; once the information was obtained from the Ministries in Thailand and Cambodia, it was given to migrants during the following awareness raising sessions.

#### **6.5.4 Rights information**

The subject of the awareness raising needs to be well thought out. While information on rights and laws is important for migrant communities, many migrants have stated that they are aware they have rights under the Thai Labour Protection Act but are unable to claim these rights for fear of losing their jobs. The MST have attempted to disseminate practical information and steps that migrants can follow if they are being exploited. They have encouraged migrants to report cases but more importantly create mechanisms that migrants can access to claim their rights.

#### **6.5.5 Needs assessment and choosing relevant information**

Conducting regular needs assessment among migrant communities is important as migrant needs change. Also conducting surveys on what information and services migrants require can help migrants direct the subjects/ topics of awareness raising and specifically address their needs. Strong referral mechanisms with other agencies and organisations are needed in order to provide access to a variety of services.

#### **6.5.6 Encouraging migrant participation**

Migrant communities do require some "gift" for attending awareness raising sessions, but it is not recommended that money be offered. Soap, shampoo, washing powder and cooking oil were found to be popular among the migrant communities. The team used a numbering system. Upon arrival at the session, each participant received a number which they produced at the end to receive a gift. Some problems were encountered, however, as some migrants were not able to attend sessions



due to work even though the team tried to find the best possible time to conduct the sessions. In the future, repeated awareness raising sessions in target areas may help to solve this problem.

#### **6.5.7 Follow up**

Every month, information was disseminated in awareness raising sessions and a follow-up on the content was provided the next month to check for understanding. Key points of the previous month's awareness raising were repeated. Occasionally follow-up sessions were not as effective as anticipated as some migrants had not attended the previous awareness raising sessions, or new migrants had joined the communities.

#### **6.5.8 Outreach activities**

Outreach activities are important in migrant residential areas so that the migrants have access to the team, advice and support. Migrant support NGOs need to be based in the migrant areas and a permanent presence in order that migrants have access to information which they need. More time spent in migrant communities has provided useful in terms of gathering information and building trust.

#### **6.5.9 Identifying key focal points.**

The LSCW MST has identified key focal persons in each community. These persons often had Ob-Yob status and were able to assist their own communities when there were problems. Befriending and using such persons is helpful to build networks in the communities.

## **Annex 1: Profiles of Migrant Workers in Klong Yai**

In order to give some information regarding migrant workers in Klong Yai, the Migrant Support Team conducted in-depth interviews with migrants who gave permission for their stories to be told. Seven of the families and individuals were helped by the MST through a crisis fund.

### **1. Female Migrant, Village 6**

This female migrant is 46 years old and from Kampong Som. She is documented with a work permit and CI but has no visa. She has been living in Thailand for nine years. The reason this migrant left Cambodia was to support her children's education after separating from her husband. She went to stay with her sister in Koh Kong, and at that time it was easy for Cambodians to take a border pass (20 baht) to work in Klong Yai district.

This woman worked in Klong Yai as a domestic worker for five years before returning to Cambodia but decided to go back to Thailand due to a lack of work, money or capital. On returning, she went to work in Koh Chang, Thailand, as it is known by migrants that the salary and conditions are better than in Klong Yai and Cambodia. In 2003, she found a job as a cook at a hotel on Koh Chang called Chai-Chet Bungalows. Generally the work conditions for Cambodians are better as there is much employment in the tourist industry as cook, cleaner and gardener.

The hotel provided accommodation in a dormitory, and she worked long hours from 6am-10pm cooking foreign and Thai food for guests. She was allowed two hours' break during this time and was paid 5,000 baht a month. Her salary was sent back to Cambodia to support her three children, two of whom are studying in Phnom Penh at Norton University. Her daughter is a 23 year old medical student. Her youngest child stays with another sister in Kampong Som and is studying there.

Now, she has finished working as a cook as she said the hours were too long and she was exhausted. She is now working locally in Klong Yai where she knows people in a newly-built resort. She said it is not a good idea for parents to bring children to live with them in Thailand. The children have no chance to go to school, and they have to work to support the family expenses such as house rental, food, etc. She said she would return to Cambodia when her two children have graduated from the University.

## **2. Female Migrant, Village 3**

This 30 year old female migrant worker is from Kampong Thom, and she has a six year old child. Her husband is working in a saw mill. There are not many people from Kampong Thom, but her husband had a cousin who was working as a fisherman and so they followed him. He first worked as a fisherman and travelled from the port areas of Klong Yai to Pattani, Thailand. His cousin brought him from Koh Kong and assisted him in crossing the border. In 2002 she went to work in a garment factory packing clothes in Phnom Penh where she earned US\$70/80 per month as there was no work in Kampong Thom. Then her husband encouraged her and the daughter to come to Klong Yai. She used to work in the fish processing factory but could not continue as she could not save money.

