

**Measures to Combat Trafficking in
Persons (Annual Report)**

June 22, 2022

**Council for the Promotion of Measures to
Combat Trafficking in Persons**

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1 Introduction

Trafficking in persons is a grave violation of human rights, and requires a prompt and appropriate response from a humanitarian perspective as trafficking in persons causes serious psychological and physical pain for the victims and recovery from such damage is very difficult. Trafficking in persons is a serious crime that frequently takes place across borders, measures to combat trafficking in persons have drawn great interest from the international community.

In light of the growing concern by the international community, the government formulated the “2014 Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons” (hereinafter referred to as “2014 Action Plan”) in December 2014, as part of making “Japan, the safest country in the world” towards the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games. The objectives of the 2014 Action Plan are to take appropriate actions to deal with the situation regarding measures to combat trafficking in persons, and for the government to collectively tackle trafficking in persons in a comprehensive and holistic manner. To this end, the government is taking measures in line with this Action Plan.

In tandem with social and economic changes, methods of trafficking are expected to become more sophisticated, and the situation for trafficking in persons is expected to undergo changes. Amidst this situation, in order to produce positive results in measures to combat trafficking in persons in the future, it is vital to gain information about the latest trafficking situation, and to confirm and verify the progress for various policy measures. In view of that, the 2014 Action Plan specified that an annual report will be prepared to summarize Japan’s efforts in the area of trafficking in persons, including the implementation of trafficking policy measures and the crackdown of trafficking offenses.

This annual report summarizes the measures to combat trafficking in persons undertaken by the relevant ministries and agencies, with a focus on initiatives undertaken in 2021, and in line with the 2014 Action Plan. Through this report, we hope to create opportunities to widely inform the citizens the real picture of the trafficking situation as well as to raise concern of measures to combat trafficking in persons.

(1) Definition of “Trafficking in Persons”

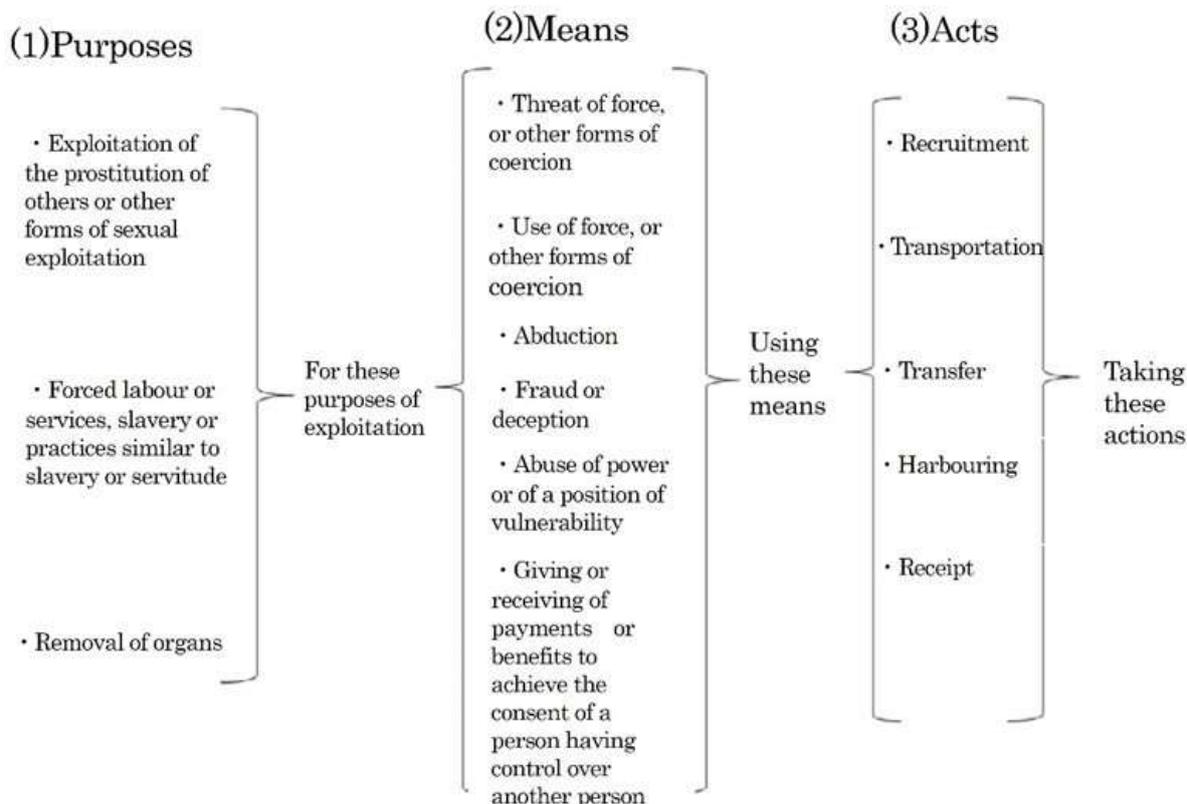
Trafficking in persons is defined as follows, according to Article 3 of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (hereinafter referred to as the “Trafficking in Persons Protocol”).

Article 3

- (a) **“Trafficking in persons” shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs;**
- (b) **The consent of a victim of trafficking in persons to the intended exploitation set forth in subparagraph (a) of this article shall be irrelevant where any of the means set forth in subparagraph (a) have been used.**
- (c) **The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation shall be considered “trafficking in persons” even if this does not involve any of the means set forth in subparagraph (a) of this article;**
- (d) **“Child” shall mean any person under eighteen years of age.**

This can be summarized briefly in the following figure 1.

[Figure 1] Definition of trafficking in persons (Article 3 of the Trafficking in Persons Protocol)



※ When a victim is a child under 18 years of age, it will be considered to be an act of trafficking in persons even if the means mentioned in (2) are not employed.

Although many of the victims are women and children, as laid out in this definition, trafficking in persons will include not only sexual exploitation such as prostitution, but also trafficking for purposes such as labor exploitation and the removal of organs. Therefore, regardless of sex or nationality, anyone could become a victim of trafficking in persons. Furthermore, the act of trafficking in persons is not limited to the “buying and selling” of persons, but also includes acts such as deceiving victims for the purpose of exploitation, or taking advantage of those in a vulnerable position and placing the victims under one’s control. In cases where methods such as force, threats, and fraud are employed, the act is considered as trafficking in persons regardless of whether or not the victim has consented to the exploitation. In addition, when a child under 18 years of age is placed under control for the purpose of exploitation, it is considered to be an act of trafficking in persons even if the above-mentioned means are not employed. Hence, trafficking in persons can take various forms.

All the acts that fall under the definition of trafficking in persons laid out in the Trafficking in Persons Protocol are stipulated as criminal offenses in Japan since 2005 when the revisions were made to the Penal Code to codify the acts that were previously not punishable under domestic law (such as Crime of Buying or Selling of Human Beings).

Furthermore, on June 15, 2017 the Act for Partial Revision of the Act on Punishment of Organized Crimes and Control of Crime Proceeds, etc. an implementing legislation which was necessary to conclude the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (hereinafter referred to as the “Convention against Transnational Organized Crime”), was passed in the 193rd Diet session, and the Act entered into force on July 11, 2017. Consequently, on that day, Japan concluded the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime as well as the Trafficking in Persons Protocol, a supplementary protocol to the Convention, etc., and thus became a State party to the Convention and the Protocol, etc.

(2) Framework of Japan’s measures to combat trafficking in persons

In order to prevent and eradicate trafficking in persons and protect the victims, the government seeks to work closely with the relevant ministries and agencies, and in cooperation with the international community, put in place measures steadily and expeditiously. To that end, the government established the Inter-Ministerial Liaison Committee Regarding Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons under the Cabinet in April 2004, which has since worked on establishing and implementing countermeasures.

However, the international community remains strongly concerned about measures to combat trafficking in persons, and Japan’s efforts in this area have also drawn the attention of the international community. Hence, in the Ministerial Meeting Concerning Measures Against Crime¹ held on December 16, 2014, the 2014 Action Plan was developed, which is a revised version of the 2009 Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons. At the same time, during the Ministerial Meeting held on the same day, it was approved that the Council for the Promotion of Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons, comprising Cabinet Ministers of relevant ministries, will be convened as necessary.

The first Council for the Promotion of Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons was held in May 2015. The session was primarily focused on approving the annual report “Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons,” which compiled information regarding victims of trafficking in 2014 and the initiatives of relevant ministries and agencies related to combating trafficking. It was also confirmed at the Council that efforts aimed at eliminating trafficking will continue and that initiatives based on the 2014 Action Plan will be steadily implemented. Since 2016, “Council for the Promotion of Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons” has been held every year.

¹ The Ministerial Meeting Concerning Measures Against Crime was established in September 2003 in order to re-establish Japan as “the safest country in the world.” The Prime Minister presides over the Meeting composed of all ministers. (For the Meeting details, refer to the website of Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet: <https://www.kantei.go.jp/jp/singi/hanzai/index.html>)

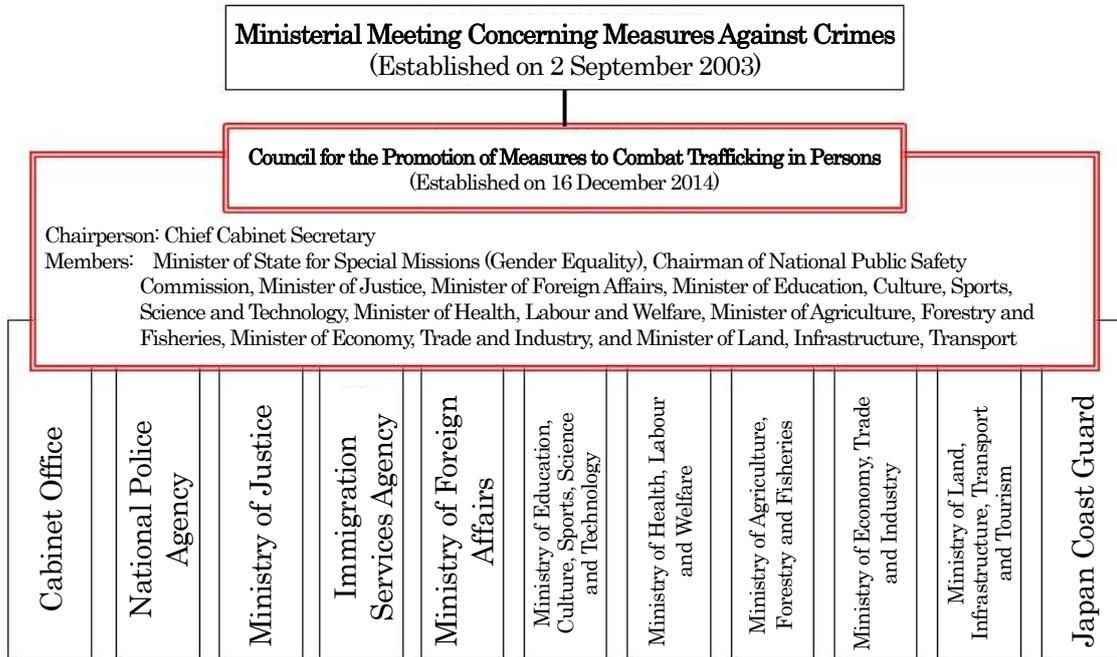
Placing the “Council for the Promotion of Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons” at the core of these efforts, under the coordination of the Cabinet Secretariat, the Cabinet Office, the National Police Agency, the Ministry of Justice, the Immigration Services Agency², the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism, and the Japan Coast Guard have been taking respective measures according to their own jurisdictions to eliminate trafficking in persons.

[Table 1] Main initiatives from 2004 to 2021

April 2004	Inter-Ministerial Liaison Committee Regarding Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons established
December 2004	Development of the Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons
December 2009	Positioning of the Inter-Ministerial Liaison Committee Regarding Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons under the Ministerial Meeting Concerning Measures Against Crime Development of the 2009 Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons at the Ministerial Meeting Concerning Measures Against Crime
June 2010	Agreement on “Methods to Deal with Trafficking in Persons (Measures for Identification of Victims)” at the Liaison Committee
July 2011	Agreement on “Methods to Deal with Trafficking in Persons (Measures for Protection of Victims)” at the Liaison Committee
December 2014	Development of the 2014 Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons at the Ministerial Meeting Concerning Measures Against Crime Agreement at the Ministerial Meeting that the Council for the Promotion of Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons will be convened as necessary under the Ministerial Meeting Concerning Measures Against Crime
May 2015	The First Council for the Promotion of Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons held Annual report “Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons” approved and published
May 2016 May 2017 May 2018 May 2019 May 2020 June 2021	The Second – Seventh Council for the Promotion of Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons held Annual report “Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons” approved and published

² With the enforcement of the Act to Revise Part of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act and the Act for Establishment of the Ministry of Justice (2018 Act No. 102), from April 1, 2019, the Immigration Bureau, which was an internal bureau of the Ministry of Justice, became the Immigration Services Agency, which is an external bureau of the Ministry, and the Regional Immigration Bureau, which was a local branch office of the Ministry, became the Regional Immigration Services Bureau, a local branch office of the Agency. Hereinafter, the Immigration Services Agency and the Regional Immigration Services Bureau are collectively referred to as the “Immigration Services Agency.”

[Figure 2] Japan’s structure on measures to combat trafficking in persons



2 Gaining a thorough understanding of trafficking in persons

(1) Incidence of trafficking in persons in Japan

i) Data relating to victims of trafficking in persons

- The number of victims of trafficking in persons who were put under protection in 2021 was 47 (nine more than in 2020).

With regard to the gender of the victims, all were female.

- With regard to the nationality or region of the victims, 31 were Japanese (one more than in 2020), accounting for approximately 70%.

The nationalities of the 16 non-Japanese victims were 10 Philippine nationals (two more than in 2020), four Vietnamese nationals (four more than in 2020), one Chinese national (one more than in 2020), and one Taiwanese (one more than in 2020).

- With regard to the status of residence of the 16 foreign nationals, 10 victims entered Japan on the status of residence of “Entertainment” (10 more than in 2020), four on the status of residence of “Technical Intern Trainee” (four more than in 2020), one on the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor” (six less than in 2020), and one on the status of residence of “Permanent Resident” (one more than in 2020).

The number of non-Japanese victims who were put under protection by the Immigration Services Agency in 2021 was 11. Of these victims, 10 possessed the status of residence and they were permitted to change the status of residence. The remaining one victim, who had illegally overstayed and was therefore in violation of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act, was granted special permission to stay.

Note that regarding non-Japanese victims it is divided into three cases, namely the case in which these victims were first put under police protection before being put under protection by the Immigration Services Agency, the case in which they are put under protection by either the police or the Immigration Services Agency only, and the case in which they were put under protection by the Organization for Technical Intern Training. The above-mentioned 16 non-Japanese victims can be classified into the following groups:

- i) Ten were put under police protection in 2021 and were then put under protection by the Immigration Services Agency the same year.
- ii) One was put under police protection only in 2021.
- iii) One was put under Immigration Services Agency protection only in 2021.
- iv) Four were put under protection by the Organization for Technical Intern Training in 2021.

- Of the 47 victims, 18 were minors (under 18 years of age) (two less than in 2020). By nationality or region of the victims, 17 were Japanese nationals and one was Taiwanese.

- With regard to the forms of trafficking, 31 were victims of sexual exploitation (six more than in 2020), 11 were forced to work as nightclub hostesses (four more than in 2020), and five were victims of labor exploitation other than nightclub hostesses (one less than in 2020).

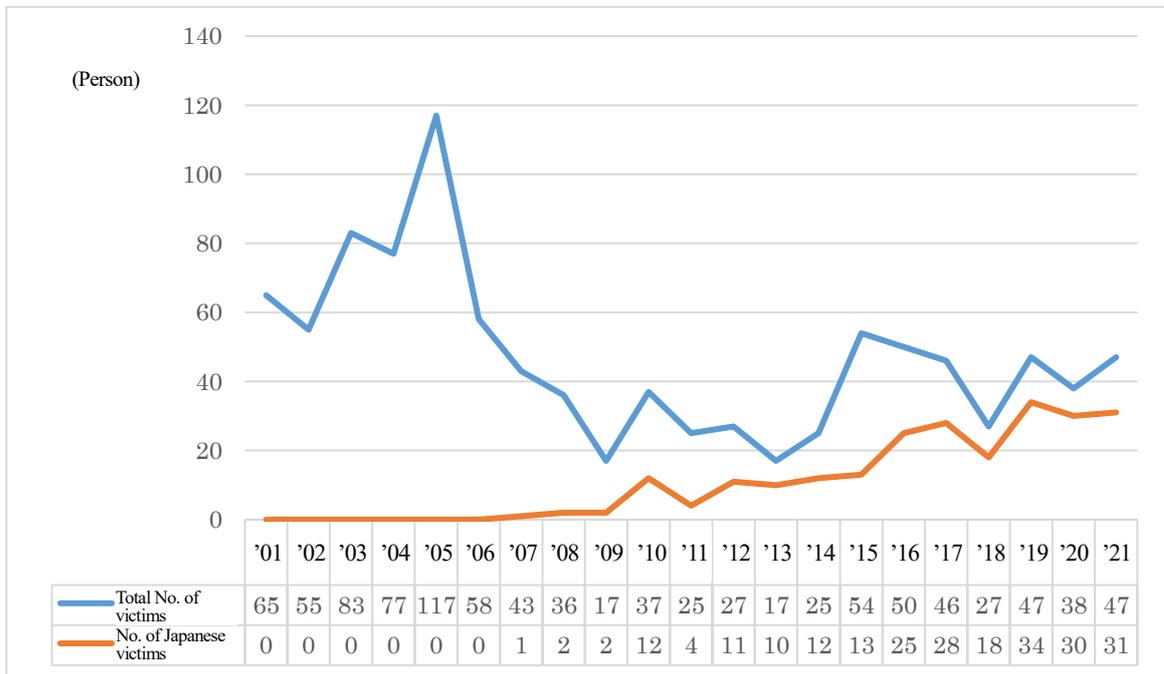
The characteristic of the victims, was that Japanese female victims tended to be forced to engage in prostitution by violence or threat, or due to debt, while there was a case where non-Japanese victims were forced to work as nightclub hostesses, notwithstanding entering Japan on the status of residence of entertainer and being contracted as dancers at first. They were prohibited from going out without permission and received almost no pay, being deceived to be paid when returning to her country. In addition, there was a case of labor exploitation where a non-Japanese victim tended to be forced to work at different conditions from those at the time of solicitation, and there was another case of labor exploitation where a non-Japanese victim was violated at work after entering Japan as a technical intern trainee.

- The number of victims who were put under protection temporarily at Women's Consulting Offices in 2021 was 13. By nationality or region, 10 were Philippine nationals, two were Japanese nationals and one was Chinese national.

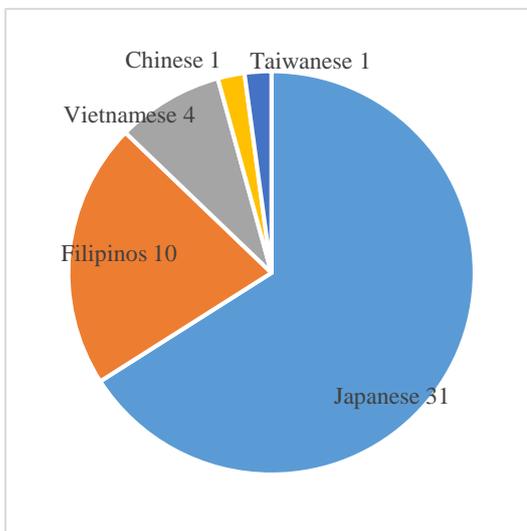
All the victims were provided with living support, interpretation support, and medical care, etc.

- In 2021, 11 victims were voluntarily repatriated through support from the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and all the 11 victims were provided with temporary refuge shelter. Following their repatriation, nine victims who wished for support were provided with family reunification support, two victims received medical support, and 10 victims received one-year support from social rehabilitation programs (e.g. income-generating activities such as retail, wholesale, sewing, transportation, and delivery of drinking water, etc. for the victims' independence and self-reliance).

