



**International
Detention Coalition**
Human rights for detained refugees,
asylum seekers and migrants

Regional Platform and Program of Learning and Action on Alternative Care Arrangements for Children in the Context of International Migration in the Asia Pacific

14 December 2020

Virtual Roundtable:

Mainstreaming Child Protection in the Context of International
Migration



Roundtable on Mainstreaming Child Protection for all Children, including in the Context of International Migration

Concept Note

Background

There is growing regional and international consensus that the detention of children in the context of migration, even for a short period of time, is a harmful and inappropriate practice. The Global Compact on Refugees affirms the importance of “non-custodial and community-based alternatives to detention, particularly for children” and in the Global Compact on Migration, states explicitly agreed in Objective 13(h) to directly address child detention “by ensuring availability and accessibility of alternatives to detention in non-custodial contexts” and “by working to end” this practice.

In November 2019 regional actors came together in Bangkok to discuss these issues and build a regional platform and program of learning and action on alternative care arrangements for children in the context of international migration in the Asia Pacific. The event was co-hosted by the Department of Children and Youth in the Thai Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, the International Detention Coalition (IDC) and the Asia Dialogue on Forced Migration (ADFM), and was supported by the Royal Thai Government and Australian Department of Home Affairs. This two-day event followed closely the adoption of the ASEAN Declaration on the Rights of Children in the Context of Migration, and formed part of the Royal Thai Government’s commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).

Participants were drawn from both policy and implementing agencies in the governments of Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia and Australia, as well as national civil society and international organisations. The event aimed to create a peer-learning platform where participants could share positive practice and concrete examples of what is working, what can be scaled or replicated across the region on an ongoing basis.

Rationale

As identified at the 2019 Roundtable and in follow up discussions, technical capacity building and information exchanges on areas of mutual interest were recognised as a key benefit of this platform. Since that meeting, the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic has posed, and continues to pose, significant challenges for governments and civil society in the region, including in responding to children in the context of international migration. Informal regional platforms such as this are important ways for states to share their experiences and strategies for moving forward and building back better in the post-COVID world.

With the travel restrictions in place due to the pandemic, participants have expressed an interest to re-convene through this virtual roundtable, and in particular to learn more about Australia’s experience mainstreaming child protection. This session is intended to be the first in an ongoing series, and we encourage participants to consider topics of interest for future follow up sessions to be convened during 2021.

Objectives of the session

- Exchange positive practice and recent developments in alternative care arrangements for children in the context of international migration, and respond to challenges states face, particularly in light of COVID-19.
- Build practical knowledge on mainstreaming child protection in migration governance and its ability to be implemented in other countries in the region.

Roundtable Design

- The virtual roundtable is co-convened by IDC and the ADFM Secretariat on Monday 14 December 2020.
- The session will take place over two hours on Zoom and bring together policy and implementing agencies from Australia, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand. All discussions will take place under the Chatham House Rule, including in the Zoom chat box.

Provisional Agenda:

Time (BKK/JKT)	Time (KL)	Time (AEDT)	Focus
8:30am	9:30am	12:30pm	Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcoming remarks from IDC & ADFM. • Introduction to the platform & summary of last meeting.
8:40am	9:40am	12:40pm	Regional updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief update on developments in the region over the past year, including COVID-19 impacts on ATD. • Opportunity for participants to provide a brief example of a promising initiative or development in their country or regional context during the past year.
9:00am	10:00am	1:00pm	Peer learning exchange <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mainstreaming child protection: presentation on Australia's practical experience in mainstreaming child protection, challenges and lessons learned. • Question and answer session. <p>Discussion question: <i>What element or lesson from Australia's experience could be usefully applied in your own national context?</i></p>
10:00am	11:00am	2:00pm	Next steps and future focus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion of the future of this platform. Participants can share their ideas for what would be most useful for them, and what they can contribute. <p>Discussion questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Considering the challenges you are currently facing, what are some practical things you would like to learn or gain from involvement in this platform?</i> • <i>What topics would you find useful to cover in future online discussions?</i> • <i>Is there anything you can contribute or would like to share with this group at future sessions?</i>
10:25am	11:25am	2:25pm	Closing remarks

