PILnet’s Anti-Trafficking in Persons (ATIP) Project aims to improve access to justice for victims of trafficking in persons (TIP) and increase legal and financial costs to perpetrators by building relationships between anti-trafficking NGOs and pro bono lawyers, enhancing the legal capacity and expertise of pro bono lawyers, and developing a regional clearinghouse to enable anti-trafficking organizations and victims to access pro bono legal assistance. PILnet’s ATIP Project focuses on Hong Kong, Cambodia, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam.

### Key Achievements of PILnet’s Anti-Trafficking in Persons Project

#### ATIP Clearinghouse

**Overview**

PILnet’s ATIP Clearinghouse started operating in 2019 and was first rolled out to NGOs in Hong Kong and Thailand. Later, it was expanded to cater to NGOs based in Vietnam and Cambodia. Between 2019-2020, the Clearinghouse has worked closely with a number of NGOs and pro bono lawyers on ATIP issues across Asia.

**87.1%**

of the Clearinghouse matters received were successfully matched with lawyers.

**27 MATCHED REQUESTS**

Under PILnet’s ATIP Clearinghouse, there were a total of 31 requests across Hong Kong, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam. PILnet successfully matched 27 requests with a few pending to be matched in 2021.

**17 NGOS**

PILnet facilitated pro bono connections with 4 NGOs in Hong Kong, 9 NGOs in Thailand, 2 NGOs in Vietnam and 2 NGOs in Cambodia.

**66 PRO BONO LAWYERS**

Across Hong Kong, Cambodia, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam, 66 lawyers were involved in the Clearinghouse matters. 38 lawyers worked on matters requested from Hong Kong NGOs, 6 lawyers worked on requests from Cambodia, 18 lawyers worked on requests from Thailand, and 4 lawyers worked on requests from Vietnam.

**197 LAWYERS TRAINED**

Over the past two years, over 197 lawyers were trained through the various ATIP training and workshop events. The lawyers and legal practitioners are from a range of international and local firms across five different jurisdictions.

**22 WORKSHOP/EVENTS**

PILnet has arranged a variety of workshops and events to equip legal practitioners with the skills to work with sensitive clients and TIP victims. These events include ATIP Trainings, Pro Bono Training Sessions, Roundtables and a Regional Forum.

### ATIP Clearinghouse Matched Matters

Of the 27 matched matters in PILnet’s ATIP Clearinghouse, 8 requests came from NGOs in Hong Kong, 12 came from Thailand, 4 came from Vietnam and 3 came from Cambodia.

Since 2019, there has been a diverse range of Clearinghouse matter requests. A few examples include:

- Conducting multi-jurisdictional legal research on national laws relating to anti-trafficking and child labour
- Providing legal assistance and legal representation to TIP victims
- Review of child protection policies

PILnet facilitated 6 multi-law firm collaborations on ATIP matters.
ATIP Training Workshops

Since 2019, PILnet hosted 12 ATIP workshops in Hong Kong, Cambodia, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam.

The workshops covered the following topics:
- Victim Identification Process
- Victim Interview Preparation
- International and National Legal Frameworks
- Civil Remedies and Judicial Review
- Working with Sensitive Clients

Total number of participants: 197

Pro Bono Training Events

Between 2019 and 2020, 4 pro bono culture workshops were organized in Thailand, Cambodia, Myanmar and Vietnam focusing on pro bono principles and how to develop a pro bono practice in a law firm.

Total number of participants: 125

ATIP Roundtables

Since 2019, PILnet organized 5 ATIP Roundtables across the region to foster building of relationships and trust between ATIP NGOs and pro bono lawyers.

Total number of participants: 97

ATIP Regional Forum

PILnet’s ATIP Regional Forum was held in September/October 2020. The Forum consisted of 4 sessions which covered the following topics:
- Aligning National Legislation with the International Legal Framework for Trafficking in Persons
- Identifying Victims of Trafficking in Persons and Best Practices of Frontline Practitioners
- Legal Strategies in Cross Border Cases
- Case Simulation: Effective Cooperation on Cross Border Cases

Total number of registered participants: 134
Average participant per session: 58

Category of NGO Needs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category of NGO Needs</th>
<th>Number of Matters</th>
<th>Distribution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Client’s Direct Assistance</td>
<td>12 (44.4%)</td>
<td>Operational Needs: 4 (14.8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Needs</td>
<td>11 (40.7%)</td>
<td>Program Needs: Client’s Direct Assistance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number of Matched Matters per Category and Location

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Operational Needs</th>
<th>Program Needs</th>
<th>Program Needs: Client’s Direct Assistance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ATIP Trainings and Workshops