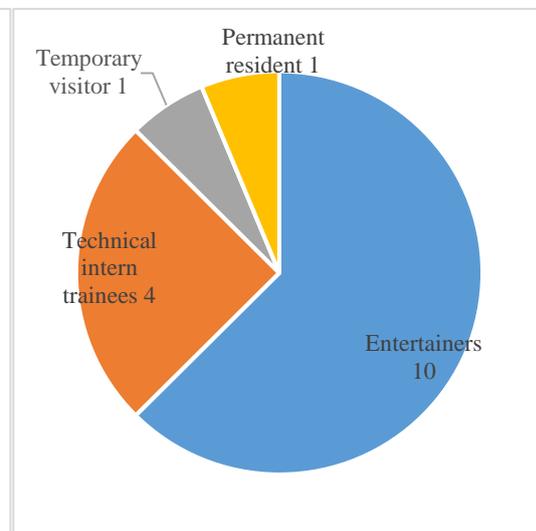
[Figure 3] Trends in the number of victims of trafficking in persons (2001 to 2021)



[Figure 4] Nationalities or regions of the 47 victims



[Figure 5] Status of residence of the 16 foreign victims



ii) Data relating to those accused of trafficking in persons

- In 2021, 62 cases of trafficking in persons pertaining to victims of trafficking in persons put under protection by Japan were cleared (seven more than in 2020) and 44 persons were arrested for trafficking in persons (14 less than in 2020).

With regard to the gender of the suspects, 36 were male (11 less than in 2020), and eight were female (three less than in 2020).

- With regard to the nationalities of the suspects, all were Japanese nationals (11 less than in 2020).

- With regard to the occupations of the suspects, four were connected with adult entertainment business (four less than in 2020), 14 were unemployed (eight less than in 2020), and 26 (two less than in 2020) engaged in other occupations (office workers, self-employed, etc.).

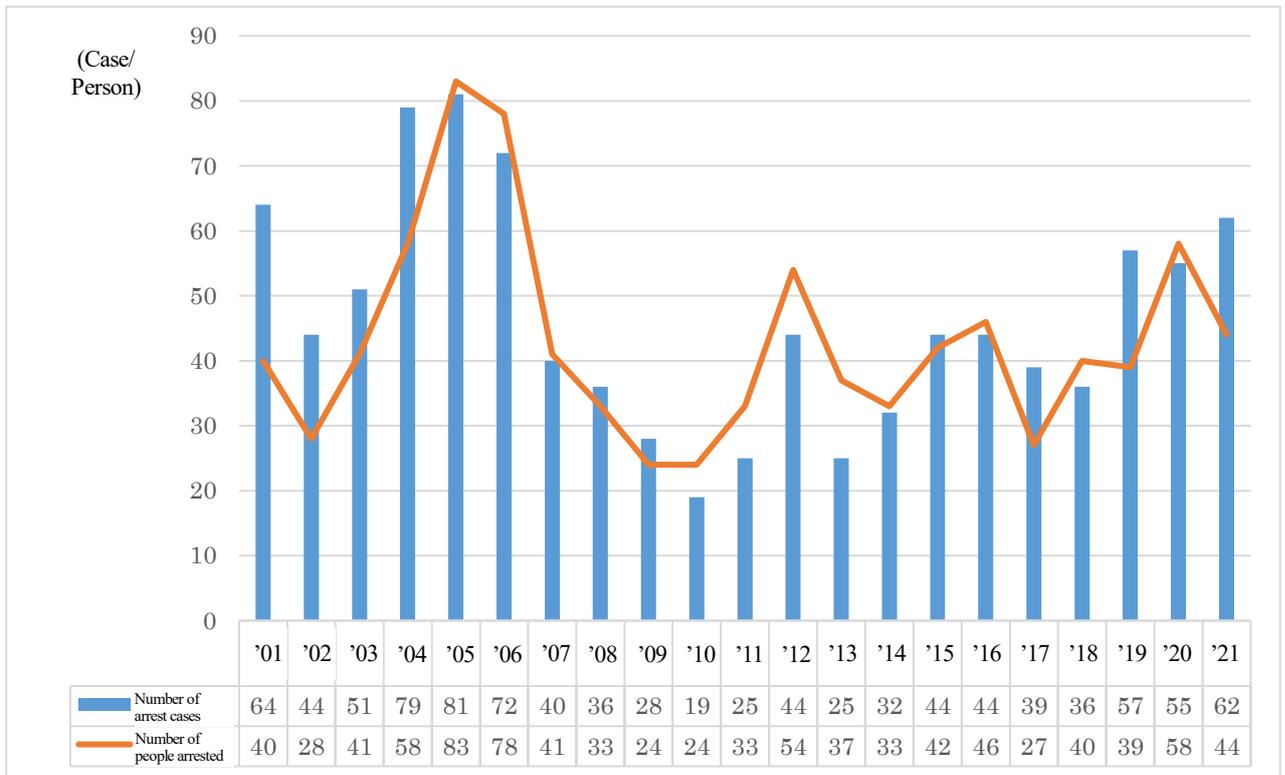
One of the suspects was a broker (two less than in 2020) and three were members of organized crime groups, etc. (two less than in 2020).

- With regard to punishments, 39 of the suspects were prosecuted (including those who were sent to the family court, the same applies hereinafter), four were not prosecuted due to problems with evidence etc., and one was under investigation. Of the 39 suspects that have been prosecuted, 31 have been found guilty, six are still pending, and two were sent to the family court (as of March 31, 2022).

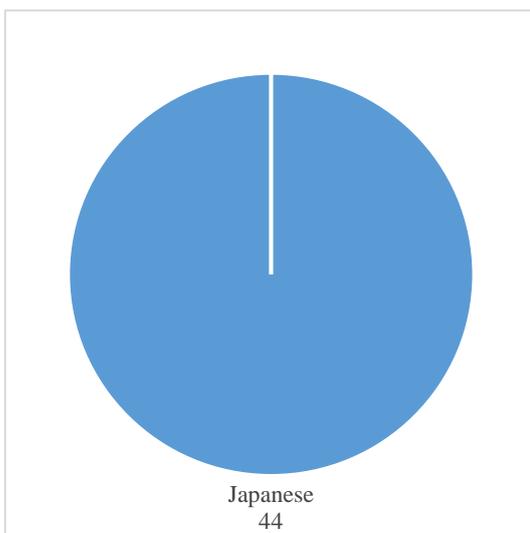
Note that of the 12 persons who were said in the annual report approved in 2021 to be awaiting trial, nine have been found guilty, while the rest of three continue to be awaiting trial (as of March 31, 2022). In addition, all the two persons who were said in the annual report approved in 2020 to be awaiting trial and continued to be awaiting trial in the annual report approved in 2021 have been found guilty (as of March 31, 2022).

- The Immigration Services Agency issued deportation orders against zero perpetrators in 2021.

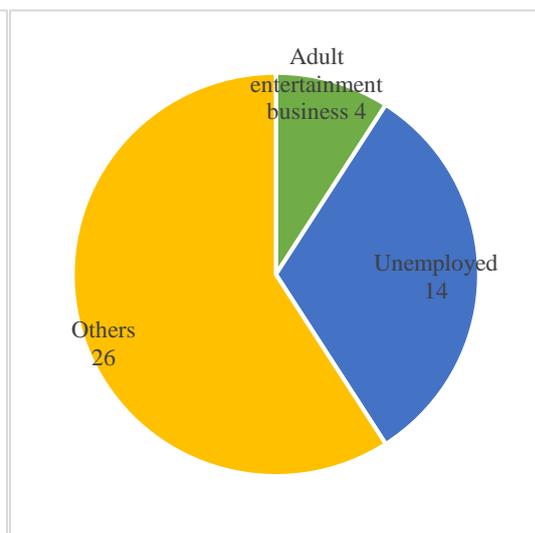
[Figure 6] Trends in the number of cases of arrests made and number of arrested suspects for the crime of trafficking in persons (2001 to 2021)



[Figure 7] Nationalities or regions of 44 suspects



[Figure 8] Occupations of 44 suspects



[Table 2] Charges imposed on the 39 prosecuted persons and their trial results (as of March 31, 2022)

	Offense	Results of trial
1	Injury, Assault, violation of the Chiba Prefectural Anti-Nuisance Ordinance, violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	2 years imprisonment
2	Violation of the Child Welfare Act, violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act, violation of the Kumamoto Prefectural Ordinance of Juvenile Protection, coercion attempt	2 years imprisonment, 300,000 yen fine
3	Kidnapping of minors	1 year 10 months imprisonment
4	Kidnapping for indecency, violation of the Hokkaido Prefectural Ordinance of Juvenile Protection	1 year 6 months imprisonment, suspension of 3 years
5	Violation of the Employment Security Act	1 year 2 months imprisonment, suspension of 3 years
6	Violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	3 years imprisonment, suspension of 4 years, 300,000 yen fine
7	Assault, violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	3 years imprisonment, suspension of 4 years, 300,000 yen fine
8	Accessory to violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	1 year 6 months imprisonment, suspension of 3 years, 150,000 yen fine
9	Accessory to violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	1 year 6 months imprisonment, suspension of 3 years, 150,000 yen fine
10	Violation of the Child Welfare Act, extortion attempt	3 years imprisonment, suspension of 5 years
11	Violation of the Child Welfare Act	1 year 6 months imprisonment, suspension of 3 years
12	Injury, extortion attempt, violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	Pending trial
13	Violation of the Child Welfare Act, violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act, violation of the Shizuoka Prefectural Ordinance for Developing Favorable Environment for the Youth	1 year 6 months imprisonment, suspension of 3 years
14	Violation of the Child Welfare Act, violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	800,000 yen fine
15	Violation of the Child Welfare Act, violation of	800,000 yen fine

	the Anti-Prostitution Act	
16	Violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	1 year 4 months imprisonment
17	Violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	10 months imprisonment
18	Violation of the Act on Regulation and Punishment of Acts Relating to Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the Protection of Children, violation of the Saitama Prefectural Ordinance of Juvenile Protection	2 years imprisonment, suspension of 3 years
19	Violation of the Act on Control and Improvement of Amusement Business, etc.	500,000 yen fine
20	Violation of the Employment Security Act, violation of the Act on Control and Improvement of Amusement Business, etc.	500,000 yen fine
21	Violation of the Employment Security Act, violation of the Act on Control and Improvement of Amusement Business, etc.	500,000 yen fine
22	Forcible indecency, violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	2 years 6 months imprisonment, probation with suspension of 5 years, 200,000 yen fine
23	Forcible indecency, violation of the Act on Regulation and Punishment of Acts Relating to Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the Protection of Children	Pending trial
24	Violation of the Tokyo Metropolitan Ordinance of Juvenile Protection	500,000 yen fine
25	Kidnapping of minors, violation of the Child Welfare Act, violation of the Act on Regulation and Punishment of Acts Relating to Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the Protection of Children	2 years 6 months imprisonment
26	Violation of the Act on Regulation and Punishment of Acts Relating to Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the Protection of Children, violation of the Child Welfare Act	1 year 6 months imprisonment
27	Violation of the Ibaraki Prefectural Ordinance of Juvenile Protection, violation of the Chiba Prefectural Ordinance of Juvenile Protection,	700,000 yen fine

	violation of the Act on Regulation and Punishment of Acts Relating to Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the Protection of Children	
28	Violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	Pending trial
29	Accessory to violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	1 year 6 months imprisonment, suspension of 4 years, 150,000 yen fine
30	Accessory to violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	1 year 6 months imprisonment, suspension of 3 years, 150,000 yen fine
31	Violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	2 years 6 months imprisonment, 300,000 yen fine
32	Violation of the Act on Regulation and Punishment of Acts Relating to Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the Protection of Children, violation of the Kanagawa Prefectural Ordinance of Juvenile Protection	Pending trial
33	Violation of the Act on Regulation and Punishment of Acts Relating to Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the Protection of Children, violation of the Kanagawa Prefectural Ordinance of Juvenile Protection	Pending trial
34	Violation of the Kanagawa Prefectural Ordinance of Juvenile Protection, violation of the Child Welfare Act	1 year 4 months imprisonment
35	Rape	Pending trial
36	Forcible indecency, threat, forcible sexual intercourse	8 years imprisonment
37	Violation of the Labor Standards Act	200,000 yen fine
38	Violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act, violation of the Child Welfare Act	Being sent to the family court
39	Violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act, violation of the Child Welfare Act	Being sent to the family court

[Table 3] Charges imposed on the 12 persons reported as awaiting trial in the 2021 annual report and the results of their trials (as of March 31, 2022)

	Offense	Results of trial
1	Violation of the Employment Security Act, violation of the Money Lending Business Act	2 years imprisonment, 500,000 yen fine

2	Violation of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act	1 year 6 months imprisonment, suspension of 4 years
3	Violation of the Child Welfare Act, violation of the Act on Regulation and Punishment of Acts Relating to Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the Protection of Children	Pending trial
4	Violation of the Employment Security Act, violation of the Child Welfare Act, public indecency	3 years imprisonment, suspension of 5 years, 1,000,000 yen fine
5	Violation of the Employment Security Act, violation of the Child Welfare Act, public indecency	3 years imprisonment, 1,000,000 yen fine
6	Accessory to running a gambling place for the purpose of gain, violation of the Act on Punishment of Physical Violence and Others	2 years 4 months imprisonment
7	Violation of the Child Welfare Act, violation of the Stimulants Control Act, extortion, violation of the Act on Regulation and Punishment of Acts Relating to Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the Protection of Children	4 years 10 months imprisonment, 1,000,000 yen fine
8	Violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act	3 years 4 months imprisonment, 300,000 yen fine
9	Unlawful capture or confinement, forcible sexual intercourse, kidnapping for indecency, violation of the Act on Regulation and Punishment of Acts Relating to Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the Protection of Children	Pending trial
10	Threat, injury, theft, robbery, violation of the Act on Punishment of Physical Violence and Others	Pending trial
11	Violation of the Child Welfare Act, violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act, violation of the Road Traffic Act, fraud	3 years imprisonment, 500,000 yen fine
12	Violation of the Employment Security Act	1 year 2 months imprisonment

[Table 4] Charges imposed on the two persons reported as awaiting trial in the 2020 annual report and continued to be awaiting trial in the 2021 and the results of their trials

(as of March 31, 2022)

	Offense	Results of trial
1	Kidnapping for indecency, forcible sexual intercourse, constructive forcible sexual intercourse, constructive forcible sexual intercourse attempt, violation of the Act on Regulation and Punishment of Acts Relating to Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the Protection of Children	8 years imprisonment
2	Abduction for indecency, abduction for ransom, demand for ransom by kidnapper, unlawful capture and confinement, forcible indecency, violation of the Act on Regulation and Punishment of Acts Relating to Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and the Protection of Children	13 years imprisonment

iii) Cases

[Case 1]

The suspect threatened and assaulted the female victim who became acquainted with him through dating website, forcing her to prostitute herself with unspecified persons with the aim of making money from the exploitation of her prostitution. The suspect was arrested by Okayama Prefectural Police for violating the Anti-Prostitution Act.

[Case 2]

The suspects, by using violence and threats, forced the female victim to prostitute herself, and to live at an economy hotel where she was coerced to engage in prostitution with unspecified persons who came into contact through dating website.

The suspects were arrested by Fukuoka Prefectural Police for violating the Anti-Prostitution Act, etc.

[Case 3]

The suspect, the implementing organizer, used violence on and verbally abused technical intern trainees, and made them illegally work overtime, taking advantage of their vulnerable position.

The suspects were sent to prosecutors by the Labor Standards Inspection Office for violating the Labor Standards Act.

(2) Information sharing with governments of other countries

- Since FY 2004, the Government of Japan has dispatched a Government Delegation on Anti-Human Trafficking Measures headed by a senior official from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and comprised of officials from relevant ministries and agencies to a total of 27 countries and regions.

Most recently in March 2020, the Government Delegation on Anti-Human Trafficking Measures was dispatched to the United States (Washington D.C. and Miami in the State of Florida). The Delegation exchanged views with US federal government officials on strengthening cooperation between the two countries. In the State of Florida, which is reported to have a large number of human trafficking cases, the Delegation collected information on the state of anti-human trafficking measures in recent years, good practices and issues, and ways of collaboration and cooperation between the public and private sectors, from local police stations, academic experts and a NGOs specializing in anti-human trafficking measures in the area.

- In FY2020, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs decided to support the ASEAN-Japan Workshop on Technology-based Approach to Tackle Trafficking of Children proposed by Viet Nam through the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIF) 2.0. The workshop is scheduled to be held within FY2022, where participants from relevant organizations, including ASEAN countries, Japanese law enforcement institutions, JICA, and United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), are scheduled to share the situation of trafficking of children in ASEAN countries as well as the importance of the use of technology and best practices in tackling the problem, and discuss the enhancement of cooperation among the ASEAN countries as well as each country's execution capability

3 Prevention of Trafficking in persons

(1) Prevention of trafficking in persons by thorough immigration control

i) Thoroughly strict immigration control

- In order to conduct strict landing examination at air and sea ports of entry, the Immigration Services Agency has been utilizing Advance Passenger Information (API), biometric information, and ICPO's database on Stolen and Lost Travel Documents. It has also began acquiring Passenger Name Record (PNR) since January 2015, the receipt of which via electronic means became possible in January 2016. Moreover, electronic report of API and PNR was made mandatory for airlines and others in June 2021.

The "Center of Collection and Analysis of Intelligence," which was established in October 2015, plays a core role in gathering and analyzing the above-mentioned information. By utilizing the results of this analysis on the front lines at borders, strict border policies were promoted including identifying foreigners with suspicious purposes of entry into Japan, etc.

- Since October 2016, the Immigration Services Agency has implemented the cross-checking of the facial photographs provided by foreign nationals at the time of landing examination against the facial images of terrorists, etc.
- The Immigration Services Agency has been deploying immigration control officers to proactively and continuously implement systematic monitoring of transit areas at major airports and port areas and work on finding any suspicious persons and brokers etc.

ii) Strict examination of visa applications

- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs conducts careful examinations of visa applications in order to prevent in advance the entry into Japan of potential victims of trafficking in persons.

The website "Japan's Visa Policy in Accordance with Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons" is calling for in five languages (Japanese, English, Spanish, Thai, and Indonesian) for understanding and cooperation regarding examination of visa applications in a rigid and appropriate manner to eradicate trafficking in persons.

In particular, Japanese Embassies and Consulates, located in regions where victims of trafficking in persons tend to hail, carry out strict examination of visa applications for "entertainment", "temporary visitor", and "spouse or child of Japanese nationals" that are likely to be easily misused in trafficking in persons. For example, they conduct face-to-face interviews where necessary.

Through this process, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs denies visa issuance to people who are suspected to be likely to become victims of trafficking in persons based on the results of the examination, after consultations with relevant ministries and agencies.

iii) Information sharing through visa system

- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has established a visa information sharing system among the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 234 Japanese Embassies and Consulates (as of March 2022), and relevant ministries and agencies, to share visa-related information.

iv) Strengthening of measures against forged documents

- The Immigration Services Agency conducts strict examinations for forged or altered documents at the document examination office at its airport district immigration office. The Agency also carries out training for its officials at air and sea ports, etc. in order to improve their ability to detect document forgery.
- In addition to establishing specifications for new visa seals with advanced anti-forgery features, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is continuing to conduct reviews towards improving Japanese passports by researching the trends for the international standardization of ePassport (passport with IC chips) as well as the international standards related to passports, such as IC chips. At the same time, in February 2020, the Ministry started to issue passports for the year 2020 with enhanced IC security functions and a different design for every visa page (thirty-six views of Mt. Fuji by an Ukiyoe-master, Katsushika Hokusai).