Provisional participant list:

Name	Organisation
Alex Lui An Lieh	ATD Project Coordinator, SUKA Society
Ann-Clare Fitzgerald	Director Status Resolution Support Services, Department of Home Affairs, Australia
Annabel Brown	Program Director, Centre for Policy Development
Baiq Frieda Intan Nouvia	Foreign Service Officer, Directorate for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Indonesia
Caitlin McCaffrie	Policy Adviser, Centre for Policy Development
Carolina Gottardo	Director, International Detention Coalition
Chawaratt Chawarangkul	Southeast Asia Programme Manager, International Detention Coalition
Ciput Eka Purwianti	Deputy Assistant of Special Protection, Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection, Indonesia
David Keegan	CEO, Host International
En.Azizi Hj Wahab (TBC)	Senior Deputy Secretary, Strategic Planning Division, Ministry of Home Affairs, Malaysia
Farida Wahid Muchtar	Head, Sub-Directorate Instrument Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Directorate General of Human Rights, Ministry of Law and Human Rights, Indonesia
Gading Gumilang Putra	National Legal Service Officer, Jesuit Refugee Service, Indonesia
Gatot Subroto	Expert Team (Immigration) National Task Force on Handling Foreign Refugees, Coordinating Ministry of Political, Legal and Security Affairs, Indonesia
Hamzah (TBC)	Intelligence Division, National Security Council, Malaysia
Jake Sharman	Australian Co-Manager, Regional Support Office of the Bali Process
Josef Szwarc	Senior Advisor Policy and Advocacy, The Victorian Foundation for Survivors of Torture
Katchada Prommachan	Thailand Country Manager, HOST International, Thailand
Kiradit Sachdev	First Secretary, Social Division, Department of International Organisations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Thailand
Komkanok Wathanabhoon	Policy, Advocacy and Communication Coordinator, Asylum Access Thailand
Min Jee Yamada Park	Asia Pacific Programme Officer, International Detention Coalition
Noor Azilah binti Amit	Assistant Secretary, Policy and Strategic Planning Division, Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development, Malaysia
Pitchayadet Osathanon	Senior Policy Analyst, Office of the National Security Council, Thailand
Rebekah Kilpatrick	Head of the National Office for Child Safety, Australia
Shellie Carr	Acting Assistant Secretary, Child Wellbeing, Department of Home Affairs, Australia
Su-Anne Lee	Child Protection Specialist, UNICEF Malaysia
Sripapha Petcharamesree	Lecturer, Mahidol University , former Thai Representative, AICHR and Co-Chair Working Group for an ASEAN Human Rights Mechanism

Thienthong Prasanpanich Director of Protection System Development Sub-Division, Department of Children and Youth, **Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, Thailand**

Vijeyatharzhini Bathmanathan Assistant Secretary, Policy and Strategic Planning Division, Children’s Policy Unit, **Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development, Malaysia**

Vivienne Chew Asia Pacific Coordinator, **International Detention Coalition**

Wili Kurniawan Foreign Service Officer Directorate for Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs, **Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Indonesia**

Yuyum Fhahni Paryani Indonesian Representative for Children’s Rights, **ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC)**

Observers

Bernard Maritz Compliance Manager, Immigration New Zealand, **Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, New Zealand**

Nicholas Burrige (TBC) Assistant Director, Transnational Crime and Maritime Security Section, International Policy Division, **Department of Home Affairs, Australia**

Paula Atrill General Manager, International Casework and Adoption, **Oranga Tamariki (Ministry for Children), New Zealand**

Viv Jadric Assistant Director, Strategy and Engagement Section, Child Wellbeing Branch, Refugee, Humanitarian and Settlement Division, Immigration and Settlement Services Group, **Department of Home Affairs, Australia**