This female migrant worker wants to leave. She cannot save money as they spend a lot for the family and the two children. She is going back to Cambodia to do rice farming and pig raising. Her husband will become a fisherman once the family returns to Cambodia. She has not been brave enough to ask the school to allow her daughter to attend as she is undocumented and has no birth certificate or documents for her.

## **2. Migrant Child Labourer, Village 2**

This fourteen year old Cambodian migrant looks the same age as a seven or eight year old. He used to study in Grade Three in Kampot, Cambodia and can speak and communicate with his employer in Thai. He now lives with his mother and grandmother. His father who was a fisherman died due to alcohol, and his mother works in the fish processing plant. For two months he has worked drying fish in the port areas. He gets up at 4am and works until 3pm for which he earns 140 to 150 baht per day. Sometimes he does overtime from 3pm to 6pm at a rate of 15 baht per hour. Every day he spends five to ten baht on himself and gives the rest of his money to his mother to keep. Usually, he has no break while working but it depends on the work. Occasionally, he has time to sleep. No adults work in this industry as the pay is very low. The employer picks up the children and takes them to the work site. There are eight to ten other children working with this boy.

## **3. Fisherman, Village 1**

This 34 year old migrant fisherman from Pursat province has lived and worked in Thailand for twelve years and is married with a three year old child. Previously he worked as a taxi driver from Pursat to Phnom Penh but had an accident one day and hit a child in his car. The child was injured but survived. The parents threatened to kill him, so he fled Pursat to Kampot province where he stayed with other relatives for one year. He left for Thailand because there was no work in Kampot province, and many Cambodians were migrating to Koh Kong and Thailand to seek work. Since then he has worked on many different boats, especially *Aundam boats*, as there were few other types of boats in the past. For two years he has worked on the same boat, *Tuk Daiy Chaiky*, which is owned by a Cambodian who lives in Bat Klong, Koh Kong province, and who also owns four cargo boats which bring wood from Cambodia. This boat has a licence which costs 6,000 baht and allows the boat only to fish in Cambodian waters but the fish is brought back to sell in Klong Yai, Thailand due to its huge market for fish. The boat goes fishing for two weeks near Kampong Som. Only if the boat has a good haul of fish will it dock in Kampong Som or the islands off Cambodia. The fishermen are not permitted time off during the Khmer New Year holiday. There are estimated to be around 26-30 boats from Klong Yai which go to fish in Cambodian waters. On return to Klong Yai, the fishermen are usually permitted approximately six days off to visit their families. Other boats with Thai owners and licences (100 in Klong Yai) move to other areas of Thailand, particularly Pattani, during the rainy season which starts in May.

This fisherman can earn 3,000 baht per month if the boat has caught a lot of fish. This is less than in previous times due to the decrease in fish. Catching fish is now dependant on the skill and luck of the boat driver. Fishermen can save money if they keep away from the drinking shops and karaoke parlours but finding work is becoming increasingly difficult due to new migrants arriving from Cambodia. Like many long-term migrants, this fisherman is documented and believes that the benefits are that he does not need to fear being arrested or having to pay the police and he is free to travel around Klong Yai.

### **Newcomers in Village 6**

A 28 year old woman who is originally from Koh Kong province crossed the border at Kao Wong mountain to look for a job in Thailand. She had no secure work in Koh Kong and in the past had decided not to migrate. Before, she was able to earn enough money living hand-to-mouth by finding snails in mangrove trees and selling them. She had no land. Due to lack of food, she was forced to leave and try her luck in Klong Yai which she knew a lot about as she is from Koh Kong and many residents have past experience of working in Thailand. She knew her neighbour who had come to

live and work in Village 6. She had to borrow money to go (1,000 baht with 200 baht interest). She and her friends decided to leave Cambodia for Thailand by taking a motor boat from Koh Kong market to Kao Wong. They crossed the mountain to Klong Yai. She went to Village 6 where her neighbour found a rental house for her. She shared the house with other female migrant women. Her husband works as a construction worker. She does not live in the port areas because she has no documents and did not know anyone there. She has also learnt that police often arrest Cambodian migrants who have no documents; there are fewer arrests in Village 6.

### **Seasonal Migrant, Village 6**

One female small fish processor in Village 6 has three children of her own and migrates back and forth to Cambodia in order to visit her mother. Her children do not attend school; she is afraid to send them due to her undocumented status. All the money she earns is for the daily survival for her children. Her husband is a farmer in their home province of Kampot. She had to borrow money in order to pay for the release of her mother. The arrest (see below) has caused fear among the residents and she plans to return to Cambodia but the money she had saved thus far was used to help her mother.