(2) Prevention of trafficking in persons through thorough residence management

i) Preventing crimes of trafficking in persons in the situation of imposter/illegal residence, through stringent residence management

- The National Police Agency, the Ministry of Justice, the Immigration Services Agency and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare promote strengthening the crackdown on crimes pertaining to trafficking in persons and protecting and supporting the victims of trafficking in persons identified through the crackdown, based on the Policy regarding the Promotion of the Measures against Illegal Employment of Foreigners which is agreed among the ministries and agencies.
- The police make efforts to uncover crimes related to trafficking in persons by continuously employing the cross-cutting frameworks that have been built up to date to deal with the globalization of crime, as well as the systems for the comprehensive promotion of countermeasures against criminal infrastructure that is used as means of illegal residents' living or forging of qualifications and identities, etc., and by strengthening crackdown on cases of fraudulent stays including fake marriages, cases of illegal stays, and the brokers related to these cases.

- The Immigration Services Agency is proactively collaborating with other relevant organizations and carrying out investigations and analysis to clarify the situation relating to cases of imposter residence such as those whose marriages are the subject of suspicion. In addition, through joint detection, the Immigration Services Agency strives to share information with the police and other relevant organizations. Then, if it is necessary, information is provided to the police and other related organizations in order to facilitate the implementation of the punishment of perpetrators. As for the victims, responses are taken in an appropriate manner taking into consideration of their physical and mental condition and whether or not they need to be put under protection.

ii) Strict control of illegal employment

- The National Police Agency, the Ministry of Justice, the Immigration Services Agency, and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare conduct cooperation in requesting the employers' association in the council on illegal employment of foreigners to prevent illegal employment and share information about the latest cases.
- The police, the Immigration Services Agency and the Japan Coast Guard strive to discover the cases of trafficking in persons through proactively cracking down on cases of illegal employment.
- In 2021, the Immigration Services Agency cracked down on 30 workplaces suspected of illegal employment. In addition, based on the policy concerning the "Promotion of the Measures against Illegal Employment of Foreigners" agreed between the National Police Agency and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (see i), the Immigration Services Agency has been proactively reporting malicious brokers and employers to the police and bringing charges against them.
- For foreign cruise ship tourists who were granted permission to land in Japan, the Japan Coast Guard conducted awareness activities to prevent illegal employment by showing a crime prevention video that says "landing for a purpose other than sightseeing is not permitted" on the digital signage of CIQ at the cruise ship terminal, etc.

iii) Promotion of active public relations and raising awareness of prevention of illegal employment

- The National Police Agency, the Immigration Services Agency, and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare requested employer's associations to enhance their understanding of the current illegal employment situation. The associations are also requested to cooperate by implementing education and guidance to their members on the appropriate employment of foreigners.
- Every year, the Immigration Services Agency holds an annual "Illegal Work Prevention Campaign"

as a part of the government’s “Foreign Workers Issues Awareness Month” for making the employment of foreigners appropriate and preventing illegal employment. The campaign is aimed at enhancing the understanding of illegal employment of foreigners among the general public, companies that employ foreigners, and relevant organizations, etc., and at gaining their cooperation. In 2021, the Immigration Services Agency conducted the activity of raising awareness regarding the prevention of illegal employment by distributing leaflets with the cooperation of the relevant ministries and agencies as well as local authorities, and by distributing leaflets at stations and showing awareness videos on the large screen at stations.

(3) Prevention of trafficking in persons for the purpose of labor exploitation

i) Improvement of Technical Intern Training Program by drastic revision

- Figure 9 provides an overview of the Act on Proper Technical Intern Training and Protection of Technical Intern Trainees (hereinafter the “Technical Intern Training Act”), which was enforced on November 1, 2017. In particular, the Act establishes regulations prohibiting acts such as infringing the human rights of technical intern trainees, and penalties for violations, and puts in place measures for protecting technical intern trainees including appropriately addressing issues reported by technical intern trainees and coordinating transfers/relocations of technical intern trainees.

The Act also provided for the establishment of the Organization for Technical Intern Training (OTIT) as a legal entity and this organization was established and incorporated on January 25, 2017 and started operation.

**[Figure 9] Overview of the Technical Intern Training Act (Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Health,
Labour and Welfare)**
Act on Proper Technical Intern Training and Protection of Technical Intern Trainees (Outline)

In order to ensure proper acquisition of skills through technical training and protection of Technical Intern Trainees, MOJ and MHLW will take necessary steps such as establishing authorization process for implementing or supervising organizations and technical intern training plan, as well as establishing "Organization on Technical Intern Training" which engages in these activities.

Outline of the Act * Jointly submitted by MOJ and MHLW	
1. Proper Control of Technical Intern Training This Act	
(1) Sets the basic idea of the Technical Intern Training, prescribes responsibilities for those who are concerned, and settles the Principle of the Program [Related to Articles 3 to 7]	(7) Establishes Organization for Technical Intern Training as an authorized legal entity which is in charge of the duties below. [Related to Chapter 3]
(2) Requires every technical intern training plan drafted for trainees to be accredited, and prescribes criteria for accreditation (such as assessment on acquisition of skills), collection of reports, correction order, or revocation of accreditation [Related to Articles 8 to 16]	• to accredit technical intern training plans set forth in (2) [Related to Article 12]
(3) Requires implementing organizations to be registered [Related to Articles 17 to 18]	• to request reports from implementing organizations and supervising organizations set forth in (2) as well as to carry out on-site inspections [Related to Article 14]
(4) Requires supervising organizations to be licensed and prescribes criteria for license, compliance matters, collection of reports, correction order, or revocation of license [Related to Articles 23 to 45]	• to accept registration set forth in (3) [Related to Article 18]
(5) With regards to human rights violations against trainees, defines prohibited acts and criminal sanctions for their violations, sets necessary measures for protection of trainees, including consultation service, information provision, and arrangement for transferring [Related to Articles 46 to 51]	• to carry out investigations regarding the license of supervising organizations set forth in (4) [Related to Article 24]
(6) Enables the competent minister to request cooperation to other ministers in charge of businesses and establishes 'Regional Council on TITP' consisting of related agencies for each region [Related to Articles 53 to 56]	• to consult with and give assistance to trainees [Related to Article 87]
	2. Expansion of Technical Intern Training Program
	The Act enables limited high-quality implementing/supervising organizations to accept third level trainees (4th and 5th year's training) [Related to Articles 2, 9, 23, and 25]
	3. Other matters
	Other related amendments including that to the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act, which defines status of residence for technical intern training will be made.
Effective date November 1, 2017	Enactment date : November 18, 2016 Promulgation date : November 28, 2016
The date prescribed by Cabinet Order within a period of no more than one year counting from the date of promulgation. However, the provisions on the establishment of the Organization on Technical Intern Training will be effective on the day of promulgation.	

- Regarding the supervising organizations, 3,503 organizations have received permits (as of March 31, 2022). In addition, 171,386 technical intern training plans have received accreditation (as of March 31, 2022). The OTIT conducts on-site inspections of supervising organizations once a year, and of implementing organizations once every three years. The OTIT conducted on-site inspections of 4,159 supervising organizations (preliminary figures) and of 24,078 implementing organizations (preliminary figures) in FY2021.

In the case that the OTIT ascertains a fact that violates the Technical Intern Training Act, immigration laws and regulations or labor-related laws and regulations, it reports, provides information, etc. to immigration services organizations and labor standards supervisory bodies, etc., and carries out joint investigations with the Regional Immigration Services Bureau etc. and on-site inspections by itself. Upon on-site inspection, depending on the type of violation, the government takes disciplinary actions such as administrative action against the supervising organization and the implementing organization. In FY2021, government revoked the authorization of 13 supervising organizations and the accreditation of technical intern training plans made by 177 implementing organizations.

- The police and the OTIT have established a system for sharing information on matters such as

violations of the Technical Intern Training Act that may constitute human trafficking offenses.

- In Article 54, Paragraph 1 of the Technical Intern Training Act, the minister with jurisdiction over the business may organize a business council. The members of the council include organizations of the implementing organizations or the supervising organizations.

In order to make the collaboration of the members closer and to hold discussions about initiatives that take into account the actual conditions in each industry, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries established the fishing industry technical intern training business council on December 13, 2017, the agricultural industry technical intern training business council on June 5, 2018, the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism established the foreign technical intern training program automobile repair business council on February 19, 2018 and the business council on construction sector technical intern training on March 26, 2018, and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry established the textile industry technical intern training business council on March 23, 2018. Each council held meetings respectively when the occasion calls for it.

- In Article 56, Paragraph 1 of the Technical Intern Training Act, in order to achieve collaboration of the related administrative organizations at the regional level, the national organizations related to the technical intern training in each region may organize regional councils with other organizations including local governments.

Such councils were held in eight regional blocks by August 2021.

- With the objectives of eliminating improper sending organizations as well as collaborating to carry out technical intern training properly and smoothly, Japan has signed memorandums of cooperation (MOCs) with 14 of the countries from which technical intern trainees are sent (Viet Nam, Cambodia, India, Philippines, Laos, Mongolia, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Bhutan, Uzbekistan, Pakistan, Thailand, and Indonesia) (as of March 31, 2022).

If a sending organization is recognized as improper, based on the MOC, the relevant state government will be informed and requested to investigate, and if needed, the relevant state government will be requested to supervise the organization or revoke its authorization. In FY2021, 28 sending organizations were reported to each state government.

- In conjunction with the enforcement of the Technical Intern Training Act, the long-term care profession was added to the professions covered by the Technical Intern Training Program. In technical intern training for the long-term care profession, in order to respond to the variety of concerns based on the nature of long-term care services, the requirements unique to long-term care are specified in the “Standards stipulated by the minister having jurisdiction over the business regarding the long-term care

profession in light of the unique circumstances of the specified profession and work provided for in the Ordinance for Enforcement of the Act on Proper Technical Intern Training and Protection of Technical Intern Trainees, etc.”

ii) Provision of information on legal protection to foreign technical intern trainees

○ Since the enforcement of the Technical Intern Training Act in November 2017, the Organization for Technical Intern Training (OTIT) has been producing the Technical Intern Trainee Handbook³ under the direction of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare. This handbook is handed directly to all technical intern trainees by immigration officers at all points of entry when they arrive in Japan, and clearly states information regarding consultations and support offered by the OTIT, as well as the following content, etc.

- Reporting can be done in the native language through the local offices of the OTIT or the native language consultation counters (telephone, email, etc.) run by the OTIT.
- In the case where continuing the technical intern training has become difficult due to unavoidable circumstances but you wish to continue the technical intern training, support for changing the training site is offered by the OTIT, so please consult with the OTIT or with the native language consultation counters.
- In the case where you are required to return to your home country against your will, you can consult with or report the issue to the OTIT, and ultimately you can make a statement to that effect to the immigration officers at the time of the embarkation procedures at air and sea ports.

With the increase of the number of technical intern trainees, the OTIT has added available languages for the handbook, and at present the handbook is provided in nine most popular languages spoken by technical intern trainees as their native language (English, Chinese, Thai, Filipino, Vietnamese, Indonesian, Burmese, Cambodian, and Mongolian).

○ The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare has produced a leaflet titled “To all Foreign Technical Intern Trainees - About the Labor Standards-related Laws and Regulations in Japan -” in 10 languages (Japanese, Chinese, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Thai, Burmese, Cambodian, Mongolian, English and Indonesian), and made it available online. In addition, when visiting workplaces employing foreign technical intern trainees, the ministry distributes the leaflet to foreign technical intern trainees, presents examples of cases with a possibility of violating labor standards-related laws and regulations, and disseminate them the information that labor standards-related laws and regulations apply to them, and that the same working conditions as for Japanese workers are ensured.

³ Contains information about consultation counters at the Immigration Services Agency, etc., contact information for the embassies of each country, Japanese labor-related laws, information necessary for everyday life, declarations to the Labor Standards Inspection Offices, and information on leave allowances, etc.

- The OTIT has been offering advice by email and telephone, and providing the native language consultation counters available in eight languages (English, Chinese, Thai, Filipino, Vietnamese, Indonesian, Burmese, and Cambodian).

In addition, since April 2021, the OTIT has provided consultation for technical intern trainees by establishing “Technical Intern Trainee’s SOS and Dedicated Consultation Desk” as a dedicated consultation desk for urgent cases like violence and threats.

- To be able to provide consultation services for foreigners regarding working conditions etc., the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare has established Foreign Workers Consultation Corner in 14 languages (in addition to Japanese, and depending on the location, English, Chinese, Portuguese, Spanish, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Nepalese, Burmese, Korean, Thai, Indonesian, Cambodian, and Mongolian (Nepalese and Burmese were added in April 2019, while Korean, Thai, Indonesian, Cambodian, and Mongolian were added in April 2020)) at Prefectural Labour Bureaus and Labour Standards Inspection Offices.

The ministry has also produced a leaflet titled “For All Foreign Nationals Working in Japan – Working Conditions Handbook” in 14 languages (Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, Portuguese, Spanish, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Burmese, Nepalese, Thai, Cambodian, Mongolian, and Indonesian), and made it available online. In addition, when visiting workplaces employing foreign technical intern trainees, the ministry distributes the leaflet to foreign technical intern trainees and calls on them to consult with the Advisory Services for Foreign Workers, etc.

Furthermore, the Telephone Consultation Service for Foreign Workers was established in June 2015. Those who call the service are connected to the staff at the section for this service, making it easier for people to access the service from anywhere in the country. From April 2019, outside office hours of the Prefectural Labour Bureau and the Labour Standards Inspection Office, the “Labour standards Advice Hotline (consignment business: 17:00 to 22:00 on weekdays, 9:00 to 21:00 on weekends and holidays) accepts consultation in 14 languages (in addition to Japanese, English, Chinese, Portuguese, Spanish, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Burmese, Nepalese, Korean, Thai, Indonesian, Cambodian, and Mongolian (Korean, Thai, Indonesian, Cambodian, and Mongolian were added in April 2020)).

- Based on improvement measures compiled by the Project Team on the Operation of the Technical Intern Training Program, the Ministry of Justice has revised the ministerial ordinance, and in April 2020, introduced measures to suspend the acceptance of new technical intern trainees for a certain period of time, for supervising organizations that are at fault for disappearances of technical intern trainees, and measures to request for the payment of remuneration through bank transfer to the technical intern trainee’s account.

In addition, in November 2019, with a view to reducing the number of missing technical intern

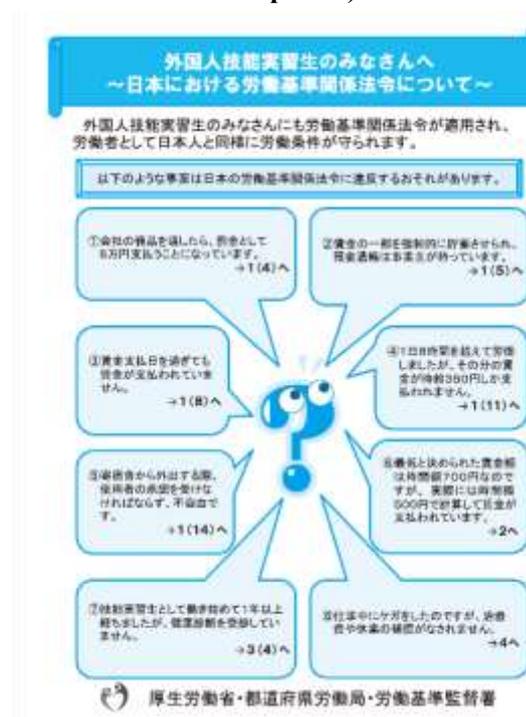
trainees, policies with further enhanced improvement measures were compiled and from August 2021 the Ministry has suspended acceptance of new technical intern trainees from five Vietnamese organizations that were at fault for disappearances of a significant number of technical intern trainees.

- When the Immigration Services Agency identifies inappropriate expressions contrary to the intent of the Technical Intern Training Program on the websites of supervising organizations etc., the Agency issues guidance in order for them to correct such expression in coordination with the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare and the OTIT.
- The Immigration Services Agency introduced a new policy in September 2016 to prevent so-called compulsory repatriations. When technical intern trainees leave Japan before the end of their training period, immigration officers at air and sea ports use documents written in the native language (eight languages of Indonesian, Cambodian, Thai, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Burmese, English, and Chinese) of the technical intern trainees to confirm that the technical intern trainees are not leaving against their wills. This interview is conducted with an interpreter when necessary.

[Figure 10] Technical Intern Trainee Handbook (prepared by OTIT) (excerpt)



[Figure 11] To all Foreign Technical Intern Trainees (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare) (excerpt) (in Japanese)



iii) Strict enforcement of labor standards-related laws and regulations

- In 2021, Prefectural Labour Bureaus and Labour Standards Inspection Offices conducted inspections on 10,427 implementing organizations (preliminary figures).

Of these, 6,556 implementing organizations (preliminary figures) were found to be in violation of labor standards-related laws and regulations and were issued correction orders. Among these cases, 35 cases (preliminary figures) were referred to prosecutors. These cases involved serious/malicious violations of labor standards laws in relation to technical intern trainees, such as illegal overtime work/working on days off, and lower extra pay for overtime work than legal extra pay.

- In 2021, Prefectural Labour Bureaus, Labour Standards Inspection Offices, and the OTIT strengthened their cooperation based on the 2021 notification and carried out joint inspections or investigation on 37 implementing organizations.

As a result, Prefectural Labour Bureaus and Labour Standards Inspection Offices issued correction orders to 30 cases where violations of labor standards-related laws and regulations were identified. In addition, the OTIT issued correction orders to 35 cases (preliminary figures) out of the cases of joint inspections on implementing organizations.

- To handle suspected cases of trafficking of technical intern trainees, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare instructed Prefectural Labour Bureaus in February 2021 that they should appoint officials in charge of trafficking in persons at each Bureau, and that when a suspected case is identified, they should carry out joint on-site inspections on implementing organizations with Labour Standards Inspections Office and the OTIT so that they should handle the case by working together with relevant organizations as necessary.

(4) Measures in the new program aimed at greater utilization of foreign human resources

i) The Foreign Construction Worker Acceptance Program

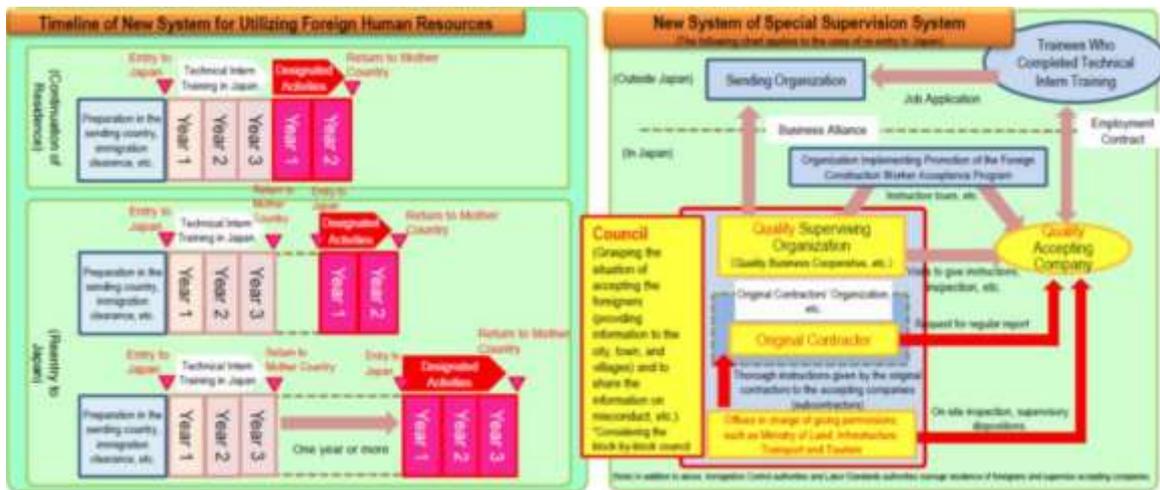
- Approximately 1,800 foreign construction workers have entered Japan (as of March 31, 2022) under the Foreign Construction Worker Acceptance Program, which was launched in April 2015 as a fixed-term and urgent measure targeted at the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games and disaster recovery projects.