Summary of proposals from 2019 Roundtable

At the end of the last Roundtable in November 2019, participants were asked to contribute their ideas for advancing a program of learning and action in the region on alternative care arrangements for children in the context of international migration. The following is a summary of some of the suggestions and ideas that emerged during that discussion, which centred on four main themes:

A. Knowledge sharing: *Share resources & materials to support implementation of alternative care arrangements*

Examples:

- Online hub to share information and resources on topics such as:
 - trauma-informed care,
 - education for refugee children,
 - handbooks and training tools for case management,
 - lessons learned and good practices from initiatives such as JRS' work in Bogor,
 - materials on child safe-guarding and child protection.

B. Technical assistance - *Capacity building of front-line officers and implementing staff*

Examples:

- Case management training for front-line staff within government agencies and/or civil society organisations,
- Support in developing manuals on topics such as case management, or child protection

C. Peer learning - *Bilateral study/learning trips and site visits*

Examples:

- Cross-country secondments to enable in-depth learning
- Site visits and country delegation visits

D. Further meetings - *national level or regional meetings to continue these discussions*

Examples:

- National-level dialogue meetings engaging all relevant agencies working on ATD issues
- Follow up regional meetings on specialised topics - ie. case management, screening and assessment
- Follow up regional roundtable

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic and other developments over 2020, we would like to know from the group whether these ideas would still be useful, or whether you have new or different ideas for how this platform can support your work.

Some questions to consider, to be discussed during the final session of our roundtable, are:

- *Considering the challenges you are currently facing, what are some practical things you would like to learn or gain from involvement in this platform over the coming year?*
- *What topics would you find useful to cover in future online discussions?*
- *Is there anything you can contribute or would like to share with this group at future sessions?*

Background Paper¹

Detention is Always Harmful to Children

Around the world, millions of children are affected by immigration detention each year. Whether detained alone, or alongside a parent, carer or family member, and regardless of the conditions and duration of their detention, detention causes profound and long-term harm to a child's well-being.

Studies show that children are particularly vulnerable to abuse and neglect in immigration detention facilities. Unaccompanied or separated children are particularly at risk without the protection of a parent or other adult.

Immigration detention has "undeniable immediate and long-term mental health impacts on asylum-seeking children and families"². Heightened rates of suicide, suicide attempts and self-harm, mental disorder, and developmental problems, including severe attachment disorder are observed among children locked in immigration detention. Symptoms they experience can include insomnia, nightmares, mutism and bed-wetting. Child detention has a significant impact on the independence and health of parents as well, limiting their ability to fulfil their parental duties.

Global Developments on Ending Child Detention

It is well-established that detention of children in the context of migration, even for a short period of time, is a harmful practice, is not an appropriate protection mechanism, and is a violation of their rights:

1. In November 2017, the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child issued a Joint General Comment with the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families affirming that the detention of children because of their or their parents' migration status **constitutes a child rights violation** and **always contravenes the principle of the best interests of the child**. It called for States to cease the practice and allow children "*to remain with family and/or guardians in non-custodial, community-based contexts while their immigration status is being resolved*".³
2. In the Global Compact on Migration (GCM) adopted in December 2018, States have recognized the need to fully protect and respect the rights of migrant children by giving primary consideration at all times to their best interest. They have agreed under Objective 13 h) to directly address child detention "*by ensuring availability and accessibility of alternatives to detention in non-custodial contexts*" and "*by working to end*" this practice. The Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) reiterates the importance of developing "*non-custodial and community-based alternatives to detention, particularly for children*".
3. UNHCR makes a clear position in the note issued by Division of International Protection in 2017⁴ stating that "*children should not be detained for immigration-related purposes, irrespective of their legal/migratory status or that of their parents, and detention is never in their best interests. Appropriate care arrangements and community-based programs need to be in place to ensure adequate reception of children and their families*".
4. The United Nations Network on Migration recently highlighted in their press release that the States that are already implementing alternatives to detention for children found it not only more cost-effective but also

¹ This paper is an updated version of the paper circulated in advance of the 2019 Regional Roundtable on Alternative Care Arrangements for Children in the Context of International Migration in the Asia Pacific.

