

## Introduction

Cambodia has become a haven for trafficking and exploitation, with victims drawn from Vietnam, China, Taiwan, Malaysia, Thailand and Myanmar.

Large-scale trafficking of both men and women into the casino and online gambling business areas, and in a twist, scams or frauds using a variety of online tools.

The businesses appear to be owned and operated by Chinese and Myanmar nationals.

## We assess as follows:

- a)** Large numbers of people from Vietnam and China are being tricked into going to Cambodia to work in large resorts near borders and work in the Casino business and related leisure areas. There also appears to be a profile of victims from Taiwan, Malaysia, Thailand and Myanmar.
- b)** The businesses are part of a large sprawling gambling network in Ba-Vet, Sihanoukville, the capital of Phnom Penh and probably others and are likely to be owned or operated by organised crime groups. These resorts are visited by many thousands of Chinese tourists each year and by tourists from further afield.
- c)** A proportion of the trafficked victims are put to work, running scams or personal fraud schemes using online tools, reaching fraud victims across the globe. It is likely that significant sums of money are being transferred to accounts controlled by the slave owners as a result.
- d)** The numbers of trafficked victims are likely to run into many thousands, a proportion of which are subject to beatings and temporary confinement.
- e)** There may be collusion with local authorities to sustain the environment.

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## Information Requirements (what we need to know)

- 1)** Any information regarding trafficking for exploitation of both men and women to Cambodia to work in these casinos or associated businesses, including sexual exploitation and of those who own or operate the businesses.
- 2)** Information that refutes any of the assessments above.
- 3)** Information related to advertising and recruitment methods used by the gangs to bring new victims in from county of origin.

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