- In order to prevent problems associated with the accepting foreign construction workers such as nonpayment of wages and illegal employment, a supervisory framework limits supervision and acceptance of the workers to qualified companies and Designated Supervising Organizations and so on. Other measures are also being taken, such as appointing counselors for foreign construction workers at Designated Supervising Organizations, and companies accepting foreign construction workers are to be

screened by Designated Supervising Organizations with the inclusion of face-to-face interviews with the workers, and reporting of the results of these interviews to the Council for the Promotion of Appropriate Supervision, etc.

- This program stipulates required measures such as that the Minister of Land, Infrastructure and Transport requests corrective measures be taken by the relevant Designated Supervising Organizations etc. when claims of rights infringements are received from foreign construction workers, and if any corrective measures are not taken, their Appropriate Supervision Plan accreditation will be canceled. If problematic cases arise, the relevant ministries and agencies are to cooperate to take necessary measures.

**[Figure 12] The Foreign Construction Worker Acceptance Program
(Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism)**



ii) Project to Accept Foreigners Conducting Housekeeping Services in National Strategic Special Zones

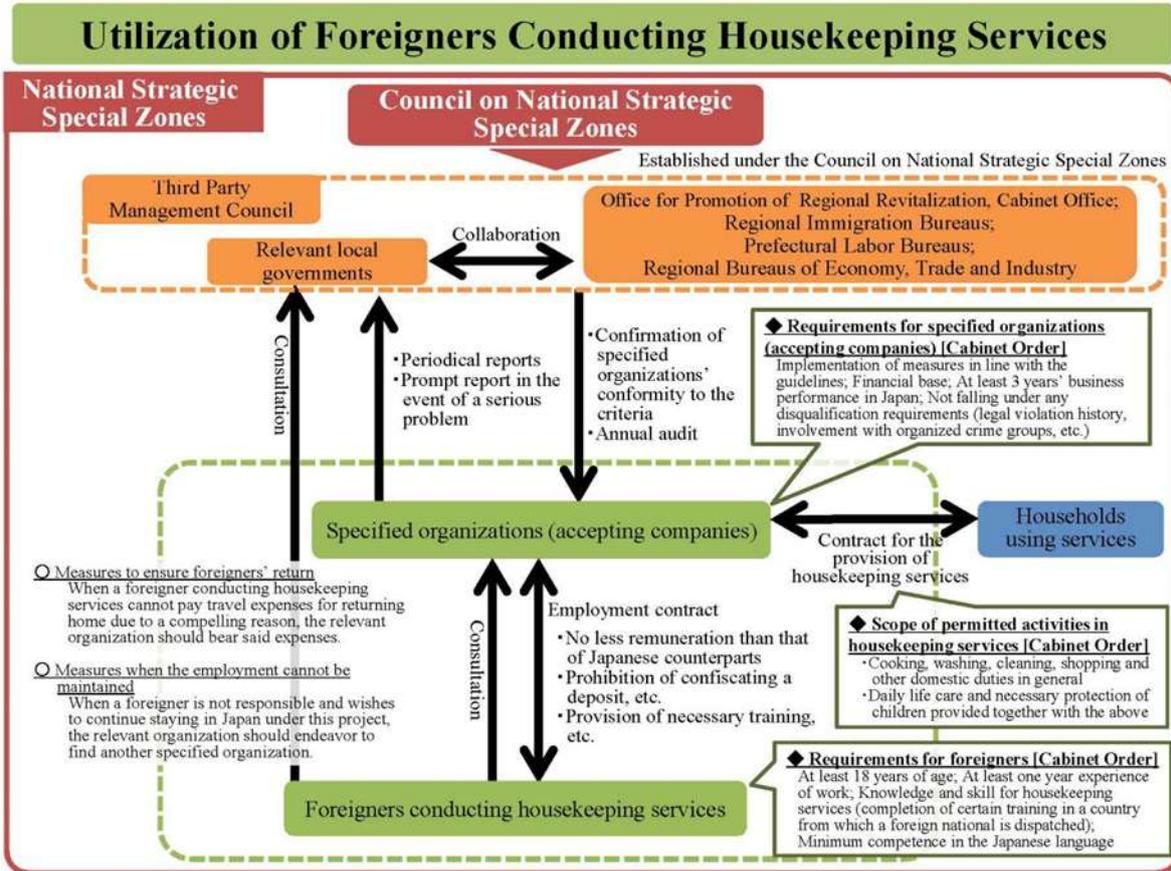
- The Project to Accept Foreigners Conducting Housekeeping Services in National Strategic Special Zones stipulated in Article 16-4, Paragraph 1 of the Act on National Strategic Special Zones is a project in which designated organizations (host companies) take in foreign nationals who conduct housekeeping services based on employment contracts within the National Strategic Special Zones on a trial basis from the perspectives of responding to the advancement of women’s participation in workforce and meeting housekeeping support needs, and of facilitating mid- to long-term economic growth. Under this project, foreign nationals who conduct housekeeping services have begun entering Japan. This Project has been implemented in Tokyo Metropolis, Kanagawa Prefecture, Osaka Prefecture, Hyogo Prefecture, Aichi Prefecture, and Chiba City since March 2017, and approximately 1,189 foreign nationals who conduct housekeeping services have entered Japan (as of March 1, 2022).

○ The Guidelines on Specified Organizations for the Project to Accept Foreigners Conducting Housekeeping Services in National Strategic Special Zones (September 9, 2015 decision by the Prime Minister; revised on March 19, 2020) stipulate the measures that designated organizations need to take including stipulating that foreign nationals accepted under the project are to be paid at least the equivalent amount to the amount Japanese people engaging in similar housekeeping support activities receive, that management by designated organizations of the money etc. of the foreign nationals is prohibited, that designated organizations establish complaint/consultation desks and that the foreign nationals are informed about these support systems during training. The guidelines also stipulate that a third-party management council consisting of officials from the central government and local governments will confirm whether or not designated organizations meet the required standards such as by implementing the above-mentioned measures.

○ After accepting foreign housekeeping support personnel, designated organizations will be subjected to an audit by the third-party management council, and where necessary, the council will request that corrective actions be taken. When problematic issues arise, local governments will coordinate with relevant ministries and agencies to respond to those issues. For example, relevant local governments will establish complaints and consultation desks for foreign housekeepers in their native language and other languages.

The third-party management council has prepared a portable card with the contact details of local government complaint/consultation services and other consultation services listed on it, and requests designated organizations to distribute these cards to the foreign housekeeping support personnel that they employ.

[Figure 13] Utilization of Foreign housekeeping support personnel (Cabinet Office)



[Figure 14] Portable card with list of complaint/consultation services (English template)

(Cabinet Office)

<p>Contact points for Foreigners conducting housekeeping services (If you need any help, ...)</p> <p>Please contact first. TEL 03-1234-5678</p> <p>●●Co.,Ltd. The General Affairs Department Welfare Division</p>	
<p>If you do not want to talk with employer, please contact to the following:</p> <p>▶ Duties relating to the protection of foreigners conducting housekeeping services (The third party management council secretariat of OO Prefecture) OO Prefecture OO affairs division TEL 0000-0000-0000 (Weekdays (except National Holidays) 8:30~17:15) <i>Generally in Japanese, but in English is also acceptable</i></p> <p>Emergencies (Toll-Free) Police TEL110 Fire and Ambulance TEL119</p>	<p>▶ Human rights counseling ((District) Legal Affairs Bureaus) Foreign-language Human Rights Hotline TEL0570-090-911 (Weekdays (except National Holidays) 9:00~12:00, 13:00~16:00) <i>In English</i> (If your iPhone etc. cannot be connected, please call to 00-0000-0000) (Weekdays (except National Holidays) 8:30~17:15) <i>In Japanese, English service will be announced</i></p> <p>▶ Procedures for "Status of Residence" and "Entry and Departure" Immigration Information Center TEL0570-013-904 (If your iPhone etc. cannot be connected, please call to 03-5796-7112) (Weekdays (except National Holidays) 8:30~17:15) <i>In English</i></p> <p>▶ Working conditions Advisor for Foreign Workers Section TEL00-0000-0000 (Mon/Fri 9:00~12:00, 13:00~16:00) <i>In English</i> 00000 Embassy TEL00-0000-0000 (Weekdays (except National Holidays) 9:00~18:00)</p>

iii) New foreign human resources acceptance system pertaining to the status of residence of Specified Skilled Worker

- Taking into consideration the "Basic Policy on Economic and Fiscal Management and Reform 2018" (Cabinet decision on June 15, 2018), the Ministry of Justice submitted the "Bill for Partial Amendment of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act and the Act for Establishment of the Ministry of Justice" to the 197th Diet on November 2, 2018.

The Act for Partial Amendment of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act and the Act for Establishment of the Ministry of Justice (hereinafter referred to as the "Amended Immigration Control Act") was passed by the Diet on December 8, 2018, promulgated on December 14 the same year (Act No. 102 of 2018), and enforced by April 1, 2019.

- The new system for acceptance of foreign human resources intends to build a framework for acceptance of work-ready foreign nationals, who have a certain degree of expertise and skills in the industrial fields where it is difficult to secure human resources even after efforts have been made to improve productivity and secure domestic human resources. Thus, the Amended Immigration Control Act stipulates new status of residence "Specified Skilled Worker (i)" and "Specified Skilled Worker (ii)," and requires necessary measures such as establishing the basic policy on operation of the system as well as a field-specific operation policy.
- Outline of the system pertaining to the status of residence of Specified Skilled Worker is shown in the Figure 15. To accept foreign nationals as Specified Skilled Workers, certain criteria must be met. For example, with regard to the employment contracts for specified skilled workers⁴, there must be no discriminatory treatment with regard to the decisions on remuneration, the implementation of education and training, the use of welfare facilities, and other treatment on the grounds that the worker is a foreign national. On top of that, public and private organizations in Japan, which are the other party to the employment contracts for specified skilled workers (i.e. the accepting organization) must not have conducted a wrongful or seriously unjust act in relation to the laws and regulations on immigration or labor within five years before the date of entering into employment contract for specified skilled workers, etc. Furthermore, those who wish to be registered by the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency as a contractor entrusted with support works⁵, by the accepting organization by contract (Registered Support Organization) are required to fulfil certain criteria. For example, they must not have committed a wrongful or extremely unjust act in relation to laws and regulations on immigration or labor, their business activities must not be controlled by members of

⁴ A contract for the employment of a foreigner who intends to engage in the activities of "Specified Skilled Worker (i)" or "Specified Skilled Worker (ii)," to be concluded with a public or private organization in Japan.

⁵ All support measures in the plan to implement support for vocational lives, daily lives, and social lives of foreigners who stay in Japan with the status of residence of "Specified Skilled Worker (i)."

organized crime groups, and they must have established the necessary systems to ensure the appropriate performance of support works.

In this way, the necessary criteria etc. have been established for accepting organizations and registered support organizations to conform to in order to ensure that foreigners (specified skilled workers) who stay in Japan with the status of residence of “Specified Skilled Worker” can reside in Japan appropriately and smoothly. The Immigration Services Agency strictly examines their conformity to the criteria etc., at the time of application for the status of residence of Specified Skilled Worker to prevent any illegal or unjust acts, including the infringement of the human rights of foreigners.

- The Amended Immigration Control Act requires that accepting organizations submit notification to the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency on the job contents that foreign “Specified Skilled Workers” are engaged in, the status of payment to these workers, and the implementation status of the support works related to foreign “Specified Skilled Workers.” It also requires registered support organizations notify the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency on the implementation status of support works. Under the Amended Immigration Control Act, the Commissioner of the Immigration Services Agency may provide accepting organizations and registered support organizations with necessary guidance and advice, request reports, etc., and issue orders to accepting organizations to implement improvement measures (improvement order). In addition, the Act provides for penalties in the event that an accepting organization breaches the obligation to submit notifications, makes a false report, or violates an improvement order, etc. Registered support organizations are also subject to the cancellation of registration if they breach the obligation to submit notifications or make a false report. In this way, the Immigration Services Agency shall ensure the proper operation of the system pertaining to the status of residence of Specified Skilled Worker after receiving foreign specified skilled workers.

- In the construction field , in addition to the cross-industrial standards, the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism established the standards for an organization to which specified skilled workers belong (accepting organizations) that is authorized by its Minister based on the characteristics of the construction field. The standards require accepting organizations to provide specified skilled workers with the same or higher wage level than that of Japanese workers, monthly pay, and workers’ promotion depending on their skill proficiency. The Ministry works to secure an appropriate working environment for foreign skilled workers through the Minister’s authorization of the accepting plan and on-site guidance.

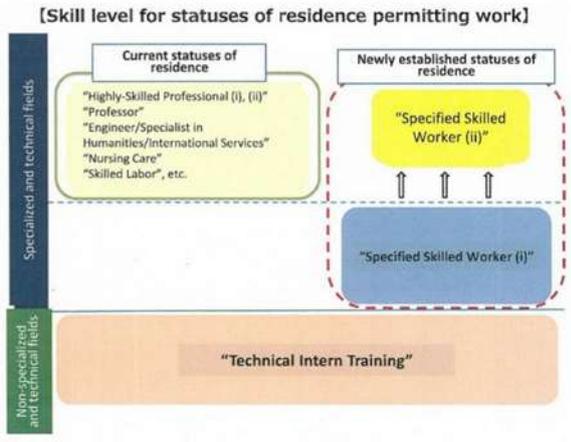
[Figure 15] Outline of the system pertaining to the status of residence of Specified Skilled Worker (Immigration Services Agency)

Outline of the system (1) Status of residence

- **Specified Skilled Worker (i)** : Status of residence for foreign nationals engaging in work requiring skills which need considerable knowledge or experience belonging to specified industrial fields.
 - **Specified Skilled Worker (ii)** : Status of residence for foreign nationals engaging in work requiring proficient skills belonging to specified industrial fields.
- Specified Industrial Fields (14 fields)** : Nursing Care, Building cleaning management, Forges and foundries, Machine parts & tooling industries, Electric, electronics and information industries, Construction industry, Shipbuilding/ship machinery industry, Automobile maintenance, Aviation Industry, Accommodation industry, Agriculture, Fishery & aquaculture, Manufacture of food and beverages, Food service industry
(Specified skilled workers (ii) can only be accepted in the two underlined fields)

- Points of Specified Skilled Worker (i)**
- Period of stay : extension for a period of 1 year, 6 months or 4 months, up to 5 years in total
 - Skill level : confirmed by exams, etc. (foreign nationals who have completed technical intern training (ii) are exempt from taking exams, etc.)
 - Level of Japanese language proficiency : confirmed Japanese language proficiency required everyday living and business by exams, etc. (foreign nationals who have completed technical intern training (ii) are exempt from taking exams, etc.)
 - Accompaniment of family members : basically not permitted
 - Eligible for support by accepting organization or registered support organization

- Points of Specified Skilled Worker (ii)**
- Period of stay : extension for a period of 3 years, 1 year or 6 months
 - Skill level : confirmed by exams, etc.
 - Level of Japanese language proficiency : not necessary to be confirmed by exams, etc.
 - Accompaniment of family members : possible on fulfilling certain conditions (spouse, children)
 - Not eligible for support by accepting organization or registered support organization



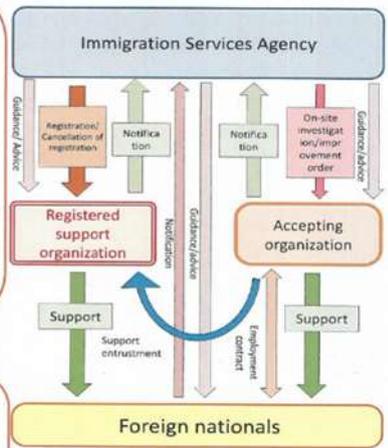
Outline of the system (2) accepting organizations and registered support organizations

- About the accepting organizations**
- Criteria for accepting organizations to accept foreign nationals**
 - ① Employment contract entered into with the foreign national is appropriate (e.g., the amount of remuneration is equivalent to or greater than that a Japanese national would receive for the same kind of work)
 - ② The organization itself is appropriate (e.g., no violation of the immigration or labor-related laws within the past 5 years)
 - ③ There is a system in place to support foreign nationals (e.g., able to offer support in a language understood by foreign nationals)
 - ④ The plan to support foreign nationals is appropriate (e.g., includes general living orientation, etc.)
 - Obligations of the accepting organization**
 - ① Reliable fulfillment of the employment contract entered into with the foreign national (e.g., payment of appropriate remuneration)
 - ② Provision of appropriate support for foreign nationals → possible to outsource support to a registered support organization
 - ③ If all support is entrusted, 1 ③ has already been satisfied
 - ④ Submission of various notifications to the Immigration Services Agency

Note. Failure to do ① to ④ will result in permission being denied for acceptance of foreign nationals, and the organization may be subject to guidance and improvement orders from the Immigration Services Agency.

- About the registered support organizations**
- Criteria for registration**
 - ① The organization itself is appropriate (e.g., no violation of the immigration or labor-related laws within the past 5 years)
 - ② There is a system in place to support foreign nationals (e.g., able to offer support in a language understood by foreign nationals)
 - Obligations of the registered support organization**
 - ① Implementation of appropriate support for foreign nationals
 - ② Submission of various notifications to the Immigration Services Agency

Note. Failure to do ① and ② may result in registration being revoked.



- Furthermore, based on the “Comprehensive Measures for Acceptance and Coexistence of Foreign Nationals” (decided by the Ministerial Conference on Acceptance and Coexistence of Foreign Nationals on December 25, 2018), the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, and the National Police Agency drew up bilateral intergovernmental documents to establish a framework for sharing information with the aim of eliminating malicious intermediary organizations, with the Philippines, Cambodia, Nepal, Myanmar, Mongolia, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Viet Nam, Bangladesh, Uzbekistan, Pakistan, Thailand, and India (as of March 31, 2022).

(5) Efforts against the demand side for trafficking in persons

i) Educating people on the demand side of sexual exploitation

- Since FY2004, the Cabinet Office has produced a poster and leaflet for raising awareness of the measures against trafficking in persons and posted it on its website every year.

In FY2021, the Cabinet Office produced about 46,000 posters and leaflets titled “That is human trafficking (sexual service or forced labor), too!” and about 48,000 posters titled “Human trafficking (sexual service or forced labor) could happen to you!” and distributed these to about 4,400 places including local governments, airports and marine ports, universities and technical colleges, the Japan Association of Travel Agents, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and other relevant organizations. In addition to these places, since FY2016 the posters have also been put up on railway station notice boards. Furthermore, in addition to awareness videos for victims and the general public, new awareness videos focusing on users of sexual exploitation were produced and disseminated through advertisement on trains and social media.

In order to raise greater awareness of the measures for cases that are often known to the police and for which arrests are made in Japan, such as coercion to provide sexual services, and cases involving the use of not only physical restraint but also psychological restraint, publicity that uses the terminology “Trafficking in persons (sexual service or forced labor) ” is promoted.

The posters, leaflets, and videos for users clearly state that trafficking in persons is a serious crime and subject to penalties of specific imprisonment for violating the relevant Act by presenting some cases, calling on people “What the person close to you does could be trafficking in person. Report to the nearest Police Station or Regional Immigration Services Bureau if you find the offender and the person like a victim.”

- Every fiscal year since FY 2002, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has produced a booklet titled “A Handbook of Safety Tips in Foreign Countries” for Japanese nationals travelling overseas, which has been distributed at the counter of Center for Consular Services of the Ministry and at the overseas safety seminars for companies, as well as at passport centers in each prefecture and to the organizations of

travel-related industry. In conjunction with this, the Ministry posted the PDF format of the booklet available on the Overseas Safety HP and made it also available for viewing in the overseas safety app and on smartphones, etc.

From FY2016, the distribution has been expanded to relevant facilities at international airports. Leaflets regarding the overseas safety app were also printed and distributed mainly to prefectural passports centers. In FY2021, 200,000 copies of the booklet and 500,000 copies of the leaflet have been printed.