² Dudley, M., et al. (2012) "Children and young people in immigration detention". *Current Opinion in Psychiatry*, 25(4): 285-292; von Werthern, M., K. Robjant, Z. Chui, R. Schon, L. Ottisova, C. Mason, and C. Katona. 2018. "The impact of immigration detention on mental health: a systematic review." *BMC Psychiatry* 18 (1):382

³ Joint general comment No. 4 (2017) of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and No. 23 (2017) of the Committee on the Rights of the Child on State obligations regarding the human rights of children in the context of international migration in countries of origin, transit, destination and return, 16 November 2017, CMW, accessed on 21 October 2019

⁴ UNHCR (Jan 2017) *UNHCR's position regarding the detention of refugee and migrant children in the migration context*. Accessed at: <https://www.unhcr.org/protection/detention/58a458eb4/unhcrs-position-regarding-detention-refugee-migrant-children-migration.html>

resulted in higher compliance with status determination processes: “*Detention is expensive and burdensome to administer, and there is no evidence that it deters individuals from migrating or claiming asylum*”.⁵

After the World Health Organisation (WHO) declared COVID-19 a pandemic on 11 March 2020, various international bodies have reiterated the call for an end to child immigration detention. For example, the Alliance for Child Protection and UNICEF have called for States to prioritize the immediate release of all children in immigration detention and to institute a moratorium on new children entering detention facilities.⁶

ASEAN member states have also acknowledged the harms of child immigration detention. Through the November 2019 ASEAN Declaration on the Rights of Children in the Context of Migration, for which a regional plan of action is currently being developed, ASEAN Member States have agreed that “*in order to promote the best interests of the child, States should work to develop effective procedures and alternatives to child immigration detention to reduce its impact, and ensure that, where possible, children are kept together with their families in a non-custodial, and clean and safe environment*”.⁷

Current Context in the Asia Pacific

Government commitment and the political will to end child immigration detention has grown in the region in recent years.

- In 2017, the **Royal Thai Government** pledged to move towards ending the immigration detention of children. In January 2019, the government signed the “Memorandum of Understanding on the Determination of Measures and Approaches Alternative to Detention of Children in Immigration Detention Centres”. Since then, over 230 women and children have been released from immigration detention centres, and standard operating procedures and an operations manual have been developed. The Government is now evaluating the implementation of the MOU while also preparing for the implementation of the National Screening Mechanism, approved by the Thai Cabinet in December 2019. Through this mechanism it is anticipated that persons seeking international protection will benefit from a greater legal protection.
- In July 2018, the Directorate General of Immigration of **Indonesia** issued a circular emphasizing that the function of immigration detention centres is only to temporarily host undocumented migrants subjected to administrative measures, and not to hold refugees and asylum-seekers. Since then, there have been coordinated efforts between the Government and IOM to release all the remaining refugees and asylum-seekers from detention to community accommodation. As of September 2020, there were only 6 persons registered with UNHCR in immigration detention in Indonesia, of which one was a woman and none were children. 8,260 individuals (including 189 unaccompanied and separated children) were provided with alternative accommodation, including IOM community housing. Pursuant to a circular issued by the Ministry of Education in 2019, refugee children are allowed to access state primary schools, though with specified restrictions. In 2020, the Indonesian Government, led by the Ministry of Women and Child Protection, developed a Protocol on special protection for internally displaced children and foreign refugee children in the National COVID-19 Protocol.
- In June 2019, then Deputy Prime Minister of **Malaysia** and the Minister of Home Affairs publicly affirmed the government’s commitment to release unaccompanied and separated children from

