



ICAT The Inter-Agency Coordination Group
against Trafficking in Persons

ICAT calls on stakeholders to support front-line professionals responding to human trafficking, especially in times of crisis

Statement of the Inter-Agency Coordination Group Against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT) on the occasion of World Day against Trafficking in Persons

30 July 2020

On the occasion of World Day against Trafficking in Persons, ICAT collectively pays tribute to front-line professionals who deliver life-saving assistance to victims of trafficking.

Service providers, law enforcement officers, social workers, labour inspectors, healthcare professionals, NGOs and survivor activists, even in the depths of the pandemic, help victims of this crime on their path to rehabilitation.

During the COVID-19 crisis, the essential role of first responders has become even more important. Particularly as the restrictions imposed by the pandemic have made their work even more difficult. Still, their contribution is often overlooked and unrecognized.

In honouring the resilience of their work, ICAT calls on governments and all relevant stakeholders to ensure adequate resources and support to front-line professionals providing much needed assistance and other essential services to victims of human trafficking, and to include civil survivor-led organizations in the design and implementation of anti-trafficking policies and programmes.

As this year also marks the 20th anniversary of the adoption of the UN Protocol against Trafficking in Persons, we cannot neglect the importance of front-line professionals in tackling human trafficking and in helping victims restore their rights.

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ICAT is a UN General Assembly-mandated policy forum which brings together 27 organizations across the UN system and other relevant international and regional organizations to improve coordination and facilitate holistic and comprehensive responses to trafficking in persons.

In an effort to continue promote the vital role of practitioners and responders, share your stories and experiences in providing assistance to victims of this crime, via our Twitter page

[@ICAT_News](https://twitter.com/ICAT_News).