In Cambodia the difficulty is that there are no jobs, no money and no food. In Thailand, she stated that migrants face problems of arrest, discrimination, inequality and lack of freedom of movement because of their undocumented status. This impacts on her ability to find new sources of income and jobs. In addition, the fear of arrest, discrimination and lack of school for her children are pushing her to return to Cambodia where at least she is free to move around. She will return through the usual route, over Kao Wong Mountain, where it is reported that migrants pay 100 baht to a guide to facilitate the crossing and 100 baht to the Cambodian police. Then she will take the Royale boat from Koh Kong to Kampong Som (400 baht) and travel by car from Kampong Som back home to Kampot. People in crisis situations in Koh Kong take the risk to migrate to Thailand. For example, this woman has acquired land in Koh Kong but it is in an isolated area and it is difficult for her to reach the local markets and hence difficult to survive.<sup>20</sup>

### **Newcomers, Village 1**

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<sup>20</sup> Many migrants internally migrated from Kampot to Koh Kong in the late 1990's when Koh Kong was a boom town due to the logging, fishing and trade. Since the decline in these industries these internal migrants have crossed the international border crossing into Thailand.

Four boys, aged from 18-24, arrived in a group by crossing over Kao Wong mountain to the port areas in Klong Yai district from Prey Veng and Kampong Cham. A boat driver, who is also one of the group's neighbours, went to Village 1 to recruit fishermen to work on an *Aundam* (large boat) which was docked in Klong Soan. The boat driver/recruiter told the prospective fishermen that the salary is paid once per year whereupon the money will be shared depending on the amount of fish caught. This is normal practise on *Aundam* boats and can result in exploitation. In the meantime they can borrow money to support themselves and send home to their families. The LSCW team encouraged the fishermen to find out more about the boat and the conditions before leaving.

#### **Newcomer, Village 4**

One twenty year old single migrant from Mesang district in Prey Veng came to Klong Yai with his aunt from another village in Klong Yai in December 2007 to seek work. He paid for the travel fare and food for her to bring him. They travelled by mini-van to Phnom Penh and then another minivan to Koh Kong where he crossed the border through the Kao Wong Mountain. He is currently staying with his brother, has a cousin near the saw-mill and has three other brothers working in Bangkok. He is working as a construction worker which is seasonal. He travels to find work in the district but has only had twenty days work since he arrived. He has no education, no skills, does not speak Thai and feels his health is too weak to work on a fishing boat. He had only limited knowledge of Thailand from his brother before he came. He was arrested in March for being undocumented and was deported to the international border crossing at Had Lek but returned across the Kao Wong mountain one hour later. He would prefer to stay in Cambodia but there is no work and he will continue to seek opportunities in Klong Yai.

#### **Newcomers from Rayong**

These two fishermen were docking to sell fish in Klong Soan and are based in Rayong province, where there is said to be many Cambodian migrants working. They had been in Thailand one year and were from Pear Raing in Prey Veng province. They had been encouraged to come to Thailand by a recruiter who was promised 500-1,000 baht by the boat owner per fishermen that he recruited. In addition, he charged the migrants 2,500 baht to bring them to secure them a job in Thailand. At the border they were met by another recruiter who assisted them across the border and into a taxi to Rayong. The fishermen are working on an *Aundam boat* which has a crew of 27 fishermen and every four to five days is selling the fish either in Rayong or in Klong Soan. The salary is received every two years on this type of boat and the fishermen have already worked for one year. When asked about the risk of the employer cheating them regarding the salary they stated that they

believed the employer to honour his word and pay them. But if he didn't they would simply find a new boat to work on. They report that some of the fishermen use Yamma/Yabba which is sold to fishermen in the port areas.

### **Returnee to Klong Yai, Village 2**

A 21 year old Cambodian migrant from Tbong Khmom District, Kampong Cham Province returned to Klong Yai. This migrant has two brothers working in the saw mill industry. In 2004 he stayed for five months repairing air conditioning units. He was ordered to come to Thailand by his older brother who was pressured by their mother. The mother was weary of the brother's bad behaviour in the province.

The young migrant had no work, no skills and only liked to go out. In Thailand, he was bored and had no opportunity to go anywhere because he was undocumented so he decided to return to Cambodia to learn other skills. He was learning how to repair mobile phones, but during his training he was not paid. Further, it was difficult to live in Phnom Penh in such a situation without an income and job.

