



Annual Report 2023

Table of Contents

Word from the Country Director	3
Key Highlights	4
Heal	5
Prevent	6
Increase Capacity	7
Promote awareness	8
Empower and equip	9
Stories	10

**All client names in this document have been changed to honour their privacy*

A Word From the Interim Country Director

As we reflect on the 2023, I am filled with gratitude for the incredible journey we have undertaken together as a team. Our collective effort, resilience, and commitment has had lasting impact on the lives we serve.

LIFT International is committed to supporting survivors of human trafficking and child sexual exploitation. Our goal is to help set victims free from harm and to pursue justice alongside survivors through legal assistance.

The 2023 annual summary report is a testament to our shared achievement. It highlights milestones, challenges, and the meaningful progress we have made in pursuit of our mission.

Despite uncertainty, the team's passion, innovation, and endless determination propelled us forward. In 2023, our team supported 40 active cases, assisted 274 survivors, extracted 68 pieces of digital forensic evidence, and provided 298 legal assistance activities - all through a victim-centric approach.

My heartfelt appreciation extends to every team member and partner. Your dedication to LIFT International motivates our work and is a beacon hope for positive change. Without your generosity, we would be not able to walk this far and achieve the outcomes we celebrate.

As we look toward the future, I am confident that together, we will continue to claim justice for vulnerable people and pursue greater impact.

Yours sincerely,



Tipnaree SETPHISUT (Miss)
Interim Country Director
LIFT International

Highlights



194

VICTIMS REMOVED FROM HARM

194 victims of human trafficking and sexual exploitation were removed from harm through LIFT's collaboration with Thai law enforcement.



360

GOVERNMENT & NGO STAFF TRAINED

on online crime, investigation, and online grooming to identify human trafficking.



20

OFFENDERS ARRESTED

20 traffickers were arrested for their crimes, including eight convicted with 144 jail sentences.



18

CASES OPENED

18 human trafficking cases were opened after LIFT investigated and analyzed hundreds of pieces of forensic evidence and submitted 670 reports to partners.



274

SURVIVORS RECEIVED ASSISTANCE

274 survivors supported with LIFT's social work, counseling and other survivor care initiatives in 2023.



\$72,000

COMPENSATION ORDERED

US\$72,000 won in compensation claims for victims.

Heal



Survivor Support

LIFT assisted **194 victims** who were removed from the harm of human trafficking and supported their referral to government and/or private shelters.



Counselling

32 survivors received counselling for their recovery. This included court preparation, life coaching, and helping them to create plans for their future.



Mental Health

186 mental health sessions were provided, including health check-ups with a psychologist to prepare survivors to testify in court.



Follow-Up Care

The social work team carried out **570 follow-up sessions with survivors** to ensure their healing and well-being.



Love Packs

101 Love Packs containing hygiene items, food, and daily incidentals were distributed to survivors. These help them with their basic needs so they can dedicate their attention to healing.

LIFT Life Fund Success Stories

The LIFT Life Fund provides financial support for survivors reintegrating into the community. With help of the LIFT Fund, one survivor moved home and began to lead a local church and teach her congregation about human trafficking. Four young women graduated from high school. And another young woman completed career training and started work at a dental clinic.

Prevent



Intelligence Reporting

LIFT analysis of 79 Open Sources, informant reports and partner referrals **led to 12 human trafficking cases being opened.**



Training Government & Law Enforcement

186 government and law enforcement officials were trained in online crime investigation, cyber security, and human trafficking victim impact statements enabling them to better enforce the law to prevent offenders from re-trafficking.



Preventing Online Crime

1,450 students and teachers were trained to prevent grooming and online crime through LIFT's collaboration with partners to deliver trafficking prevention programs in local schools.



Arresting Offenders

LIFT disseminated **670 reports** to law enforcement and partners on profile identification, location mapping, surveillance and connections through OSINT* and social media platforms which **led to the arrest of several offenders and seven human trafficking cases proceeding to court.**



Victim Compensation

LIFT believes that once the offenders are held accountable for their offense, vulnerable groups will be safer from human trafficking crimes. The legal team helped convict **8 offenders for their actions, and recovered a total of 72,000 USD in compensation** by the court for survivors.

Increase

Capacity



ปราบปรามการค้ามนุษย์



Teachers Trained

120 schoolteachers, psychologists, and allied professionals were trained on internet safety and to prevent child grooming so they can better protect and support students.



Trafficking Victim Impact Statement Training

LIFT trained **7 social workers and counsellors from government and NGO shelters** to prepare Victim Impact Statement reports, a key supporting document for survivors of human trafficking at the court level.



Online Crime Investigation Training

In June LIFT trained 17 participants from the Department of Special Investigation (DSI) on Online Crime Investigation. 55% of participants reported the training helped them understand how to track suspects and 88% passed tips and techniques to other staff members who didn't attend the training.



Border Police Training

150 border police and staff trained to know the signs and report cases of human trafficking and online exploitation to relevant agencies, including LIFT.