In the section under “Case Studies: Examples of Problems and Countermeasures,” the booklet cites involvement in acts of prostitution as an example of a case where Japanese nationals become criminals. It also explains that prostitution is illegal in many countries and can be treated as a serious crime, and that offenses relating to the child prostitution and possessing child pornography is subjected to punishment under the relevant Japanese law as the crime committed outside Japan, therefore calls on the public to refrain from engaging in inappropriate activities.

- The National Police Agency has set up a page titled “STOP! Child Sexual Exploitation” on its website, which provides the information that child prostitution is a malicious crime and that child prostitution in foreign countries is also severely punished, lists examples of laws that punish child prostitution in Southeast Asian countries, and provides the information that strong crackdowns are being carried out by the police in each country, etc.

In FY2021, the National Police Agency continued to post posters both in Japanese and English on its website for public relations and awareness raising to inform the public that child sexual exploitation, such as child prostitution and child pornography, is a vicious crime that violates the human rights of children. In addition, Japanese posters were displayed at major stations and stations around entertainment districts in Japan.

ii) Raising awareness of employers

- The police are putting effort into publicity and awareness-raising among employers, etc. through activities that include site inspections of places of adult entertainment businesses facilities, etc.

- Prefectural Labour Bureaus and Labour Standards Inspection Offices provide supervision and guidance to implementing organizations (see (3) iii)). They also organize briefing sessions aimed at disseminating information and educating implementing organizations on labor standards laws.

[Figure 16] Poster for Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons (Cabinet Office)

Trafficking in Persons

It's not someone else's problem!

In Japan in 2020

- 20% of the victims were non-Japanese citizens!
- 74% of victims were under 18!
- 50% of victims were under 18!
- 47% of victims were under 18!
- 62% of victims were under 18!

You're just not aware. You or someone close to you might be a victim.

- Your friend who has signed a contract as a foreign worker in Westland.
- Parents looking for a "huge daddy" or offering (multi-child) services on Jiji.
- Your friend might be forced to appear in pornographic videos.
- Your children might be forced or coerced to engage in sexual acts.
- Parents being offered "You can sit away from home and stay at my house."
- A heavily pregnant woman saying "My passport has been taken away."
- They might be targeted as victims of obscene acts.
- They might be forced to do **excessively heavy work**.

If you recognize yourself or someone else as a victim, or if you're asked for help, please contact the nearest **police station (24/7)** or **Regional Immigration Bureau (0970-013804)**.

0120-924-839

For more information and consulting opportunities on TV!

These acts are also Trafficking in Persons

We intensify crackdown on Trafficking in Persons.

Trafficking in Persons damages both human dignity and rights. These acts can be Trafficking in Persons. The following laws can be applied and if found in violation, penalties will be imposed.

- Forcing or coercing someone to appear in pornographic videos.** ~10 years in prison.
- Coercing children to commit obscene acts in prostitution.** ~10 years in prison.
- Harboring runaway children for obscene purposes.** ~10 years in prison.
- Forced labour.** ~10 years in prison.

The actions of a person close to you might be related to human trafficking. If you notice perpetrators or victims, please contact the nearest **police station (24/7)** or **Regional Immigration Bureau (0970-013804)**.

0120-924-839

For more information and consulting opportunities on TV!

2人きりで食料たよね? ほう、お面白いお酒飲んでたし... 家に来てくれたよね? イヤって言わなかったよね? そんな服装してめしきあ... ボディータッチしてきてよね? 今、付き合ってるじゃん!

傷つけた方が悪い。性暴力に言い訳は通らない。

あなたの望まない性的な行為は、**性暴力**です。迷わずに下記までご相談を。

11月12日~25日は「女性に対する暴力をなくす運動」期間です。

性犯罪-性暴力で悩んでいる方へ、一人で悩まず、相談してください。

電話で相談 **#8891** **#8103**

SNSで相談 **#8891** **#8103**

相談時間 (You're time) (火-土曜 10時-18時)

相談時間 (You're time) (火-土曜 10時-18時)

【拡散希望】

性暴力をなくそう。

- AV出演強制
- JKビジネス
- レイプドラッグ
- 強姦して性的行為を強要
- SNSで知らない性暴力
- ネット上でのハラスメント
- 痴漢

10代20代に対する性暴力の手口が巧妙になっています。同意のない性的行為の被害は、いかなる理由・関係性であってもすべて性暴力です。性暴力に関する情報をもみんなで共有して、社会全体で性暴力をなくしていきましょう。NEVER FORGIVE 性暴力

性犯罪-性暴力でお悩みの方へ、迷わずに下記までご相談を。相談時間 (You're time) (火-土曜 10時-18時) **#8891** **#8103** 性暴力をなくそう Q

[Figure 17] Poster titled “STOP! Child Sexual Exploitation” (in English) (National Police Agency)



[Figure 18] Overseas Safety “Guidance Book” (MOFA) (Excerpt)



4 Promotion of identification of trafficking victims

(1) Promotion of efforts based on “Measures for Identification of Victims”

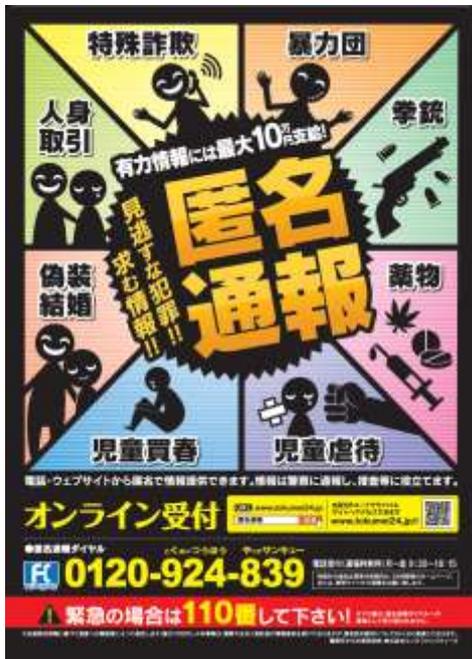
- Relevant ministries and agencies inform relevant administrative bodies about the “Methods to Deal with Trafficking in Persons (Measures for Identification of Victims)” (agreed by the June 23, 2010 Inter-Ministerial Liaison Committee Regarding Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons. 2014 Action Plan, Appendix 2), and based on this the relevant administrative bodies appropriately take measures for identification of victims.

- Through contact points such as dedicated police consultation phone lines and an Anonymous-Report Hot Line, the police are making efforts to respond to consultation requests and reports to the police in such a way as to ensure that crimes related to trafficking in persons are not overlooked.

- A private organization commissioned by the National Police Agency operates the Anonymous-Report Hot Line which receives anonymous reports concerning cases of trafficking in persons and offenses suspected to be related to such cases (hereinafter referred to as “cases of trafficking in persons, etc.”), child welfare crimes, child abuse cases, and other such cases and crimes from citizens by telephone and through the website and pays rewards for information depending on the value of contribution which makes the case cleared and victims protected. It is making efforts to call for reports using the website, posters, etc. and to achieve the early identification of these crimes that often remain hidden.

When a report regarding a case of trafficking in persons, etc. is received, the information is shared with the relevant prefectural police department, and an investigation is conducted in the relevant prefectural police department. In FY2018, 285 reports regarding cases of trafficking in persons, etc. were received, while 156 and 61 reports were received in FY2019 and FY2020 respectively.

[Figure 19] Anonymous-Report Hot Line poster (in Japanese) (National Police Agency)



[Figure 20] Anonymous-Report Hot Line procedure (in Japanese) (National Police Agency)



- When the police receive consultation, consideration will be given to the consultation place for the consuler not to feel any psychological pressure, like in a consultation room. If the consuler is female, a female officer will interview her if she wishes, and if the consuler is non-Japanese, an officer who can speak his or her native language will interview him or her as far as possible.
 - The Immigration Services Agency has established trafficking in persons countermeasure secretariats within the General Affairs Divisions of Regional Immigration Services Bureaus to collect information relating to trafficking. The secretariat also strives to increase identification of cases of trafficking in persons acting as a contact point for related organizations and the general public to provide trafficking-related information.
 - When Japanese Embassies and Consulates come into contact with information pertaining to the victims of trafficking in persons, the information is provided swiftly to the relevant ministries and agencies through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- (2) **Informing latent victims about agencies to which they can report the crime and the measures for protecting them**
- Every year since 2005, the National Police Agency has produced leaflets in several languages calling for

people to report cases of trafficking in persons to the police, with the aim of discovering latent victims. These leaflets are distributed to the relevant ministries and agencies, embassies in Tokyo, and NGOs, and also placed in places that can easily catch the eyes of the victims and made available online.

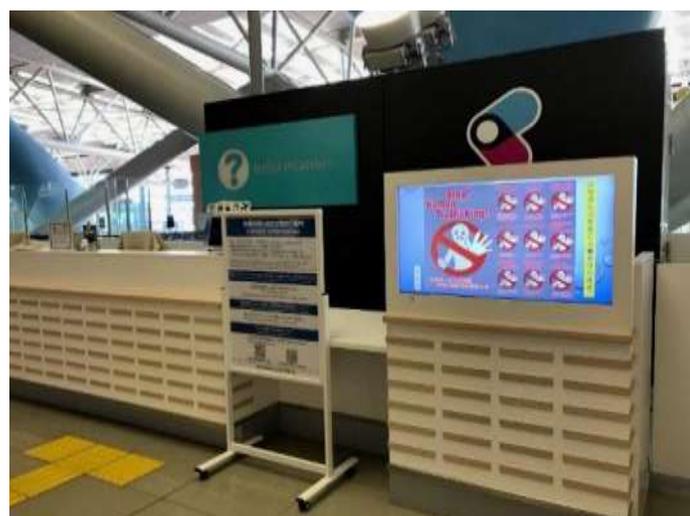
The leaflet was revised from the perspective of victims in a significantly compact form for portability and an understandable design with key words and illustrations, reflecting feedback from NGOs and foreign embassies in Tokyo. In FY2021, about 290,000 leaflets in 10 languages (Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish, Russian, Thai, Tagalog, Indonesian, and Vietnamese) were prepared and distributed.

In addition, digital signage using the leaflet data is displayed at multiple international airports in Japan.

[Figure 21] Leaflet for measures to combat trafficking in persons (National Police Agency)



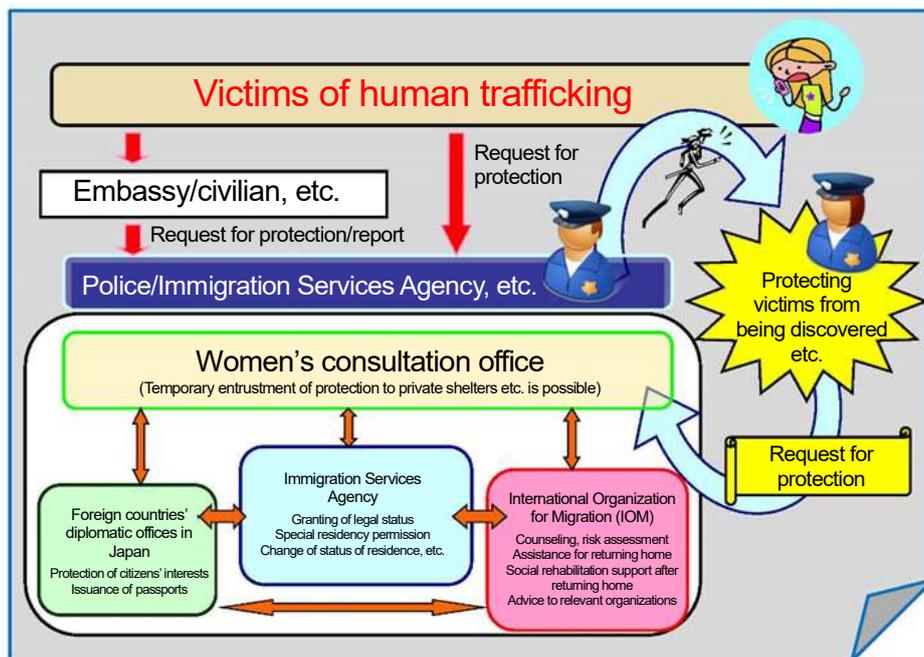
[Figure 22] Digital signage displayed at an international airport (National Police Agency)



- The Immigration Services Agency has listed on its website the contact points for consultation and providing information relating to trafficking in persons, and its policies and processes relating to victim

protection measures in eight languages (Japanese, English, Chinese (traditional and simplified), Korean, Portuguese, Spanish, Thai, and Tagalog). Efforts have also been made to make leaflets produced by the National Police Agency readily available to trafficking victims by, for example, placing them by regional immigration services bureau examination counters and airport immigration counters.

[Figure 23] The process for putting victims under protection (Immigration Services Agency)



(3) Strengthening of counseling in foreign languages

- The Immigration Services Agency has established the “Immigration Information Center” which provides consultation services concerning procedures immigration control and residency and advice how to fill out the required forms for such procedures for foreign nationals and their related parties in multiple languages with a single telephone number usable nationwide. The Immigration Information Center also provides information and consultation services relating to trafficking in persons. Each Regional Immigration Services Bureau and District Immigration Services Office (excluding Airport District Immigration Office) have consultants who provide consultation for visitors.
- Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus established “Human Rights Counseling Centers for Foreigners” as well as the “Foreign-Language Human Rights Hotline” which was a telephone counseling service (provided in 10 foreign languages (English, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, Filipino, Portuguese, Nepalese, Spanish, Indonesian, and Thai).

In addition, in March 2016, Foreign Language Human Rights Counseling Service on the Internet was

established in two foreign languages (English and Chinese) and increased the number of languages to 10 in March 2021 (the same as for Human Rights Counseling Centers for Foreigners and Foreign-Language Human Rights Hotline).

These contact points have been publicized on the website and in a leaflet produced in each available language.

[Figure 24] Foreign-Language Human Rights Counseling Leaflet (in English) (Ministry of Justice)
(Excerpt)



- To be able to provide consultation services for foreigners regarding working conditions etc., the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare has established Foreign Workers Consultation Corner in 14 languages (in addition to Japanese, and depending on the location, English, Chinese, Portuguese, Spanish, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Nepalese, Burmese, Korean, Thai, Indonesian, Cambodian, and Mongolian (Nepalese and Burmese were added in April 2019, while Korean, Thai, Indonesia, Cambodia, and Mongolian were added in April 2020)) at Prefectural Labour Bureaus and Labour Standards Inspection Offices.

The ministry has also produced a leaflet titled “For All Foreign Nationals Working in Japan – Working Conditions Handbook” in 14 languages (Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, Portuguese, Spanish, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Burmese, Nepalese, Thai, Cambodian, Mongolian, and Indonesian), and made it available online. In addition, when visiting workplaces employing foreign technical intern trainees, the ministry distributes the leaflet to foreign technical intern trainees and calls on them to consult with the Advisory Services for Foreign Workers, etc.

Furthermore, the Telephone Consultation Service for Foreign Workers was established in June 2015.

Those who call the service are connected to the staff at the section for this service, making it easier for people to access the service from anywhere in the country. From April 2019, outside office hours of the Prefectural Labour Bureau and the Labour Standards Inspection Office, the “Labour standards Advice Hotline (consignment business: 17:00 to 22:00 on weekdays, 9:00 to 21:00 on weekends and holidays) accepts consultation in 14 languages (in addition to Japanese, English, Chinese, Portuguese, Spanish, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Burmese, Nepalese, Korean, Thai, Indonesian, Cambodian, and Mongolian (Korean, Thai, Indonesian, Cambodian, and Mongolian were added in April 2020)).

[Repeated from 3 (3) ii]

- Since the enforcement of the Technical Intern Training Act in November 2017, the OTIT has been offering advice by email and telephone, and providing the native language consultation counters available in eight languages (English, Chinese, Thai, Filipino, Vietnamese, Indonesian, Burmese, and Cambodian).

In addition, since April 2021, the OTIT has provided consultation for technical intern trainees by establishing “Technical Intern Trainee’s SOS and Dedicated Consultation Desk” as a dedicated consultation desk for urgent cases like violence and threats.

[Repeated from 3 (3) ii]

(4) Coordination with embassies in Tokyo

- In light of the fact that some foreign victims of trafficking in persons seek protection from the embassies of their country of origin, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs encourages embassies in Tokyo to establish consultation service points for victims of trafficking in persons and calls for their cooperation in raising awareness by distributing leaflets on measures against trafficking in persons.

(5) Promotion of calling the attention of potential victims of trafficking in persons through overseas diplomatic missions

- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs distributes leaflets produced by the National Police Agency (see (2)) and leaflets and posters produced by the Cabinet Office (see 3 (5) i)) to overseas diplomatic missions etc.
- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs raises awareness on trafficking in persons by providing visa applicants with leaflets during the application process at the Embassies and Consulates. In countries where accredited agencies handle visa applications and issuance, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs also requests those agencies for their cooperation to alert visa applicants of the risks and issues pertaining to trafficking in persons.

[Figure 25] Consultation and provision of information on trafficking in persons

Consultation and Provision of Information on Trafficking in Persons	
[Prefectural police]	
Emergency call (Tel): 110 Police consultation counter (Tel): # 9110	
[Anonymous Reporting Hot Line] (National Police Agency)	
Tel: 0120-924-839 website: https://www.tokumei24.jp/	
[Immigration Services Agency]	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Immigration Information Center *Foreign language support Tel: 0570-013904 (IP, overseas: 03-5796-7112) ● Regional Immigration Services Bureau List: https://www.moj.go.jp/isa/about/region/index.html 	
[Human rights counseling] (Ministry of Justice)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Human Rights Hotline Tel: 0570-003-110 ● Human Rights Counseling Centers for Foreigners *Foreign language support Tel: All of the 50 Legal Affairs Bureaus and District Legal Affairs Bureaus nationwide List: https://www.moj.go.jp/JINKEN/jinken21.html ● Foreign-language Human Rights Hotline *Foreign language support Tel: 0570-090911 	
Other related contacts	
[Human rights issues for women]	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Women's Rights Hotline (Ministry of Justice) Tel: 0570-070-810 ● Women's Consulting Offices (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare) List: https://www.mhlw.go.jp/content/000832936.pdf 	
[Human rights issues for children]	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Children's Rights Hotline (Ministry of Justice) Tel: 0120-007-110 ● Child Guidance Centers (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare) List: https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/kodomo/kodomo_kosodate/zisouichiran.html 	
[Problems related to technical intern trainees]	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● General Labour Consultation Service (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare) *Foreign language support List: http://www.mhlw.go.jp/general/seido/chihou/kaiketu/soudan.html ● Advisory Services for Foreign Workers, Telephone Consultation Service for Foreign Workers (Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare) *Foreign language support List: http://www.check-roudou.mhlw.go.jp/soudan/foreigner.html ● Labour Standards Advice Hotline (Commissioned project of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare) *Foreign language support List: https://www.check-roudou.mhlw.go.jp/lp/hotline/ ● Native Language Consultation, Technical Intern Trainee's SOS and Dedicated Consultation Desk (Organization for Technical Intern Training: OTIT) *Foreign language support List: https://www.otit.go.jp/notebook/ 	
[Other]	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Foreign Language Human Rights Counseling Service on the Internet (Ministry of Justice) *Foreign language support URL: https://www.moj.go.jp/JINKEN/jinken21.html#01 ● Multilingual Information Service(Houterasu) *Foreign language support Tel: 0570-078377 (IP: 050-3754-5430) ● Yoriso Hotline (General Incorporated Association Social Inclusion Support Center) *Foreign language support Tel: 0120-279-338 	

5 Eradication of trafficking in persons

(1) Thorough control

- Each of the relevant organizations takes thorough steps to crackdown on trafficking in persons, and at the same time, responds actively to other related issues (offenses related to trafficking in persons) that may be connected with undetected trafficking in persons (see 2 (1) ii) for more information on the crackdown on trafficking in persons).