In January 2007, he decided to travel from Phnom Penh back to Klong Yai as his brother said it was better for him to return. Twice he had tried to get a job to go to Korea but he was not chosen to go. He went to Koh Kong instead where he found an *Awbow* boat (small wooden speedboat) to take him to Kao Wong and then on to Klong Yai. He paid 150 baht for the boat, 100 baht to the police, 100 baht for the guide, 40 baht for the motorcycle taxi. The total journey cost 390 baht just to get to the border. On arrival he returned to the electrical shop which he had previous worked in but had to work from 7am-8/9pm at night and was paid 100 baht a day. In May 2007 the employer sacked this young migrant for asking permission to go home to do his laundry at 6.30pm.

**The following persons received goods and food necessities from the LSCW Migrant Crisis fund. These persons/families were nominated by their communities.**

**Elderly migrant, Village 4**

This 69-year-old woman fled Cambodia by boat after the Khmer Rouge killed her husband and children. She found it difficult to find work in Thailand because she could not speak Thai. She slept in an abandoned saw mill. One day she went to the construction site to ask for work and met a Thai Surin who could speak Khmer and offered her a job as a construction worker where she could earn 20 baht per day. When she first came to Thailand, she said there were fewer Cambodian migrants working there. The police did not arrest migrants even though they were illegal which is different from today.

Since that time she has lived in Klong Yai doing cleaning and cooking jobs. She has no one to take care of her and is now being assisted by one of the LSCW volunteers and his family. Her last job involved dish washing for 14 hours per day in a restaurant. She got sick very often as she did not have enough sleep but she has no savings and cannot support her daily living. In March 2007 she travelled to another area of Trat to do fruit picking but was scolded by the employer and other migrants for being too slow so she left to return back to Klong Yai. In May 2007 she found work peeling the small fish as in Village 6. She would like to return to Cambodia but has no land and family there.

**Ngier Kier family, Village 2**

Ngier Kier is a 60 year old male migrant who loads and unloads wood in the saw mill industry. His wife is a housewife. The work at the saw mill is not regular. He often travels to Koh Chang, a tourist island in Thailand, to find construction work. He has fed three children since infancy whose parents left them with him while they went to work on Koh Chang. The parents rarely send money to pay for milk or other expenses. One of the children is six months old and has been abandoned by its mother as she reportedly had sex with a foreigner out of wedlock. Ngier Kier has said he is willing to give this baby away up for adoption. Due to the irregularity of work, he and his wife are finding it increasingly difficult to take care of all the children without some additional support.

**Disabled boy and grandmother, Village 6**



Cheat is a severely disabled 12 year old Cambodian boy. He contracted polio when he was three and despite the fact that he cannot speak, he does understand what people are saying both in Thai and Khmer. He is unable to feed himself or sit without assistance. He has two other siblings: one is 11 years old in Grade Four, the other is an 8-year-old sister in Grade One. Both have received scholarships from school as they were deemed to be among the poorest children in the community. The school teacher always gives them leftover food from school. They also try to collect scrap in their free-time to help their grandmother who earns only a few baht per day selling scrap which is collected from the beaches. Their 59 year old grandmother, Mrs Lan, is the care-giver, and she came to Thailand 22 years ago. She now has refugee status. Her daughter, the children's mother, died two years ago from uterine cancer, and the father is in a Thai jail accused of stealing stolen shrimp. He is due to be released in May 2007. Their house has been built out of old wood and discarded materials. In April, out of desperation, the grandmother left Klong Yai with the children to another area in Trat province to pick rambuttan fruit. However, she returned a few days later to her home in Klong Yai as there was no one to take care of Cheat and he got bitten badly by mosquitoes. She is waiting in Klong Yai for the release of her son-in-law and has indicated she would like to return to Cambodia in order to seek assistance for Cheat.

### **Elderly migrant, Village 6**

This 68 year old woman is a small fish processor and has lived in Thailand for 18 years. She lives alone as her daughter is in Cambodia married to a Cham Muslim, and because she is Buddhist, she doesn't feel welcome to stay with her daughter. Her daughter and son-in-law encouraged her to convert to Islam also but she has refused. In the meantime, she has decided to stay in Thailand but feels lonely and depressed without her family. In April, she left Klong Yai district with other migrants from Village 6 to pick rambuttan fruit in another town in Trat, Aow Chor. The employer is well known to the migrants, and every year he comes to Klong Yai to see if migrants want to do seasonal work in his orchard. The migrants report that they will return to Klong Yai after a few months.

