Introduction

Over 20 million people are trafficked in the world today. In the last decade, the global community has made significant progress in identifying human trafficking victims, prosecuting traffickers, protecting survivors, and creating partnerships around the world to end human trafficking.

Why it matters

The Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) is the cornerstone of U.S. policies to fight human trafficking comprehensively, domestically and abroad. Due to the changing nature of human trafficking tactics and strategies, the bill must be reauthorized every three years.

Trafficking and other forms of violence against children have long-lasting impacts on a child’s health, learning, and development. To end violence against children, we must work together to learn why children are vulnerable to exploitation and violence, including trafficking, and use evidence-based and multi-sectoral solutions.

It is essential that Congress pass this bill before the current version expires in September to ensure children are protected—particularly children associated with armed groups, unaccompanied children who are vulnerable to trafficking and other violence, and children at risk of the worst forms of child labor. Please cosponsor the Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2017 (HR 2200).
From 2011 to 2016, World Vision worked with local governments and the United Nations to help communities take an active role in preventing human trafficking. The project taught children on how to protect themselves, educated law enforcement how to identify victims, and supported survivors’ reintegration into communities.

- The number of children at high risk for trafficking was reduced by 17 percent.
- 76 percent of the survivors supported remained with the reintegration program.

**Facts**

The TVPA and its reauthorizations have key provisions, including:

- The Trafficking in Persons report, an annual publication that holds over 180 governments around the world accountable for human trafficking trends in their countries.

- A call for USAID to incorporate child protection into country strategies for countries that have not made progress to address trafficking.

- The Child Protection Compact Act, which allows the State Department to work with countries to measurably reduce child trafficking.

- Protection of unaccompanied children who arrive in the U.S. from countries not bordering the U.S.

- Strengthening of the Child Soldiers Prevention Act, which directs the State Department to identify governments recruiting or using children in their armed forces and to withhold key forms of military assistance.

- Recognition of the critical role of the Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB) to protect children from forced labor and human trafficking.

*Provisions that are new to the 2017 reauthorization*

**ENDING TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA**

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