



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

BURMA

Countering Trafficking-in-Persons

2012



USAID trainings for media professionals encourage the growth of a vibrant, free civil society. Credit: Internews.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Chris Milligan
Mission Director
USAID/Burma
Email: milligantc@state.gov

Sarah Farnsworth
Burma Senior Program Specialist
USAID/Asia Bureau
Email: safarnsworth@usaid.gov

FOR MORE INFORMATION

<http://www.usaid.gov/burma>

OVERVIEW

The United States recognizes the ongoing reform efforts to build a modern, developed and democratic country and welcomes the opportunity to deepen engagement with the people of Burma and their government.

USAID acknowledges the progress made by the Government of Burma on trafficking-in-persons over the last two years and is committed to enhancing this progress through the sharing of technical knowledge and best practices with government officials and civil society partners.

In light of this progress, the announcement of the U.S.-Myanmar Joint Plan on Trafficking in Persons heralds a new era of cooperation in addressing this serious crime and human rights issue. The Governments of Burma and the United States commit to areas of cooperation and measurable progress in increasing the capacity of Burma's efforts to: identify trafficking offenses; investigate and prosecute trafficking offenders; provide victims with access to services in line with existing international guidelines; and to prevent the people of Burma from being subjected to sex trafficking or forced labor either within the country's border or abroad.

PROGRAMS

Prior to the historic reform efforts in Burma, USAID and its partners funded the MTV-EXIT Foundation (End Exploitation and Trafficking) to launch awareness events regionally and along the Thai-Burma border, including a major concert event in Chiang Mai in November 2011, the documentary series *Enslaved*, and youth roadshows near the border. With funding from USAID, AusAID, and WalkFree, MTV-EXIT will pioneer new efforts inside Burma through a free public concert in December 2012 featuring Jason Mraz alongside top Burmese and Thai pop bands. The concert will be held in Rangoon's People's Square, in front of the iconic Shwedagon Pagoda, to raise awareness about the problems of human trafficking and communicate key actions the people of Burma can take to protect themselves from being trafficked. The concert will be filmed and subsequently broadcasted nationally and internationally on television and online. MTV EXIT, in cooperation with local community based organizations, will organize a series of community screenings in Burma's countryside to further broaden the reach of the CTIP prevention messages.

In 2013, through MTV EXIT and other activities, USAID will continue to support the Government of Burma and partner with local and international non-government organizations (NGOs), other members of civil society and international organizations, to further our work on victim assistance and trafficking prevention in Burma.