### **Female migrant and her family, Village 6**

Mom, 39 years old, has lived in Thailand for 12 years and is originally from Phnom Penh. She was married to a Thai fishermen but he died due to complications of hemorrhoids. She has three children: one is 12 years old and studying in Grade Three at Thai school; another is nine at a kindergarten; and the youngest is a one year old son. She struggles to make enough money for

their uniforms and school costs. She pays 100 baht for rent and 150 baht per month for electricity. She tries to do any kind of work she can find such as fish peeling, drying fish and selling cakes. On Thai school holidays in April, Mom took her children back to Cambodia for her relatives to take care of them. She returned to Klong Yai and joined other female migrants from her village picking rambuttan fruit where she said she could earn 150 baht per day. In May 2007 she returned to Klong Yai for the children to continue their schooling and on a daily basis hunts for shell fish and other scrap on the beach to sell.

### **Female migrant and children, Village 1**

This 45 year old widow from Koh Kong has three children. Her husband died of disease, and now she is struggling to feed and bring up her children alone. She came to live in Thailand twenty years ago. She used to have an Ob-Yob card (a refugee status card) but it has expired because she had no money to renew it. She has no regular job; she does any work she can, such as cleaning the fish, shrimp peeling, laundry and washing up. She and her children look very thin and pale; it seems they are malnourished. Her income cannot support her living expenses. Her neighbours assist her and the children with food, and the landlord does not charge her for the rent.

Her living condition is terrible; the house often floods during the rainy season. She is unable to return to Cambodia without assistance, money or land. The community nominated this woman to receive support from the crisis fund.

### **Fisherman and family, Village 1**

This 50-year disabled fisherman comes from Beong Ta Preang Village, Treoy Koh commune, Kampot province. He came to Thailand ten years ago. When he first came, he stayed in the Klong Yai district port area and worked as a fisherman. He has worked on all kind of boats but the main boat he worked on was called *Reou Lan Hen* which has 15 crew members (*reou* in Thai means "boat"). At the time of his accident, he was working on the boat which was catching fish from the sea bed in Cambodian waters. The fishermen have to dive down, 20 to 30 metres deep, to prepare the net. They try to frighten/attract the fish hiding in the rocks and stones so they will go into the net. The fishermen are required to use a pipe producing oxygen from the generator on the boat. He was working on the bed of the sea for two to three hours. He felt sick and tried to pull himself back onto the boat. As soon as he reached the boat, he fell unconscious. After that he could not feel his arms and legs. Even when he went to the toilet he had no feeling. The boat usually goes fishing for two to four weeks; this was the second day of their trip. The boat driver refused to return to Thailand, so

he remained on board until the boat had caught enough fish and could return to the port. The fishermen took care of him in their spare time. When the boat docked, the boat owner did not pay him a salary or any compensation or even take him to hospital.

He stayed in bed for a long time. Since the accident, he cannot walk more than a few paces and thus cannot work. He is also now suffering from tuberculosis. In April, this disabled man crossed the Kao Wong mountain to get to Koh Kong where he is getting medical treatment at a wat near a hospital. Though this is usually a one-hour journey, it took him three days to cross the mountain as he had difficulty walking.

The oldest son works on the port, loading and unloading frozen fish. He is able to support the family with some income. His eldest daughter was raped by a Thai motorcycle taxi driver when she was ten years old. (She is now 12 years old). The perpetrator was jailed for this rape as the Thai authorities will not tolerate the rape of minors. Now she makes money for the family by begging on the streets in the port area. The family is aware that this places her at risk; but as she is now "*kouc*" ('broken' in Khmer) due to her rape, they no longer care about her safety and have said she has got into the habit of begging.

The wife has mental problems and is deaf on one side as back in Cambodia she was beaten on her head with a stick. Their family works together doing crab and shrimp peeling at home.

## **Annex 2: Type of boats docking in the port areas of Klong Yai.**

Types of boats docking in the ports in Klong Soan

### *Tuk Daiy Chray*

This type of boat has large and smaller vessels. The smaller boats have up to seven crew and the larger boats have 11 fishermen aged from 20 to 30 years old. They use bulbs to attract the fish and can catch all types. More fishermen are single than married. One respondent stated that eight of the 11 fishermen are single; the three married men are originally from Kampot, Kompong Cham and Takeo. The amount of hours worked depends on the fish, but are usually from 8pm to 7am with no days off. When they have dropped the net, which they do five or six times per night, then the crew can rest. The fishermen have to work at a fast pace in order that the fish do not decay. Those without experience have to put the net into the sea. The fishermen are paid every full moon, usually every 24 days. Each time they dock the employer gives them each 100 baht to spend which is then deducted from their salaries. The average salary is 4,000 baht per month.