Promote Awareness

Human Trafficking Awareness Month

In January 2023 during Human Trafficking Awareness Month (HTAM), LIFT promoted content on how people can protect themselves, prevent exploitation, and help victims of human trafficking. Published content engaged 1,356 interactions.

TIP Report

On 23 June 2023, LIFT responded to the 2023 TIP report on social media, committing to stand in solidarity with victims of human trafficking. The post engaged 302 engagements from our audiences.

Social Media Engagement

Promoted human trafficking awareness to online audiences with 22 social media posts that generated 260 total interactions.

Trafficking in Thailand

Using Facebook, TikTok, Twitter and Instagram, LIFT raised awareness about the trafficking profiles of its 248 person caseload: 50% were sex trafficking; 31% were Thai children aged 12-17 who were exploited online; and 30% of online victims were men and boys

School Trafficking Prevention Week

In collaboration with partners, LIFT led a trafficking prevention week in 11 schools. A total of 1,450 students and teachers participated and raised their awareness of online crime.

Empower & Equip



Survivor Empowerment

Three survivors joined an empowerment session that focused on future planning and understanding personal values. During the session, all three survivors identified their career goals of obtaining bachelor's degrees in social work, electrical engineering, and guidance counselling.

Survivor Leadership

One survivor reintegrated into her community and began leading a local church group where she began raising awareness among young children and youth about human trafficking and child abuse.

Empowerment through Employment

One survivor has completed nurse assistant training and now works at a dental clinic.

Empowerment through Education

Providing an opportunity for education is important for survivor recovery. LIFT's team is dedicated to achieving survivor access to proper education and improving their capacity through coaching and empowering. The team carried out 104 rehabilitation sessions and 5 sessions of reintegration support to 199 survivors.

Legal Support

A total of 229 survivors received support during legal proceedings and coaching for testimony preparation at the court trial. This led to the survivors confidently giving their statements in the court room.

Klā's Story

“Before I met the team at LIFT, my life felt like a dead-end to seek justice. I was drowning in pain. I had never harmed anyone, so why did that person hurt me? I came to LIFT to put an end to that offence, so no one else has to suffer through what I did.”

-Klā

Klā was just 16 when he was a victim of online sexual exploitation. At the time, he did not even know that internet relationships could lead to trafficking.

But when Klā discovered pictures of himself online that he'd never posted, he knew something was wrong.

While Klā was dating a girl via social media, they would go on a private group for calls and chats.

Without his knowledge, images of Klā were recorded and widely circulated online.

When Klā tried to get the images taken down, he learned the girl had blocked his account. He didn't know how to process a case report with the police and fell into a deep depression.

Thankfully, Klā was one of ten teenage boys LIFT identified in an online child pornography case. With the support of the LIFT team, Klā bravely shared his testimony in a forensic interview.

Through his witness, Klā's trafficker was arrested and is currently in detention awaiting justice to be served through the legal process.

Through ongoing care from LIFT's social workers and legal experts, Klā is recovering from trauma. He was awarded NZD 2,300 in compensation from the provincial justice department while the court case is in progress.

Empowered by LIFT, Klā fearlessly advocates for his rights and in so doing, is securing justice and protecting others from online exploitation.

Lee's Story

When Lee's family couldn't afford to pay her school fees, she took a part-time job with great pay.

But instead of the promised good job, Lee found herself trapped in sex trafficking.

Two years ago, Lee was removed from harm and placed in a shelter with the assistance of LIFT and its law enforcement partners.

LIFT's social workers consistently supported her during her recovery and in time, Lee saw transformation in her life. Recently, after the shelter's careful assessment, Lee successfully integrated back into society.

Although she had a dream of becoming a psychologist, Lee made a practical decision to enrol in an intensive nursing program that provides paid internships. She recently graduated and seeing her don her cap and gown, walking proudly to accept her certificate, was truly heartwarming.

Throughout her long recovery journey, Lee received LIFT Life Funds that helped her pursue her education.



My life has turned around. Even now, it is not easy, but I am proud of myself for making every decision that leads me to the right way. Thank you LIFT for always being by my side.

- Lee

Sisters Kate and Kim are free from exploitation

In early 2023, LIFT collaborated with law enforcement to remove a young girl from a man in her community who had sexually assaulted her.

LIFT investigators assisted law enforcement in identification, and they discovered sisters Kate and Kim had also been abused.

Social workers supported the girls' grandmother to ensure a smooth recovery process and that poverty would not put them into a vulnerable situation again.

Today, both girls have successfully integrated into the community.

“I am grateful for all the help and support I've received. It has relieved the daily anxiety of wondering if I will have money for school or even a meal. Now, I can solely focus on excelling in my studies.”

-Kim

The girls had fallen into the same situation. Poverty had pushed them to search for work. They agreed to clean the suspect's house, only to be taken advantage of and exploited.

Throughout 2023, LIFT supported Kate and Kim. LIFT's legal experts advocated for justice, while counsellors helped the girls process trauma.

As Kate and Kim's lives progress beautifully step by step, LIFT's legal team is working to secure compensation for the girls.

Through the generosity of our supporters, these two sisters have found freedom from exploitation, are focusing on their education, and can embrace the carefree years of youth that rightfully belong to them.