⁵ IOM Press Release (Sept 2019) *Child Immigration Detention is Not Only Wrong, It Is Ineffective*. Accessed at: https://www.iom.int/news/child-immigration-detention-not-only-wrong-it-ineffective?utm_source=IOM+External+Mailing+List&utm_campaign=c6daf1a9eb-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2019_09_16_04_13&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_9968056566-c6daf1a9eb-43611353

⁶ The Alliance for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action and UNICEF (March 2020), *Technical Note: COVID-19 and Children Deprived of their Liberty*, accessed at <https://alliancecpa.org/en/child-protection-online-library/technical-note-covid-19-and-children-deprived-their-liberty>

⁷ ASEAN Declaration on the Rights of Children in the Context of Migration, adopted November 2019, accessed at: <https://asean.org/asean-declaration-rights-children-context-migration/>

immigration detention into a pilot alternative to detention (the ATD Pilot). It is understood that the government is currently preparing a paper for Cabinet approval of the ATD Pilot.

- The **Australian Government** has made significant inroads in reducing the number of children held in immigration detention. There continues to be fewer than five children in immigration detention in Australia. If immigration detention is required, minors are generally managed in an alternative place of detention (e.g. a hotel) or through a residence determination placement in the community, supported by contracted service providers. Since August 2020 the Immigration Minister has intervened to grant bridging visas to a number of families to move out of community detention. During COVID-19 the Government also provided funding to the Australian Red Cross and other community organisations to provide emergency relief to temporary visa holders.

Alternatives to Child Immigration Detention

Evidence shows that migration governance without resorting to child detention, and instead utilising child-centered, community-based alternatives is achievable, effective and more humane. A number of States are taking positive practical steps, often with the support of international and civil society organizations, to end the practice of detention and to progressively develop alternatives to child immigration detention. Some of the good practices of the different states are set out below.

NON-DETENTION OF CHILDREN IN LAW

A number of countries have introduced the prohibition of the immigration detention of children into their domestic legislation.

Mexico

In September 2019, the Mexican government introduced legislative reforms to prohibit the detention of children as a result of their migration status, and to transfer responsibility for guaranteeing their wellbeing from the National Migration Institute (responsible for immigration enforcement and the operation of running detention centres) to the National System for the Protection of Children, thereby recognising the rights of children above their migration status.

Turkey

In 2014, Turkey adopted legislation prohibiting the detention of unaccompanied minors seeking international protection. Article 66 specifies that the unaccompanied children shall be placed in suitable accommodation facilities, in the care of their adult relatives or, a foster family, taking the opinion of the unaccompanied child into account.

RECEPTION / PLACEMENT

It is of vital importance that unaccompanied children are protected through appropriate housing and care arrangements. Accommodation options include family-like foster care, kinship care, child-headed households, and reception/institutional care. For children travelling with families, a range of options can be explored including supported community placement, guarantors and sponsors and placement with host families.⁸

⁸ UNICEF (Feb 2019) *Working paper: Alternative to immigration detention of children*. Accessed at: [https://www.unicef.org/media/58351/file/Alternatives%20to%20Immigration%20Detention%20of%20Children%20\(ENG\).pdf](https://www.unicef.org/media/58351/file/Alternatives%20to%20Immigration%20Detention%20of%20Children%20(ENG).pdf)

Emergency reception in Germany

For the most part, unaccompanied children in Germany are integrated into mainstream youth care systems. In the first instance, children are placed in an emergency reception centre, where they are visited by a social worker. After this first assessment is complete, they are transferred to a 'Clearingstelle', or initial reception centre, and assigned a guardian and a case manager.

The case manager (from the youth office) and the guardian, with input from the child, then work to find suitable long-term accommodation within two to four months. This can include supervised accommodation centres with other children, independent accommodation with other children or foster care with relatives or unrelated families.

CASE MANAGEMENT

The majority of successful alternatives globally rely on case management to support children and their families to meet their complex needs and work towards case resolution, while maintaining high levels of compliance. Case managers are generally social workers or psychologists and are responsible for assessing the child's situation, identifying solutions to problems, and providing advice and support.