### *Tuk Ous or Ru-Lak boat (dragnet)*

These have three different types. One is called *Tuk Oulong* (single boat) and has six crew members. These boats are dragnet boats, which take six hours to gather fish. They go out fishing for 10 days at a time before docking. *Tuk Ous Taiwan* is a dragnet boat similar to *Tuk Oulong* but where they drag the net for eight hours and the species of fish is difficult to sort and take care of (for example, squid need to be cared for in a particular way). The other type (*Tuk Ous Koo*) needs two boats that work together. One boat (male boat) requires the driver and one fisherman to control the net; the female boat consists of 16 fishermen including the driver. The male and female boats bring the net together and haul the different types of fish onto the boat for sorting. Those on *Tuk Ous* are paid 150 baht -250 per night and receive salaries of 1,500 every 10 days, or every three to six months (4,000 to 5,000 baht). The fishermen state they go out for 5-8 days around the island of Koh Kud.

### *Ba-on boat (Rus Bla-on)*

The crew can include 20 to 30 fishermen, with one Thai foreman and driver. Some of these are permanent workers and fish around the Koh Kud and Koh Chang areas near Klong Yai district. The crew work 12 hours a day from 6am to 6pm, but this depends on the weather. Once the net has been put in the sea three times a night then they can take a rest for two to three hours. The crew is often from the following provinces: Takeo, Prey Veng, Kampot, Kompong Cham, Kompong Chhnang, Svay Rieng and Koh Kong, aged between 20 and 40 years old. The largest groups are

those from Prey Veng and Kampot; an estimated 50% are married. Older Cambodian males cook the food. The crew is paid according to the size of the catch. If the owner can sell 10,000 baht of fish then the fishermen will receive 100 baht per person; more if the catch is bigger. The employer sells the fish and does not give the crew regular payment. Often the salary is less than expected. 7,000 to 8,000 baht was stated as an average salary per month, paid on docking during the full moon (every 24 days). Other crews working on *Ba-on boats* report that their salaries are paid every two months. Fishermen tend to borrow money from the employer or boat drivers and are encouraged to borrow when docking. (called "Wiss") This is later deducted from their salaries. One newly arrived fisherman from Takeo stated he could save 3,000 baht per month on this type of boat.

#### *Aundam and Aunsam boats*

25 to 35 Cambodian migrant fishermen work on this type of boat during the day and night. The crew on this type of boat, according to those interviewed, come from Kompong Cham, Kandal, Phnom Penh, Prey Veng and Koh Kong provinces. *Aundam boats* travel further, to Pattani and Songkhla. There are three different types. The first does not use lights to catch fish. The second has lights (*Aunsam*) and one motorboat with a driver and fisherman who place cement blocks in the sea attached to ropes with bamboo and banana leaf: this offers shade and attracts the fish. The third type has two boats working together using lights at night to place the net around the fish and haul them in. Every two weeks these boats come to the port. The full salaries are paid every year or 18 to 25 months; fishermen supplement their income with private fishing, for which they get paid 100 to 200 baht. Every full moon when docking the fishermen receive a percentage of their salary, usually 1,200 baht. In the past, migrant fishermen were paid 6,000 baht every six to seven months, and during the full moon were given 1,000 baht. Boat employers are said now to pay salaries only every two years as previously mentioned.

#### *Tuk Aunlak /lad boats*

These boats are not found in Klong Yai district but in Pattani, Rayong and Samut Prakan areas of Thailand. These particular types of boats have mother boats, which very rarely dock. These work around Malaysian and Indonesian waters and have a crew of 20-25 men, mostly Cambodians with reports that young boys aged 12-13 are working on these boats with a relative. The fish is unloaded into small boats and taken to the ports. The crew on these mother boats is often at sea for up to two years. On the AunLak/Lad boats Cambodian migrant workers have difficulty leaving exploitative conditions; as such boats rarely dock or find themselves stranded in foreign countries. Fishermen report being forced to board the boat or escape by swimming or leaping from the boat.

*Tuk Tumning (goods boats)*

These boats transport goods from Klong Yai district to Kampot, Kompong Som, Mon Rithy's port and are usually the boats that Cambodian migrant use to move back and forth from Thailand and visa versa.



### **Annex 3: Cambodian Migrants Participating in Awareness Raising Session in Klong Yai District**

The data below were collected during awareness raising sessions over a six-month period. In May 2006, data was missing for the province of some migrants and the ages, hence the reason for the difference in totals. This is when the team had only decided to collect participant information and the collection was not conducted systematically.