- In June 2014, the Law Enforcement Task Force against Trafficking in Persons, comprising members from the National Police Agency, the Ministry of Justice, the Supreme Public Prosecutors Office, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, and the Japan Coast Guard was established. In addition to cooperating and sharing information about offenses related to trafficking in persons, in September 2014, the Task Force produced “Handbook on Measures against Trafficking in Persons,” which summarizes information such as the laws applicable to trafficking in persons and specific examples of the application of these laws. In February 2022, it was revised by updating to the latest application and is actively utilized by the police, the Immigration Services Agency, the Public Prosecutors Office, the Labour Standards Inspection Offices, and the Japan Coast Guard in conducting investigation and other activities.

i) Thorough control of prostitution

- In 2021, the police arrested 378 people in connection with 426 cases of violation of the Anti-Prostitution Act.

ii) Rigorous response to child sexual exploitation

- The police are working closely together with the relevant ministries and authorities on measures to crackdown on child prostitution and pornography-related crimes, measures to prevent the distribution and viewing of child pornography, and the early detection and support of child victims. In 2021, 540 people were arrested in connection with 627 cases of child prostitution crimes, while 1,989 people were arrested in connection with 2,969 cases of child pornography crimes.

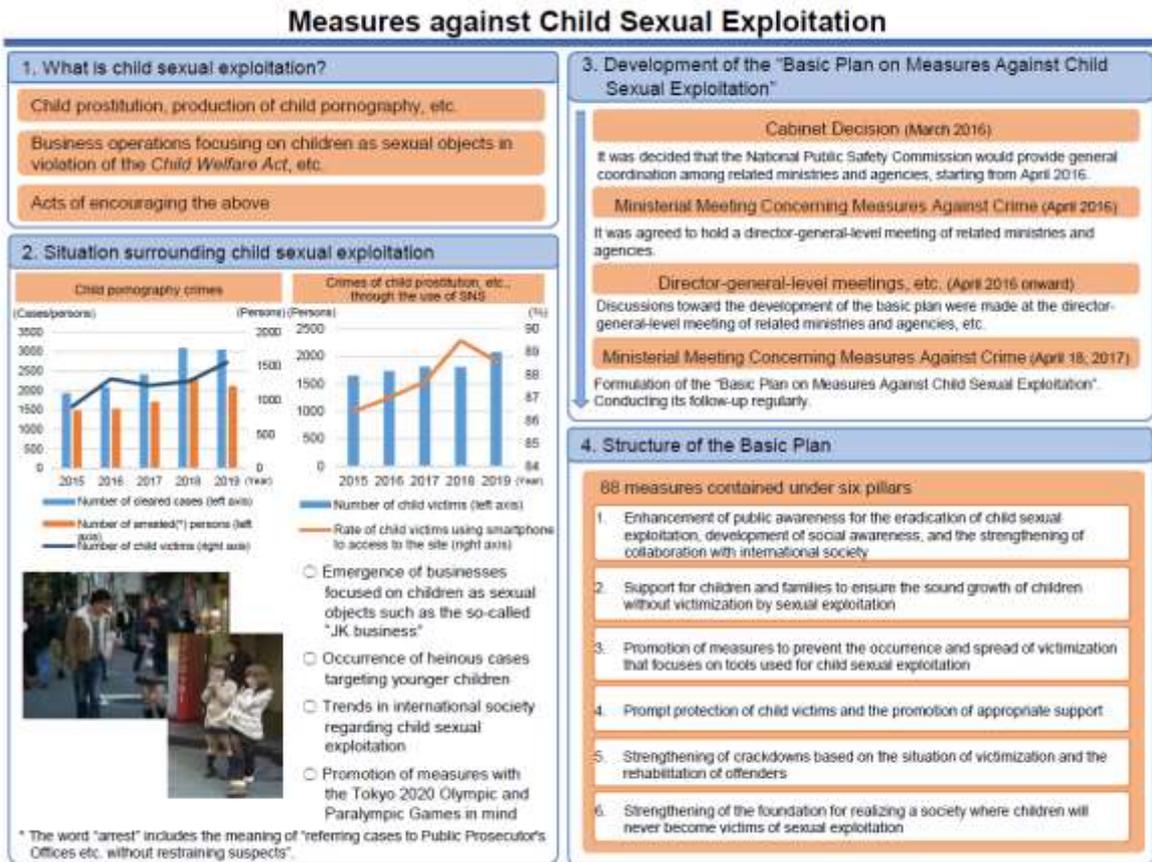
- With the intent of confirming the policy to date of strictly responding to cases of trafficking in persons, in March 2018 the Supreme Public Prosecutors Office notified public prosecutors nationwide that when applying the Child Welfare Act to cases of trafficking in persons they should take care to ensure the imposition of strict sentences, primarily imprisonment with work.
Most of the cases of applying the Child Welfare Act to trafficking offences after this notification were sentenced imprisonment.

- As part of efforts to eradicate the sexual victimization of children resulting from child prostitution and production of child pornography etc. and advocate the rights of child victims, on March 29, 2016, a cabinet decision was made on “Regarding the Basic Policy for Practices Relating to Measures against Child Sexual Exploitation.” According to this decision, the National Public Safety Commission has been designated to govern the overall coordination of measures against child sexual exploitation.

From April 2016, a series of discussions, led by the National Police Agency at the Liaison Conference of the Relevant Ministries and Agencies concerning Measures against Child Sexual Exploitation, had been conducted with the aim of drafting “Basic Plan on Measures against Child Sexual Exploitation,” and the plan was approved at the Ministerial Meeting Concerning Measures Against Crime on April 18, 2017.

The plan maps out the policies and measures that need to be implemented to realize the eradication of crimes relating to child prostitution and child pornography, which are offenses related to trafficking in persons. Since the plan also includes direct measures against trafficking in persons such as implementation of public relations and awareness-raising activities for the eradication of trafficking in persons, and promotion of the protection of trafficking victims, etc., the implementation of policies based on this basic plan is expected to contribute to the prevention of trafficking in persons.

[Figure 26] Implementation of countermeasures based on the Basic Plan on Measures against Child Sexual Exploitation (National Police Agency)



iii) Thorough control of vicious employers and brokers

- With regard to crimes relating to the employment of foreign workers, in 2021, 285 people, including employers and brokers, were arrested in connection with 259 cases.
- In 2021, the Immigration Services Agency cracked down on 30 workplaces suspected of illegal employment. In addition, based on the policy concerning the "Promotion of the Measures against Illegal Employment of Foreigners" agreed between the National Police Agency and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (see 3 (2) i)), the Immigration Services Agency is proactively reporting malicious brokers and employers to the police and bringing charges against them.

[Repeated from 3 (2) ii)]

- In 2021, Prefectural Labour Bureaus and Labour Standards Inspection Offices conducted inspections on 10,427 implementing organizations (preliminary figures).
Of these, 6,556 implementing organizations (preliminary figures) were found to be in violation of labor standards-related laws and regulations and were issued correction orders. Among these cases, 35

cases (preliminary figures) were referred to prosecutors. These cases involved serious/malicious violations of labor standards laws in relation to technical training interns, such as illegal overtime work/working on days off, and lower extra pay for overtime work than legal extra pay.

[Repeated from 3 (3) iii)]

- In 2021, Prefectural Labour Bureaus, Labour Standards Inspection Offices, and the OTIT strengthened their cooperation based on the 2021 notification and carried out joint inspections or investigations on 37 implementing organizations.

As a result, Prefectural Labour Bureaus and Labour Standards Inspection Offices issued correction orders to 30 cases where violations of labor standards-related laws and regulations were identified. In addition, the OTIT issued correction orders to 35 cases (preliminary figures) out of the cases of joint inspections on implementing organizations.

[Repeated from 3 (3) iii)]

iv) Rigorous response to the problem of harm associated with performing in porn videos

- Regarding the problem of victims appearing in porn videos, the police is promoting a crackdown taking into account the application of a full range of laws and regulations and responding appropriately to consultations.

- The Government compiled a report on the current situation and related issues on March 14, 2017, under the Specialist Committee on Violence against Women of the Council for Gender Equality, through hearing on the issue of sexual violence against youths from private organizations, experts, local governments and relevant ministries.

At the “Inter-ministerial meeting on countermeasures to the issues of so-called forced appearance in porn videos and “JK business” on March 31, a range of emergency countermeasures were approved including a decision setting April 2017 as a month of prevention for victimization. On May 19, 2017, the “Countermeasures going forward to the issues of so-called forced appearances in porn videos and “JK Business” were formulated based on the result of initiatives conducted during the month of prevention for victimization.

The said actions combine various measures for tackling the problem of victims performing in porn videos as an offense related to trafficking in persons, through further grasping the actual situation, strengthening the crackdown, bolstering education and awareness raising, developing the consultation system, and strengthening initiatives for protection and support for independence. Promoting these countermeasures should contribute to the prevention of trafficking in persons.

In addition, “the Policy for Enhancement of Measures against Sexual Crimes and Sexual Assault” (decided by Liaison Conference of the Relevant Ministries and Agencies for Enhancement of Measures

against Sexual Crimes and Sexual Assault on June 11, 2020) and “the Fifth Basic Plan for Gender Equality” (approved by a cabinet decision on December 25, 2020) decided that from April 2021 every April is “Youth Sexual Violence Prevention Month,” because April is the month of school enrollment or entering a higher school, which is suitable to raise awareness of youth sexual violence problems. This project raises awareness of preventing a variety of youth sexual violence, including a child appearing in porn videos and JK business, disseminates contact information for consultation on sexual violence, and stresses necessity of talking to the youth in trouble, ensuring to raise awareness that no young people become perpetrators, victims, or spectators of sexual violence.

Furthermore, in order for the government to collectively and strongly tackle the problem associated with performing in porn videos, in March 2022, the government adopted a package of urgent measures against the harm associated with performing in porno videos at the “Inter-ministerial meeting on countermeasures to the issues of so-called forced appearance in porn videos and JK business.”

On June 15, 2022, as a legislation proposed by lawmakers, “Act on Special Provisions concerning Performance Contracts Contributing to the Prevention of Harm Associated with Performing in Sexually Explicit Video Productions and to the Remedy of Harm to Performers, thereby Contributing to the Formation of a Society in which the Sexual Dignity of Individuals is Respected” Act on Prevention and Remedy of Harm Associated with Performing in Porn Videos,) was enacted. The Act stipulates the special provisions on the on the rescission or cancellation of performance contracts to perform in porn videos, and right to demand an injunction to stop the publication of such videos, regardless of age and gender.

(2) Crime control across borders

i) Strengthening of cooperation with relevant foreign organizations

○ The National Police Agency has convened Contact Point Meetings on trafficking in persons once every year since 2004, at which officials from embassies in Tokyo, relevant ministries and agencies, prefectural governments, NGOs, the International Organization for Migrants (IOM), and so on, discuss issues and share information. The conference was held online in 2021 from the viewpoint of preventing infection of COVID-19 to share information on trafficking in persons with relevant organizations.

○ From 2002 to 2016, the National Police Agency held the Conference of Investigators on Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Southeast Asia annually, inviting overseas investigation organizations based in Southeast Asia and Tokyo to the Conference to expand and strengthen cooperation on investigations related to crimes committed abroad.

From 2017, in order to further strengthen measures to prevent child sexual exploitation, the Conference was developed into a form that enables international organizations and private organizations taking measures to prevent child sexual exploitation to participate in addition to officials in charge from relevant ministries, foreign organizations, and prefectural police. The title of the Conference has now been changed to “Specialist Group Meeting on Child Sexual Exploitation.” In addition to the efforts of the government and the police, the activities of the private organizations and foreign organizations are also introduced to promote understanding of the situation by Japanese people and the international community and to work on exchanging information and strengthening collaboration with related organizations and groups.

At the same conference (online) held in February 2022, social media service providers, private organizations, and Hyogo Prefectural Police made presentations respectively.

○ The police share necessary information on trafficking techniques through INTERPOL with investigative organizations in countries from which victims of trafficking in persons originate.

○ Since November 2004, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs had been providing information on lost and stolen travel documents (such as passport numbers) to INTERPOL through the National Police Agency. Since March 2022, the Ministry has been providing such information directly to INTERPOL in a prompt manner and this information is utilized in immigration screening conducted by Interpol member countries.

ii) Enhancement of international mutual legal assistance

○ When a mutual legal assistance request related to trafficking in persons is made to Japan by foreign countries, Japan promptly and appropriately provides assistance based on its domestic law (the Act on

International Assistance in Investigation and Other Related Matters) and treaties, agreements, etc., on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters concluded with other countries.

- Japan has concluded treaties and agreements on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters with the United States (effective from July 2006), the Republic of Korea (effective from January 2007), China (effective from November 2008), Hong Kong (effective from September 2009), the EU (effective from January 2011), and Russia (effective from February 2011), and a treaty on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters with Viet Nam in November 2021, and is proactively considering the possibility of concluding such treaties with other countries.

- As a result of concluding the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime in July 2017 (see 7 (1) i)), for the crimes stipulated in Article 3 of the Convention, it is now possible to provide mutual legal assistance promptly with the States Parties and regions of the Convention through the central authority rather than through diplomatic channels.

6 Protection and support of trafficking victims

(1) Promotion of efforts based on “Measures for Protection of Victims”

- Relevant ministries and agencies provide information to relevant administrative organizations regarding the “Methods to Deal with Trafficking in Persons (Measures for Protection of Victims)” (agreed by the July 1, 2011 Inter-Ministerial Liaison Committee Regarding Measures to Combat Trafficking in Persons. 2014 Action Plan, Appendix 3), and based on this the relevant administrative organizations collaborate with each other to appropriately take measures related to the protection of victims.

- With regard to victims of trafficking in persons, in full consideration of their standpoints and based on their wishes, the Immigration Services Agency makes efforts to stabilize the legal status of victims by permitting extension of the period of stay or change the status of residence, or by granting them special permission to stay.

The number of non-Japanese victims who were put under protection by the Immigration Services Agency in 2021 was 11. Of these victims, 10 possessed the status of residence and they were permitted to change the status of residence. The remaining one victim, who had illegally overstayed and was therefore in violation of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act, was granted special permission to stay.

[Repeated from 2 (1) i)]

With regard to victims who wish to stay in Japan and victims who are unable to return to their countries, the Immigration Services Agency considers the situation of each individual while respecting their wishes, and where necessary, permits them to change their statuses of residence to ones that allow them to work in Japan.

- The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare has placed consultation and interpretation staff at Hello Work offices (employment service centers) mainly in regions with a large number of foreign workers in order to provide advice and support with a view to realizing stable employment for foreign nationals, including victims of trafficking in persons.

Training Courses for Promoting Stable Employment of Foreign Residents are also held with the aim of promoting stable employment by enhancing participants’ communication skills at the workplace and assisting them to acquire knowledge about Japan’s labor laws and regulations, etc.

(2) Strengthening of protection

- As part of the remedy procedures, the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice launched a system to provide human trafficking victims, including male victims, with temporary accommodation as an emergency refuge in October 2015.
- The Technical Intern Training Act, which was enforced on November 1, 2017 establishes, in particular,

regulations prohibiting acts such as infringing the human rights of technical intern trainees and penalties for violations, and puts in place measures for protecting technical intern trainees including appropriately addressing issues reported by technical intern trainees and coordinating transfers/relocations of technical intern trainees. The act also established and incorporated the OTIT, which engages in the administrative work related to the above-mentioned, as a legal entity on January 25, 2017 and started operation.

[Repeated from 3 (3) i)]

(3) Provision of support to victims

i) Further improvement of temporary protection and assistance at Women's Consulting Offices

- Women's Consulting Offices work together with various relevant organizations to protect female victims of trafficking in persons, regardless of nationality and age. The offices provide them with food, clothing and shelter that respects their religious beliefs and dietary habits, gives consideration to their accommodations, bath and meals, and deploys security personnel as part of its night-time security system. These offices are putting effort into improving these systems.

The victims who were put under protection temporarily at Women's Consulting Offices in 2021 were provided with living support, interpretation support, and medical care, etc.

[Repeated from 2 (1) i)]

- Women's Consulting Offices have also put in place budgetary provisions to supply funding for commissioning the temporary protection of victims of trafficking in persons to shelters in the private sector when provision of appropriate protection is expected for the victims concerned.
- In cases where the victims are children, Women's Consulting Offices provide the required protective measures in coordination with Child Guidance Centers where necessary.

ii) Provision of information to victims during the process of investigation

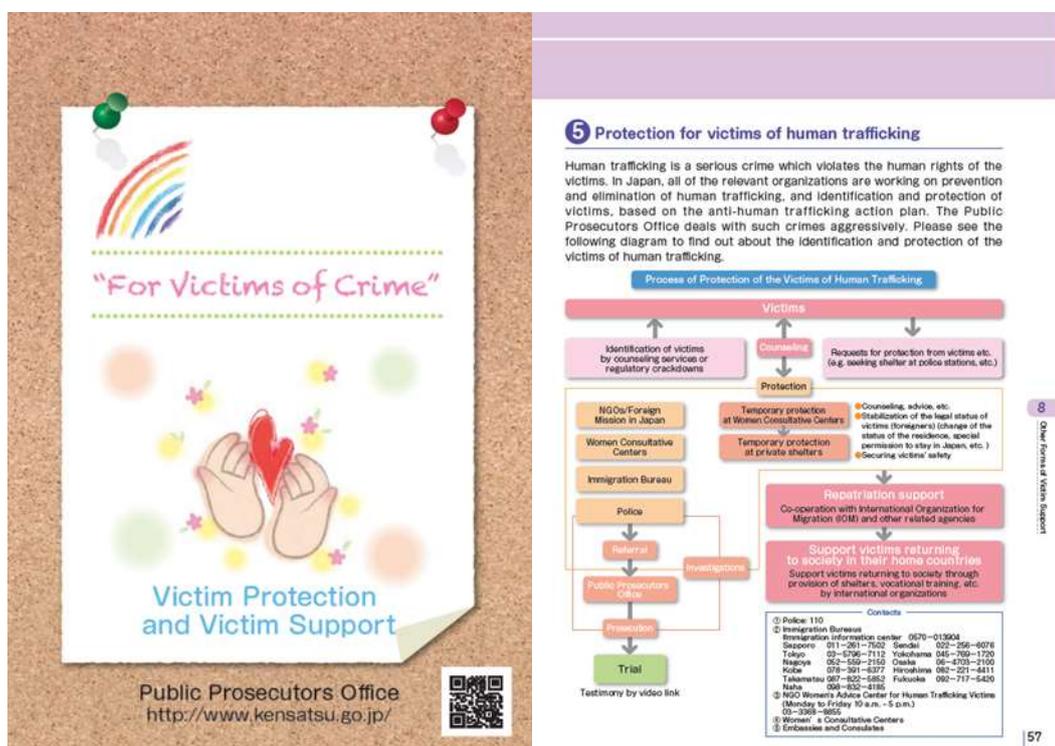
- The police disseminate information about protective measures and provide victims with full explanations about legal procedures, including procedures for obtaining special permission to stay in Japan. The police also provide as much information as they can about perspective of investigations, and put effort to respond by fully considering the victims' situation.
- At the Public Prosecutor's Office, the pamphlet, "For Victims of Crime" (Japanese and English versions are available) produced by the Ministry of Justice, is handed to victims, etc. when they are to be questioned. In addition, this pamphlet is also available on the website of the Ministry of Justice and the website of the Public Prosecutors Office.

This pamphlet provides easy-to-understand explanations about various systems that provide support

and protection to victims of crimes. These include the Victim Support Officer system, which responds to various consultations by victims as well as provides support on matters such as guidance to the courts, and various systems that put in place measures to shield victims when they are required to testify in court as witnesses, in cases deemed necessary by the court.

In particular, the section “Protection for victims of human trafficking” in this pamphlet clearly states that the Public Prosecutor’s Office responds strictly to incidents of human trafficking and illustrates the process of protection of the victims of human trafficking in an easy-to-understand way.

