**ICON:** Gender Equality

**SOUTH ASIA REGIONAL**

**Combating Trafficking of Women and Children in South Asia (India, Bangladesh, Nepal)**

Asian Development Bank, USD $340,000, 2001 – 2002

The purpose of this project was to support efforts to combat trafficking of women and children in India, Bangladesh, and Nepal and to identify how future ADB programming and policy dialogue can support anti-trafficking activities. Agriteam carried out a comprehensive analysis of the factors that facilitate the demand and supply of trafficking and of the potential for addressing vulnerabilities in the context of ADB’s policies and ADB-assisted projects. Agriteam evaluated how different types of anti-trafficking activities already underway could be used in ADB poverty reduction programming to combat trafficking of women and children, and provided an overview of the trends and scope of trafficking in order to encourage targeted ADB poverty reduction programming in areas where communities are particularly vulnerable to trafficking.

Through the project, Agriteam facilitated two exchange programs to strengthening regional anti-trafficking commitments and to integrate trafficking prevention initiatives into poverty reduction programming, and sponsored a regional workshop at ADB Headquarters in Manila at the end of the project. The project developed several tools to assist in mainstreaming, including individual country papers as well as a report on regional findings and legal frameworks that identified a number of key opportunities for ADB to more effectively mainstream trafficking concerns into all levels of ADB operations.