### May 2006 Cambodian Migrants Participating in Awareness Raising Session in Klong Yai District

Province	No. of People	%	Sex	No. of People	Age	No. of People	%	Job	No. of People	%	
Kampot	23	28.8	Men	34	0-20	4	8.9	House Wife	29	26.1	
Takeo	22	27.5	Women	77	20-29	18	40.0	Fish processing factory	5	4.5	
Kandal	6	7.5	% Men	30.63	30-39	17	37.8	Fish Sorter	15	13.5	
Prey Veng	6	7.5	% Women	69.37	40-49	4	8.9	Fisherman	7	6.3	
K. Cham	11	13.8	<b>Total</b>	<b>111</b>	50-59	2	4.4	Port Worker	6	5.4	
Koh Kong	2	2.5			60-69	0	0.0	Construction Worker	5	4.5	
Battambang	4	5.0			70+	0	0.0	Fish Peeler	0	0.0	
K.Som	1	1.3			<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b>			Fish Head Cutter	5	4.5
Phnom Penh	2	2.5			Shrimp Peeler	19	17.1				
K.Thom	0	0.0			Seller	4	3.6				
K.Speu	1	1.3			Saw Mill	7	6.3				
Svay Rieng	0	0.0			Squid Peeler	1	0.9				
Pursat	1	1.3			Crab Peeler	1	0.9				
K.Chhnang	1	1.3			Unemployed	5	4.5				
K.Chea Krom	0	0.0			Loading Goods	1	0.9				
Banteay Meanchey	0	0.0	Domestic Worker	1	0.9						
Kratie	0	0.0	Ice Loading Worker	0	0.0						
<b>Total</b>	<b>80</b>						<b>Total</b>	<b>111</b>			

### June 2006 Cambodian Migrants Participating in Awareness Raising Session in Klong Yai District

Province	No. of People	%	Sex	No. of People	Age	No. of People	%	Job	No. of People	%
Kampot	76	38.4	Men	70	0-20	16	8.1	House Wife	51	25.8
Takeo	39	19.7	Women	128	20-29	80	40.4	Fish processing factory worker	12	6.1
Kandal	19	9.6	% Men	35.35	30-39	71	35.9	Fish Sorter	24	12.1
Prey Veng	19	9.6	% Women	64.65	40-49	23	11.6	Fisherman	36	18.2
K. Cham	19	9.6			50-59	6	3.0	Port Worker	2	1.0
Koh Kong	6	3.0			60-69	2	1.0	Construction Worker	16	8.1
Battambang	8	4.0			70+	0	0.0	Fish Peeler	3	1.5
K.Som	3	1.5						Fish Head Cutter	6	3.0
Phnom Penh	2	1.0						Shrimp Peeler	27	13.6
K.Thom	0	0.0						Seller	2	1.0
K.Speu	1	0.5						Saw Mill	11	5.6
Svay Rieng	2	1.0						Squid Peeler	3	1.5
Pursat	1	0.5						Crab Peeler	3	1.5
K.Chhnang	1	0.5						Unemployed	0	0.0
K.Chea Krom	1	0.5						Loading Goods	1	0.5
Banteay Meanchey	0	0.0						Domestic Worker	1	0.5
Kratie	1	0.5						Ice Loading Worker	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>198</b>									

### July 2006 Cambodian Migrants Participating in Awareness Raising Session in Klong Yai District

Province	No. of People	%	Sex	No. of People	Age	No. of People	%	Job	No. of People	%
Kampot	98	31.5	Men	97	0-20	25	8.0	House Wife	87	28.0
Takeo	62	19.9	Women	214	20-29	114	36.7	Fish processing factory worker	31	10.0
Kandal	21	6.8	% Men	31.19	30-39	94	30.2	Fish Sorter	28	9.0
Prey Veng	32	10.3	% Women	68.81	40-49	47	15.1	Fisherman	42	13.5
K. Cham	28	9.0			50-59	22	7.1	Port Worker	8	2.6
Koh Kong	24	7.7			60-69	5	1.6	Construction Worker	23	7.4
Battambang	9	2.9			70+	4	1.3	Fish Peeler	7	2.3
K.Som	6	1.9						Fish Head Cutter	3	1.0
Phnom Penh	3	1.0						Shrimp Peeler	45	14.5
K.Thom	8	2.6						Seller	9	2.9
K.Speu	5	1.6						Saw Mill	14	4.5
Svay Rieng	2	0.6						Squid Peeler	7	2.3
Pursat	1	0.3						Crab Peeler	4	1.3
K.Chhnang	4	1.3						Unemployed	2	0.6
K.Chea Krom	5	1.6						Loading Goods	1	0.3
Banteay Meanchey	1	0.3						Domestic Worker	0	0.0
Kratie	2	0.6						Ice Loading Worker	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>311</b>									