[Figure 27] For Victims of Crime (Public Prosecutor’s Office) (excerpt)



○ The Japan Coast Guard explains to victims of crime including victims of trafficking regarding matters such as outlines of criminal proceedings and the status of investigations, the status of the arrest/remand of perpetrators, the rescue of victims, and other matters that it is thought may contribute to relieving the anxiety of victims. The Japan Coast Guard also publicizes initiatives relating to the provision of support for victims of crime on its website and on leaflets entitled “Regarding support for victims of crime.”

iii) Provision of legal support to victims and dissemination of legal support

○ The Japan Legal Support Center (Houterasu) cooperates with victim support organizations and groups nationwide, collects information about support contact points, and provides victims with the

information they require based on their specific circumstances.

While paying careful attention to preventing the whereabouts of victims from being revealed, Houterasu refers victims requiring legal support to attorneys with experience and understanding of crime victim support, and provides Legal Consultation Aid for the Victims of Specific Acts of Trespass Against the Person (Meaning Spousal Violence, Stalking and Child Abuse) . In addition, it provides victims who are not financially capable with support through Civil Legal Aid or through Aid Services Entrusted by the Japan Federation of Bar Associations.

Legal Consultation Aid for the Victims of Specific Acts of Trespass Against the Person (Meaning Spousal Violence, Stalking and Child Abuse) is legal aid for victims who suffer from spousal violence, stalking, and child abuse, or those who are likely to suffer from these illegal acts.

Civil Legal Aid involves free legal consultations and lending money to pay for representative's remuneration and expenses, etc. "Japanese citizens and foreign nationals lawfully residing in Japan (hereinafter collectively referred to as "citizens and legal foreign residents") who lack the financial means to pay the necessary expenses incurred in preparing to exercise and exercising their own rights in civil, family, and administrative court proceedings (including negotiations that are found to be necessary to settle a dispute in advance of civil, family, and administrative court proceedings), or who would experience serious financial difficulties if they were to pay those expenses themselves." (the main paragraph of Article 30 (1) ii) of the Comprehensive Legal Support Act).

Aid Services Entrusted by the Japan Federation of Bar Associations involve provision of legal support by attorneys and grants for legal fees, etc. from the perspective of help relating to human rights to people who are not covered by Civil Legal Aid or the court-appointed attorney system for victims participating in criminal trials.

- Houterasu disseminates Civil Legal Aid and the court-appointed attorney system for participating victims by publishing leaflets and showing them on its website, and distributing them to Women's Consulting Offices, etc.

- Houterasu has been operating "Multilingual Information Service" that provides foreign nationals with information on laws and justice systems and relevant organizations or authorities to ask for consultation in multiple languages. In FY2021, the number of cases as of March 31, 2022 was 1,291 in Portuguese, 1,082 in English, 907 in Chinese, 786 in Tagalog, 574 in Spanish, 287 in Vietnamese, 122 in Thai, 45 in Korean, 69 in Nepalese, and 48 in Indonesian.

[Figure 28] Multilingual Information Service (Houterasu)



- The Japan Legal Support Center (Houterasu) cooperates with the General Incorporated Association Social Inclusion Support Center, which provides the telephone consultation service called the “Yoriso Hotline” that offers advice on issues faced in everyday life including sexual violence.

The Yoriso Hotline project is subsidized by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, and provides services in 10 languages (English, Chinese, Korean, Portuguese, Spanish, Thai, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Nepalese and Indonesia) as of the end of FY2021.

iv) Return and reintegration assistance to foreign trafficking victims

- Since 2005, the Government of Japan has been continuously rendering assistance to the project to provide repatriation and reintegration support (e.g. employment and vocational support, and provision of medical expenses) to foreign victims of trafficking in persons identified in Japan through the International Organization for Migration (IOM). In 2021, Japan contributed US\$142,000 to the IOM. Since 2005, this project has provided support to 354 victims to return to their home countries (as of March 31, 2022).

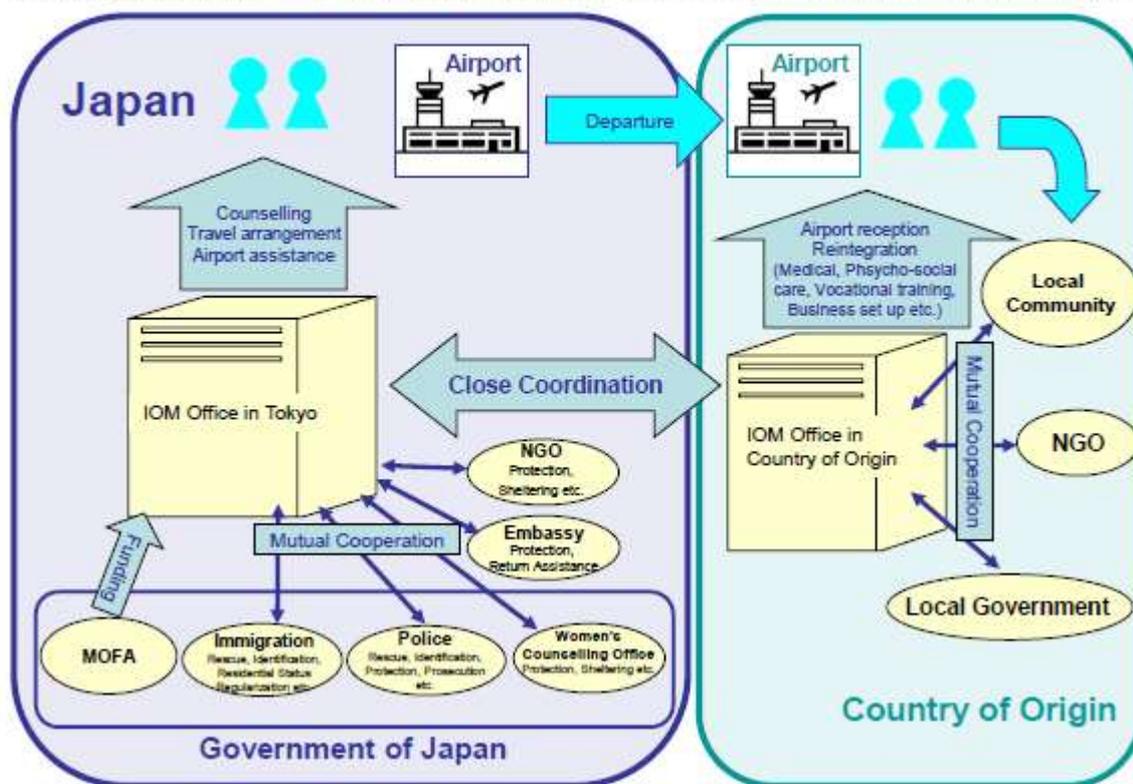
In 2021, 11 victims were voluntary repatriated through support from the IOM, and all the 11 victims were provided with temporary refuge shelter. Following their repatriation, nine victims who expressed their willingness to receive assistance were provided with support for family reunification, two were provided with medical support, and 10 victims were provided with one-year support from social rehabilitation programs (e.g. income-generating activities such as retail, wholesale, sewing, transportation, and delivery of drinking water, etc for the victims' independence and self-reliance.).

[Repeated from 2 (1) i)]

- The Immigration Services Agency coordinates closely with the IOM office in Japan and embassies in Tokyo while also working to provide protection for victims and support for them to return to their countries, and engaging in a sustained exchange of information and communication through meetings, training, and everyday works.
- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs receives regular reports from the International Organization for Migrants (IOM) on the performance of the victim repatriation project. With regard to this project, the IOM office in Japan conducted a follow-up survey between 2017 and 2018 and released the results in March 2019. To make improvements on areas found in the report of this survey, the IOM interviewed victims who encountered unexpected events such as the pandemic of COVID-19 and a typhoon and needed support in FY2020 and at the end of FY2021, and provided them with additional reintegration assistance as necessary. In addition, for former victims who wish to work abroad again, the IOM created a handbook to provide information on safe and regular migration that lowers the risk of becoming victims of human trafficking.

[Figure 29] Procedure of return and reintegration assistance (IOM)

Voluntary Return and Reintegration Assistance for Identified Victim in Japan



[Figure 30] An example of reintegration assistance after returning home through a project sponsored by Japan (a store opened by a victim with the support from IOM)



[Figure 31] Monitoring and interviewing of a victim by an IOM staff member in Manila



7 Establishment of foundations for promotion of measures against trafficking in persons

(1) Participation in international efforts

i) Conclusion of the Trafficking in Persons Protocol

- Japan obtained approval from the Diet in June 2005 for the conclusion of the Trafficking in Persons Protocol. Furthermore, on June 15, 2017 the Act for Partial Revision of the Act on Punishment of Organized Crimes and Control of Crime Proceeds, etc. an implementing legislation which was necessary to conclude the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the parent Convention to the said Protocol, was passed in the 193rd Diet session, and the Act entered into force on July 11, 2017. Consequently, on that day, Japan became a State party to the Convention and the Protocol, etc.

[Repeated from 1 (1)]

[Figure 32] Deposit of the instruments of acceptance of the Trafficking in Persons Protocol, etc.
(Ministry of Foreign Affairs)



ii) Strengthening of cooperation with other countries

a) Coordination with G7 member countries

- Every year Japan participates in the G7 Roma Lyon Group Migration Experts Sub-Group Meetings (MESG) to discuss with delegates from member countries enhancements of protection programs for the prevention of trafficking, tracking down the sources of falsified travel documents, and other matters.

Japan sent delegates to each of the meetings held in March 2016 in Tokyo, November 2016 in Hiroshima Prefecture, April and October 2017 in Rome, Italy, March 2018 in Ottawa, Canada, October 2018 in Montreal, Canada, March and October 2019 in Paris, France. In addition, Japan participated in meetings held online in May and October 2020 and April and November 2021.

- b) Assistance etc. provided to countries in Southeast Asia and elsewhere from which victims of trafficking in persons originate.
- The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has invited relevant personnel engaging in measures against trafficking in persons in ASEAN countries to Japan to provide them with training, in collaboration with the National Women's Education Center, etc. Since 2009, JICA has provided training for public and private personnel in charge of measures against trafficking in persons in ASEAN countries, such as Thailand, working on strengthening cooperation among countries and the measures against trafficking in persons. National Women's Education Center, an implementing agency of JICA, held "Thailand-Japan Workshop on Anti-Trafficking in Persons" between 2009 and 2013, a regional training "Seminar on Promotion of Networking among Asian Countries on Anti-Trafficking in Persons" from 2012 to 2014, and a Knowledge Co-Creation Program "Promotion of Networking among ASEAN Countries on Anti-Trafficking in Persons" from 2015 to 2021. In 2021 when it was difficult to hold programs in Japan due to the pandemic of COVID-19, 13 relevant persons from six countries (Thailand, Malaysia, Viet Nam, Laos, Philippines, and Cambodia) in charge of the measures against trafficking in persons participated in the online program. At the end of the program, they held an opportunity to share and discuss more detailed information about the current status of the measures against trafficking in persons in each country and some participants made a presentation with civil society organizations.

[Figure 33] Promotion of Networking among ASEAN Countries on Anti-Trafficking in Persons (JICA, National Women's Education Center)



- In Thailand, JICA implemented "the Project on Capacity Development on Assisting Victims of Trafficking in the Greater Mekong Sub-regional Countries" from April 2015 to April 2019. Based on the results of the Project on Strengthening of Multi-Disciplinary Teams (MDTs) for Protection of Trafficked Persons in Thailand, which was implemented solely in Thailand from March 2009 to March 2014, this project was expanded its scope to other countries in the Mekong region

(Myanmar and Laos) in order to enhance the capabilities of organizations in the Mekong region that engage in the repatriation/return and social reintegration of not only Thai victims of trafficking but also victims of other neighboring countries who suffered in Thailand, enhancing inter-organizational coordination.

- JICA supported holding a “Mekong Region Workshop” in Bangkok, the capital of Thailand, by inviting government officials concerning trafficking in persons from each country in the Mekong region. The workshop was held nine times as part of the activities of the “Project on Strengthening of Multi-Disciplinary Teams (MDTs) for Protection of Trafficked Persons in Thailand” (once every year from 2010 to 2014) and the “Project on Capacity Development on Assisting Victims of Trafficking in the Greater Mekong Sub-regional Countries” (once every year from 2016 to 2019). These nine workshops helped strengthening the network in the Mekong region and promote the sharing of knowledge and lessons on measures against trafficking in persons across borders.

Based on the results of the above-mentioned projects, JICA started “Project for Strengthening Regional Network for Combating Trafficking in Persons (TIP) in Mekong Region” including support for the Mekong Region Workshop, which is scheduled from January 2022 to January 2025.

- JICA implemented the “Project for Strengthening the Operation of the Hotline for Counseling and Supporting Trafficked Survivors” in Viet Nam from November 2018 to March 2022. This project worked to further strengthen prevention of trafficking in persons and collaboration with related organizations, based on the fact that Viet Nam’s hot line operation system (telephone consultation service) has been developed by the “Project for the Establishment of Anti-Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Hotline in Vietnam” implemented from 2012 to 2016. JICA provided training for each relevant organization, expanded the hot line facilities, provided counseling training for its staff, and implemented public relations activities and other works, contributing to strengthening the functions of the hot line in Viet Nam.

[Figure 34] Anti-Trafficking in Persons Hotline, Hanoi Operation Center (JICA)



UNODC to strengthen the capacity of Southeast Asian countries to combat trafficking of children and women under the COVID-19 pandemic.

c) Working with countries from which technical intern trainees are sent

- With the objectives of eliminating improper sending organizations as well as collaborating to carry out technical intern training properly and smoothly, Japan has signed memorandum of cooperation (MOCs) with 14 of the countries from which technical intern trainees are sent (Viet Nam, Cambodia, India, Philippines, Laos, Mongolia, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Bhutan, Uzbekistan, Pakistan, Thailand, and Indonesia) (as of March 31, 2022).

If a sending organization is recognized as improper, based on the MOC, the relevant state government will be informed and requested to investigate, and if needed, the relevant government will be requested to supervise the organization or revoke its authorization. In FY2021, 28 sending organizations were reported to each state government.

[Repeated from 3 (3) i)]

- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with the attendance of officials from the relevant ministries and agencies, has been utilizing opportunities such as consular consultations with sending countries of technical intern trainees, to bring up and request improvements from time to time regarding the appropriate functioning of the system including measures against cases of disappearance and human rights infringements.
- In order to improve the transparency of sending organizations and recruitment information, JICA plans to establish a platform regarding sending Vietnamese technical intern trainees from FY2022.

d) Sharing of information through the Bali Process

- Since 2002 Japan has been participating in meetings of the Bali Process (a follow-up process following regional ministerial meetings relating to migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons and other related transnational crimes). Japan presented its anti-trafficking initiatives and discussed with representatives from other member countries, regions, and international organizations future directions for the Bali Process.

In the Seventh Bali Process Regional Ministerial Meeting held in Bali, Indonesia in August 2018, participants from 67 nations, regions and related international organizations held discussions on the present state of trafficking in persons, etc. in the region, future initiatives, etc. Participants from Japan presented Japan's initiatives to combat trafficking in persons and its contributions to the Bali Process (The Bali Process meeting or online meeting was not held in 2021 due to the pandemic of COVID-19).

- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has also contributed US\$10,000 to the Bali Process website, which is operated and managed by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), as its management fees every year since 2005 and is endeavoring to improve information sharing among the related countries.
- e) Training by the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI)
- UNAFEI held the international training courses for criminal justice practitioners in French-speaking African countries, covering the themes “Basics of investigation, prosecution and adjudication” and “Combating terrorism and organized crime” (February 2016), as well as the international training courses for criminal justice practitioners from developing countries around the world, covering the themes “Criminal Justice: Children as Victims and Witnesses” (May/June 2016), “Criminal Justice Procedures and Practices to Disrupt Criminal Organizations” (May/June 2017), and “Criminal Justice Responses to Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants” (May/June 2019) respectively.

Through these training courses, UNAFEI enhances the capacity of criminal justice practitioners of developing countries, strengthens their network, and supports their efforts to combat trafficking in persons.

(2) Acquisition of people’s understanding and cooperation

i) Further promoting of government public relations

- The Cabinet Secretariat, the Cabinet Office and the National Police Agency provide information regarding trafficking in persons countermeasures on the Public Relations Office of the Government of Japan portal website, which is operated by the Cabinet Office, and calls on people to contact their local police station etc. when asked for help from victims of trafficking in persons who have been forced into prostitution and work, etc.
- The Cabinet Secretariat provided information to citizens about the actual state of trafficking in persons and call for reports of harm through means such as postings on social media (Twitter).
- The Cabinet Office positioned the promotion of trafficking in persons countermeasures as one of the fields relevant to the eradication of all types of violence against women in the Fifth Basic Plan for Gender Equality (approved by a cabinet decision on December 25, 2020).

During the campaign period for eliminating violence against women, from 12 to 25 November every year, the Cabinet Office produces posters and leaflets and distributes them to local governments and other relevant organizations. Since 2016, the Cabinet Secretariat has publicized information on its Twitter account during the same period.

- Every year since FY2004, the Cabinet Office has produced educational posters and leaflets relating to measures taken against trafficking in persons and also made this information available online.

In FY2021, the Cabinet Office produced about 46,000 posters and leaflets titled “That is human trafficking (sexual service or forced labor), too!” and about 48,000 posters and leaflets titled “Human trafficking (sexual service or forced labor) could happen to you!” and distributed these to about 4,400 places including local governments, airports and marine ports, universities and technical colleges, the Japan Association of Travel Agents, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and other relevant organizations. In addition to these places, since FY2016 the posters have also been put up on railway station notice boards. Furthermore, in addition to awareness videos for victims and the general public, new awareness videos focusing on users of sexual exploitation were produced and disseminated through advertisement on trains and social media.

In order to raise greater awareness of the measures for cases that are often known to the police and for which arrests are made in Japan, such as coercion to provide sexual services, and cases involving the use of not only physical restraint but also psychological restraint, publicity that uses the terminology “Trafficking in persons (sexual service or forced labor)” is promoted.

The posters, leaflets, and videos for users clearly state that trafficking in persons is a serious crime and subject to penalties of specific imprisonment for violating the relevant Act by presenting some cases, calling on people “What the person close to you does could be trafficking in person. Report to the nearest Police Station or Regional Immigration Services Bureau if you find the offender and the person like a victim.”

[Repeated from 3 (5) i)]

- Every year since 2005, the National Police Agency has produced leaflets in several languages calling for people to report cases of trafficking in persons to the police, with the aim of discovering latent victims. These leaflets are distributed to the relevant ministries and agencies, embassies in Tokyo, and NGOs, and also placed in places that can easily catch the eyes of the victims and made available online.

The leaflet was revised from the perspective of victims in a significantly compact form for portability and an understandable design with key words and illustration, reflecting feedback from NGOs and foreign embassies in Tokyo. In FY2021, about 290,000 leaflets in 10 languages (Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish, Russian, Thai, Tagalog, Indonesia, and Vietnamese) were prepared and distributed.

In addition, digital signage using the leaflet data is displayed at multiple international airports in Japan.

[Repeated from 4 (2)]

- The National Police Agency collected major methods of trafficking offences from nationwide and

prepared materials with understandable words and illustrations by exchanging views with NGOs in order to raise awareness of as many more Japanese people as possible on important points. The data of the leaflet is posted on its website and written on Twitter several times to promote public relations.