**September 2007 Cambodian Migrants Participating in Awareness Raising Session in Klong Yai District**

Province	No. of People	%	Sex	No. of People	Age	No. of People	%	Job	No. of People	%
Kampot	125	36.5	Men	66	0-20	45	14.8	House Wife	103	33.9
Takeo	67	19.6	Women	238	20-29	101	33.2	Fish processing factory worker	44	14.5
Kandal	27	7.9	% Men	21.71	30-39	105	34.5	Fish Sorter	40	13.2
Prey Veng	26	7.6	% Women	78.29	40-49	36	11.8	Fisherman	31	10.2
K. Cham	30	8.8			50-59	12	3.9	Port Worker	26	8.6
Koh Kong	18	5.3			60-69	4	1.3	Construction Worker	17	5.6
Battambang	11	3.2			70+	1	0.3	Fish Peeler	17	5.6
K.Som	9	2.6						Fish Head Cutter	6	2.0
Phnom Penh	2	0.6						Shrimp Peeler	6	2.0
K.Thom	7	2.0						Seller	5	1.6
K.Speu	6	1.8						Saw Mill	5	1.6
Svay Rieng	6	1.8						Squid Peeler	3	1.0
Pursat	0	0.0						Crab Peeler	1	0.3
K.Chhnang	4	1.2						Unemployed	0	0.0
K.Chea Krom	1	0.3						Loading Goods	0	0.0
Banteay Meanchey	2	0.6						Domestic Worker	0	0.0
Kratie	1	0.3						Ice Loading Worker	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>304</b>									

### November 2007 Cambodian Migrants Participating in Awareness Raising Session in Klong Yai District

Province	No. of People	%	Sex	No. of People	Age	No. of People	%	Job	No. of People	%
Kampot	125	36.5	Men	84	0-20	46	13.5	House Wife	100	29.2
Takeo	67	19.6	Women	258	20-29	122	35.7	Fish processing factory worker	57	16.7
Kandal	27	7.9	% Men	24.56	30-39	100	29.2	Fish Sorter	19	5.6
Prey Veng	26	7.6	% Women	75.44	40-49	50	14.6	Fisherman	19	5.6
K. Cham	30	8.8			50-59	15	4.4	Port Worker	36	10.5
Koh Kong	18	5.3			60-69	7	2.0	Construction Worker	21	6.1
Battambang	11	3.2			70+	2	0.6	Fish Peeler	21	6.1
K.Som	9	2.6						Fish Head Cutter	15	4.4
Phnom Penh	2	0.6						Shrimp Peeler	13	3.8
K.Thom	7	2.0						Seller	9	2.6
K.Speu	6	1.8						Saw Mill	8	2.3
Svay Rieng	6	1.8						Squid Peeler	6	1.8
Pursat	0	0.0						Crab Peeler	0	0.0
K.Chhnang	4	1.2						Unemployed	9	2.6
K.Chea Krom	1	0.3						Loading Goods	7	2.0
Banteay Meanchey	2	0.6						Domestic Worker	2	0.6
Kratie	1	0.3						Ice Loading Worker	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>342</b>									

**January 2007 Cambodian Migrants Participating in Awareness Raising Session in Klong Yai District**

Province	No. of people	%	Sex	No. of People	Age	No. of People	%	Job	No. of people	%
Kampot	130	33.3	Men	64	0-20	65	16.7	House Wife	159	40.8
Takeo	82	21.0	Women	326	20-29	145	37.2	Fish processing factory worker	64	16.4
Kandal	33	8.5	% Men	16.41	30-39	86	22.1	Fish Sorter	3	0.8
Prey Veng	30	7.7	% Women	83.59	40-49	66	16.9	Fisherman	24	6.2
K. Cham	26	6.7			50-59	17	4.4	Port Worker	39	10.0
Koh Kong	42	10.8			60-69	7	1.8	Construction Worker	12	3.1
Battambang	7	1.8			70+	4	1.0	Fish Peeler	12	3.1
K.Som	6	1.5						Fish Head Cutter	20	5.1
Phnom Penh	6	1.5						Shrimp Peeler	20	5.1
K.Thom	4	1.0						Seller	5	1.3
K.Speu	2	0.5						Saw Mill	23	5.9
Svay Rieng	5	1.3						Squid Peeler	4	1.0
Pursat	6	1.5						Crab Peeler	0	0.0
K.Chhnang	4	1.0						Unemployed	4	1.0
K.Chea Krom	4	1.0						Loading Goods	1	0.3
Bantey Meanchey	2	0.5						Domestic Worker	0	0.0
Kratie	1	0.3						Ice Loading Worker	0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>390</b>									