[Figure 36] Major methods of trafficking offences (National Police Agency) (in Japanese)

The figure consists of four panels, each detailing a different method of trafficking:

- Case 1: Romantic Relationships (恋愛感情を利用され、他人との援助交際を強要される)**
 - Step 1:** SNSで男性との交際を開始。SNSで男性と知り合い、連絡を取り合い始める。交際スタート後は相手の連絡を切れる道もあるように。
 - Step 2:** 好きな気持ちを利用されて急に別れた交際相手から、「俺が大事なら、ほかの男と援助交際するしかないけど」と言われ、金を要求される。
 - Step 3:** 別れたら男と関係を断る。交際相手は自分になり、SNSで責めを呼びかける。家にスマートフォンを盗んで見知らぬ男との援助交際（売春）をさせられるように。
 - Step 4:** 別れた金は返済される。相手の連絡を切り、交際相手に援助交際で得た金を渡したが、実際は盗みかきに使われてしまう。相手を思う気持ちで働かされる結果に。
- Case 2: Financial Services (借金のための性的サービスを受けさせられていませんか?)**
 - Step 1:** ホストクラブ通いを続け知り合いに誘われ、楽しい時間を過ごしたホストクラブ。その後も癒やしを求めて通ううちに、いつの間にか金がなくなり、代金をツケにしてしまう。
 - Step 2:** 返済のための売春を強要されツケを支払えないと、店のオーナーから、売春をして借金を返済するよう命じられ、指示されるままホテルで接客させられることに。
 - Step 3:** 返済と並行して借取が厳しくノルマを課され、返されるのはホテル代と少額の生活費のみ。「借金返済が終わっていない」と言われ続け、高額な借取り大金を強取された。
 - Step 4:** 自由を奪われ体を使う日々。自分の借金残額がいくらなのか分からないまま、次々と指定された相手に接客させられる毎日。
- Case 3: Child Labor (苦しんでいる子どもが身近にいませんか?)**
 - Step 1:** 子供を連れてバイトに応募。SNSで、あるお店からの「イベントを手伝ってほしい」との依頼が目に入る。軽い気持ちで応募し、持ち合わせ場所へ行ってみると...
 - Step 2:** 売店に性的サービス提供店。持ち合わせ場所から店前の場所へ連れて行かれる。そして、服を着替えさせられた後、男性客に体を触らせる仕事だと説明を受けるが、確かな手取りもなく、言うことを聞かない。
 - Step 3:** 「ペナルティ」で責められる。勤務中は出入りに鍵をかけられ、交代や権利を主張するとペナルティを科される。戻りに行かされることを恐れて、誰にも相談できない。
 - Step 4:** 売店が店を閉めさせない! 休みなく働かせられ、辞めたくても店長から「ペナルティがある」と言われて、辞めさせてくれない。長時間労働で、体力や体力が失われ、逃げ方も尋ねられていない。
- Case 4: Foreign Labor (労働を強要されている人は身近にいませんか?)**
 - Step 1:** ダンサーとして勤務される外国人女性が、日本の店で働くダンサーとしてスカウトされ、ダンサー（同行）の監督官で日本に入国する。
 - Step 2:** 日本国内。本パスポート等を隠し上げられる。家泊すると、パスポートや携帯電話を取り上げられ、実際はダンサーではなく、ホステスの仕事だと説明を受ける。
 - Step 3:** 接客を強要される。狭いアパートに押し詰められて住まわされ、指示されるままにホステスとしての接客を強要される日々。
 - Step 4:** 高い給料は振込される。月に数千円程度で毎日深夜まで働かせられ、外出も制限される。知らない土地で日本語はよく分かんず、携帯電話も手元にないので、助けを求められない。

Each panel includes a warning at the bottom: 「国籍・年齢・性的傾向に関わらず、誰でも被害にあう可能性があります。」 (Regardless of nationality, age, or sexual orientation, anyone can be a victim.)

- The Immigration Services Agency has listed on its website the contact points for consultation and providing information relating to trafficking in persons, and its policies and processes relating to victim protection measures in eight languages (Japanese, English, Chinese (traditional and simplified), Korean, Portuguese, Spanish, Thai, and Tagalog). Efforts have also been made to make leaflets produced by the National Police Agency readily available to trafficking victims by, for example, placing them by regional immigration services bureau examination counters and airport immigration counters.

[Repeated from 4 (2)]

- Based on the results of investigations and research into trafficking in persons carried out at the National Women's Education Center of Japan between FY2005 and FY2010, the center has produced display panels and leaflets titled "Eliminating trafficking in persons and violence against women" regarding the importance of raising awareness of trafficking in persons and also made this information available online.
- In 2022, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs designated two periods (a two-week period from February 18 to March 3 (implemented) and another two-week period stipulated by each prefectural government between July and October) as campaign periods for strengthening screening to prevent the improper acquisition of travel documents through identity theft. During these campaign periods, passport offices in each prefecture and municipality commissioned by its prefectural government engage in public relations activities including posting information on websites and displaying posters titled "Identity theft is a crime!" in order to prevent improper acquisition of passports, which has the potential to aid and abet international terrorism and international organized crime such as trafficking in persons and illegal immigration.

[Figure 38] Leaflet (National Women’s Education Center of Japan) (excerpt)



[Figure 39] Posters for the Prevention of improper acquisition of passports (MOFA) (in Japanese)



- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs distributes leaflets produced by the National Police Agency (see 4 (2)) and leaflets and posters produced by the Cabinet Office (see 3 (5) i) to overseas diplomatic missions, etc.

[Repeated from 4(5)]

- In February 2020, JICA, in cooperation with Shogakukan Inc. and young female manga artists, produced a publicity manga on the current situation for trafficking in persons in Thailand and close support provided to victims, based on JICA’s cooperation on anti-human trafficking measures in Thailand to date. This manga production has been published in a female comic magazine by Shogakukan, and has also been published on JICA’s website. In July 2020, JICA translated it into Thai in order to strengthen awareness of trafficking in persons as well as JICA’s support project against trafficking in persons in Thailand.

[Figure 40] Publicity manga on the current situation for trafficking in persons in Thailand
(in Japanese and Thai)

(Source: Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) (Collaboration between JICA and Shogakukan))



In Japanese (including introduction of manga)

https://www.jica.go.jp/topics/2019/20200205_01.html

In Thai

<https://www.jica.go.jp/publication/manga/trafficking.html>

ii) Efforts through education

- The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology has always strived to promote education that raises awareness about respecting human rights, through school education and social education, based on the spirit of the Constitution and the Basic Act on Education. Based on the National Curriculum Standards, the ministry also promotes education that put emphasis on nurturing respect for life of oneself and others.

- On the basis of “the Policy to Enhance Measures against Sex Crimes and Sexual Violence” that was determined in June 2020, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology promotes “Life Safety Education” that is education for students to learn about the importance and value of life, respect themselves and others as well as to prevent them from becoming a perpetrator, victim or bystander of sex crime or sexual assault. In FY2020, the Ministry and the Cabinet Office worked together to prepare a textbook and a guidebook and published them in April 2021. In FY2021, they collected guidance cases through practice models. They also promote awareness contributing to the prevention of sexual exploitation by preparing leaflets on the prevention of child sexual exploitation through the use of Internet and encouraging the relevant organizations and bodies and schools to use them.

[Figure 41] "Life Safety Education" educational and awareness materials (MEXT) (in Japanese)



iii) Raising awareness of associations of small and medium enterprises

- At the meetings for optimizing the operation of the Technical Intern Training Program held every year, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry gains the cooperation of the relevant ministries and agencies on complying with labor-related laws, and disseminates information to the relevant organizations. In 2021, the meeting was held in June.
- The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries held a meeting of the Agricultural Industry Technical Intern Training Business Council in January 2022 and a meeting of the Specified Agricultural Skilled Worker Council and Steering Committee in February 2022 with a view to ensuring the proper acceptance of foreign human resources based on the actual situation in the agricultural industry, as well as protecting their human rights. Comprising members from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries as well as other relevant ministries and agencies, and agricultural organizations, the Council and the Committee shared information on the status of the Specified Skilled Worker system and Technical Intern Training system and challenges of the two systems, exchanged opinions to address these challenges and issues, and disseminated good practices regarding acceptance of foreign human resources.

iv) Raising awareness of overseas travelers

- The Japan Tourism Agency continues to raise awareness amongst travel agencies with the aim of ensuring that travel agencies do not become involved in unsound travel. Specifically, the Japan Tourism Agency encourages travel agencies every year, when conducting their annual self-assessments relating to compliance with the Travel Agency Act, to look at whether or not they have been involved in facilitating unsound travel and the purchasing of counterfeit goods, etc. It also conducts on-site inspection of travel agencies, including such self-assessment, in accordance with the Travel Agency Act. The Travel Agency Act Article 13, Paragraph 3, Item 1 prohibits the mediation etc. of actions that violate the laws and regulations enforced in travel destination countries.

- In the section under “Case Studies: Examples of Problems and Countermeasures,” the booklet titled “A Handbook of Safety Tips in Foreign Countries” distributed to Japanese nationals travelling overseas by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs cites involvement in acts of prostitution as an example of a case where Japanese people become criminals. The booklet explains that the prostitution is illegal in many countries and can be treated as a serious crime, and that offenses relating to the child prostitution and possessing child pornography overseas is subjected to punishment under the relevant Japanese law as the crime committed outside Japan, therefore calls on the public to refrain from engaging in inappropriate activities.

[Repeated from 3 (5) i)]

(3) Strengthening of the system for promoting measures against trafficking in persons

i) Improvement of relevant administrative officers’ knowledge and awareness

a) National Police Agency

- The police school provides training on measures against trafficking in persons for newly hired police officers and promoted police officers.

- In order to contribute to improving the professional skills of police officers, training is conducted by National Experts designated by the National Police Agency.

- Every year the National Police Agency offers training on measures to combat offenses related to trafficking in persons, targeted at executive staff across Japan who are responsible for cracking down on adult entertainment-related offenses.

b) Ministry of Justice

- The Public Prosecutor's Office provided trafficking in persons-related lectures etc. to public prosecutors during training workshops etc. provided them in correspondence to the years of experience.

Furthermore, the Public Prosecutor's Office widely informs the approach to be taken at various meetings at which nationwide public prosecutors gather together that they should actively respond to cases of trafficking in persons. Particularly, in meetings of public prosecutors responsible for combating organized crime, specific examples and experiences of cases of trafficking in persons in Public Prosecutor's Offices nationwide are shared.

c) Immigration Services Agency

- The Immigration Services Agency puts efforts into advancing the knowledge and awareness of its officials on measures to combat trafficking in persons through lectures on human rights at training programs according to their careers. In addition, in cooperation with external instructors from the relevant ministries and agencies, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and NGOs, specialized training on human rights and measures to combat trafficking in persons was also conducted targeting mid-level officials who deal directly with such trafficking cases. An initiative was also implemented in which the officials who received this training fed back what they learned to provide training for frontline staff.

In specially-developed training on trafficking in persons countermeasures, the agency carries out a lecture emphasizing the practical work involved in identifying victims, including case studies that clarify the main points to consider when identifying victims.

d) Ministry of Foreign Affairs

- In the training course for newly appointed consular officers conducted every fiscal year, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs delivers lectures on measures to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, including the role that visas play as a border control measure, as well as considerations to take when interviewing former victims. A total of 95 officials attended the lectures in FY2021. Similar lectures were also delivered in the training for 79 security officers to be stationed at Japanese Embassies and Consulates.

Consular officers who are currently posted or before being posted to Japanese Embassies and Consulates, including those who are eligible for such training, are given lectures not only on knowledge of travel documents, but also on collaboration with the relevant organizations in the countries of posting.

- To staff members of prefectural passport offices, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs implements training courses on the screening process of issuance of travel documents in order to prevent the improper acquisition of travel documents by people connected with trafficking in persons and terrorists etc.

e) Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

- Every year, in the training given to labor standards supervisory officers in about their fifth year of service, training is provided regarding the role of labor standards supervisory bodies in the promotion

of measures to combat trafficking in persons.

- At the annual research council meetings for the heads of Women's Consulting Offices and senior officials for women's protection services, training is provided featuring lectures given by the IOM on responses to victims of trafficking in persons.

- In response to suspected cases of trafficking in technical trainees, further efforts were made in February 2021; each Prefectural Labour Bureau was instructed to appoint officials in charge of trafficking in persons at the Bureau, and when a suspected case is identified, they should conduct a joint site-inspection with the Labour Standards Inspections Office and the OTIT so that they should handle the case by working together with relevant organizations as necessary.

f) Japan Coast Guard

- Japan Coast Guard gives lectures on the actual situation of human trafficking and the importance of protecting victims of trafficking through annual training programs for mid-level officials so that they can recognize trafficking during the process of investigations.

g) Courts

- The Legal Training and Research Institute of Japan in charge of training judges provides training relating to human rights issues including trafficking in persons.

ii) Promotion of cooperation and information exchange with relevant administrative agencies

- The police, the Immigration Services Agency, the Japan Coast Guard and other relevant organizations, inform prefectural police, the Regional Immigration Services Bureaus and their District Immigration Offices, and the respective Regional Coast Guard Headquarters about the "Methods to Deal with Trafficking in Persons (Measures for Identification of Victims)" (see 4 (1)) and "Methods to Deal with Trafficking in Persons (Measures for Protection of Victims)" (see 6 (1)), and instruct them to ensure an appropriate approach is taken toward the identification and protection of victims in cooperation with relevant organizations.

- When cases of trafficking in persons are detected, prefectural police hold local liaison conferences with the relevant organizations to provide appropriate protection for victims and enhance coordination between local organizations.

- In September 2012, the National Police Agency produced materials "the Police procedure for handling trafficking in persons crimes", and distributed these through the Ministry of Health, Labour

and Welfare to Women's Consulting Offices in each prefecture with the aim of facilitating closer coordination.

Women's Consulting Offices in each prefecture use these materials as a reference in their efforts to protect victims of trafficking.

- When the human rights bodies of the Ministry of Justice recognize cases of suspected trafficking in persons through human rights counseling, they commence investigations on these cases by treating them as human rights violation cases, and work together with the relevant organizations to provide an appropriate response.
- Although every year, the Immigration Services Agency held "Committee on measures to prevent and detect crimes violating the Immigration Control Act," in FY2021, it was replaced by information sharing due to the pandemic of COVID-19 to share information on the current state of crimes relating to trafficking in persons and measures against such crimes with relevant organizations such as the National Police Agency, the Public Prosecutors Office, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Japan Coast Guard, and the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare.
- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs provides travel document issuance information to the Immigration Services Agency for immigration control of Japanese citizens at airports and ports in Japan.

iii) Cooperation with NGOs, IOM, etc.

- Relevant organizations such as the Cabinet Secretariat, the National Police Agency, the Immigration Services Agency, and the Japan Coast Guard, make effort to strengthen cooperation by exchanging their viewpoints and information and providing training programs with NGOs, the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and other entities through the Contact Point Meeting on Trafficking in Persons (see 5(2) i)) and their daily works. The National Police Agency also distributes leaflets (see 4(2)) to NGOs, IOM, and other entities and calls for cooperation.
- The government holds discussions with NGOs and examines specific cases of trafficking in persons. In the discussions in 2021, NGOs expressed their views regarding the recognition of technical intern trainees and students as victims of human trafficking, protection of victims, improvement of the knowledge and awareness of the staff who responded at the site, etc., and shared the status of efforts by the relevant ministries and agencies (see 3 (3) i) ii) and 7 (3) i) for more information on these efforts).
- In order for the person in charge at prefectural police to deepen their understanding, they are provided with training in which NGO staff conduct a lecture on the actual situation of victimization and support

for victims. In FY2021, the lecture was canceled from the viewpoint of preventing infection of COVID-19.

- Through public-private cooperation between the Immigration Services Agency and some airline companies, in cases where foreign nationals who may be victims of trafficking in persons are discovered on a flight, the taking of appropriate actions is promoted, such as placing the person under protection during the landing procedures after receiving the information from the airline company.

The Immigration Services Agency also coordinates closely with the IOM office in Japan and embassies in Tokyo while also working to provide protection for victims and support for them to return to their countries, and engaging in a sustained exchange of information and communication through meetings, training, and everyday works.

From FY2020, the Agency sends its lecturers to the OTIT to provide new employees with training regarding response to trafficking in persons.

[Repeated from 6 (3) iv)]

- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs receives regular reports from the International Organization for Migrants (IOM) on the performance of the victim repatriation project. With regard to this project, the IOM office in Japan has conducted a follow-up survey between 2017 and 2018 and released the results in March 2019. To make improvements on areas found in the report on this survey, the IOM interviewed victims who encountered unexpected events such as the pandemic of COVID-19 and a typhoon and needed support in FY2020 and at the end of FY2021, and provided them with additional reintegration assistance as necessary. In addition, for former victims who wish to work abroad again, the IOM created a handbook to provide information on safe and regular migration that lowers the risk of becoming victims to human trafficking.

[Repeated from 6 (3) iv)]

8 Future efforts

The measures against trafficking in persons in 2021 has showed steady development. Specifically, while the arrest and punishment of suspects pertaining to trafficking in persons continue to be carried out and the number of arrested cases significantly increased compared to that in 2020, the number of contact places has been increased and multiple languages service pertaining to the provision of information and consultation on various matters has been developed, and the consultation environment has been improved, where potential victims can feel more at ease about going for consultation. In 2021, in addition to awareness activities for victims and the general public, we conducted awareness activities by preparing posters and videos focusing on users of sexual exploitation stating specific cases and each imprisonment term, and stating that trafficking in persons is a serious crime. With a view to reducing the number of disappearing technical intern trainees, we suspended acceptance of new technical intern trainees from foreign sending organizations that were at fault for the disappearance of a significant number of technical intern trainees. In addition, in response to suspected cases of trafficking in technical intern trainees, further efforts were made; we appointed officials in charge of trafficking in persons at each Prefectural Labour Bureau, and when a suspected case is identified, they should carry out joint on-site inspections on implementing organizations with Labour Standards Inspections Office and the OTIT so that they should handle the case with relevant organizations.

Under these circumstances, the number of victims of trafficking in persons recognized in 2021 increased compared to that in 2020. This seems to indicate that potential victims came to light to some extent as a result of these efforts. By nationality, as in recent years, Japanese victims accounted for more than half. This is considered to be the result of investigating cases of Japanese victims handled by the police with a view to searching for any potential crimes and victims relating to trafficking in persons. For the recognition of victims of trafficking in persons, it is important that each staff member who handles cases on the front line should have the possibility of trafficking in persons in mind and take actions specified in the arrangements determined by the relevant ministries and agencies (see 4 (1)). In 2021, despite some restrictions due to the pandemic of COVID-19, we worked on increasing knowledge and awareness of staff members of the relevant administrative organizations through online conferences and data sharing. Going forward, it is necessary for the relevant administrative organizations to make efforts to further improve their knowledge and awareness.

In addition, among crimes of trafficking in persons targeting foreign victims, a specific case was recognized for the first time, in which technical intern trainees were the victims and all the victims were put under protection. This is considered to be the result of measures to promote awareness of trafficking in persons through close coordination between the Immigration Services Agency, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, and the OTIT, etc. In order to ensure that foreigners visiting Japan will not become victims of trafficking in persons, we should continue to make steady efforts with due consideration to the potential trafficking in persons.

Japan will continue to steadily implement measures from the perspective of victims based on the various government action plans with the aim of eradicating trafficking in persons.

[Figure 42] List of ministries and agencies involved in measures to combat trafficking in persons

Cabinet Secretariat	Secretary to the Assistant Chief Secretary
Cabinet Office	Promotion Division, Gender Equity Bureau
National Police Agency	Safety Division, Community Safety Bureau
Ministry of Justice	Public Security Division, Criminal Affairs Bureau Investigation and Remedies Division, Human Rights Bureau Human Rights Promotion Division, Human Rights Bureau
Immigration Services Agency	Adjudication Division, Immigration Department Residency Management Division, Residency Management and Support Department
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	International Safety and Security Cooperation Division, Foreign Policy Bureau Foreign Nationals' Affairs Division, Consular Affairs Bureau
Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology	Education Policy Bureau Gender Equality, Cohesive Society Learning and Safety Division
Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare	Inspection Division, Labor Standards Bureau Family Welfare Division, Child and Family Policy Bureau Office of Counsellor for Overseas Human Resources Development, with a Director-General for Human Resources Development
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Young Farmers and Women Division, Management Improvement Bureau
Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry	Office for Industrial Human Resources Policy, Economic and Industrial Policy Bureau
Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism	Policy Division, Policy Bureau
Japan Coast Guard	International Criminal Investigation Division, Rescue Department