Community Placement and Case Management (CPCM) program in Malaysia

The Community Placement and Case Management (CPCM) Program run by SUKA Society uses a holistic case management approach centered around the well-being and rights of unaccompanied and separated children at risk of arrest and detention in Malaysia. They provide comprehensive case management and community placement in the form of informal foster care, kinship care and independent living arrangements. An independent evaluation conducted in 2018 found that SUKA's CPCM program significantly improved the overall well-being of the children in the program and resulted in no child absconding from community placements - while costing 90% less than immigration detention.

Collaborative Case Management Program in Thailand

The Department of Children and Youth (part of the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security) collaborates with an NGO, Host International Thailand, to provide a child-focused, community-based, case management program. This program is for refugee children and their families before, during, and after their transition from immigration detention to the community in Bangkok. Children and their families benefit from a comprehensive case management plan and are able to access legal, medical and material supports.

ACCESS TO SERVICES / BASIC NEEDS

It is important for States to ensure that all children and families in their territory have access to their fundamental rights and basic needs, as it supports migrants stay engaged with the authorities while improving the safety and security of both migrant and local populations. Basic needs include adequate accommodation, healthcare, education, legal advice, legal status and documentation, access to employment (depending on age), and an allowance or access to food, clothing, hygiene and other basic needs.

Access to public school for asylum-seeking and refugee children

Turkey

International protection applicants⁹ and their family members have access to elementary and secondary education (8 years in total from age 6-14) services in Turkey. The Ministry of National Education instructs public schools to facilitate the asylum-seeking child's access to school even where the family has not yet completed their international protection registration process. Unaccompanied children who are accommodated in state shelters are offered Turkish language classes provided in the shelters before they are enrolled in schools. In mid-2018, the Ministry of National Education launched an Accelerated Learning Program (Hızlandırılmış Eğitim Programı, HEP) to reach children aged 10-18 who have missed three or more years of schooling.

Thailand

The 2005 Cabinet Resolution on Education for Unregistered Persons provides access to 15 years of basic public education for all children, regardless of their legal status. In 2018, a Ministerial Proclamation was enacted to eliminate the obstacles that prevented children without documentation from being enrolled. Public schools in Thailand now have the responsibility of admitting children and creating a 13-digit identification number for them if they do not already have one. They are thus able to obtain an accredited certificate of education, with learning opportunities provided until tertiary level.

Possible Responses

Below are some possible avenues to achieve effective implementation of alternatives to detention at the national level. These can be discussed at the Roundtable. It is the aim of the Roundtable to share positive practice from across the region, and to begin an ongoing process of sharing and learning.

1. Legal

- a. States to review their laws to ensure compliance with international obligations.
- b. Prohibit child immigration detention in law.

2. Policy and Practice

- a. Develop and implement child-sensitive alternatives to immigration detention.
- b. Conducting pilot projects is one avenue for governments to test possible alternatives and to ensure that children are being adequately protected before upscaling to national systems.
- c. Incorporating a strong monitoring and evaluation process will ensure that the pilots are as effective and useful as possible.
- d. National Action Plans for ending child immigration detention can also be developed to outline how to implement changes in policy and practice, including designation of the roles different stakeholders can play to achieve change.
- e. Publicly report on the number of children held in immigration detention. Reporting could include a range of demographic information to assist with the development of appropriate alternatives
- f. Regional peer-to-peer learning and sharing could amplify and support efforts towards ending child immigration detention

⁹ This category includes those seeking asylum for not only refugee status but also 'conditional refugee status' and 'subsidiary protection status' as defined in Turkey Law No 6458 on Foreigners and International Protection 2013.

Participant Profiles

Mr Alex Lui An Lieh

Malaysia

Mr Alex Lui An Lieh is the ATD (Alternative to Detention) Project Coordinator in SUKA Society (Persatuan Kebajikan Suara Kanak-kanak), a nongovernmental organisation working to protect and preserve the best interest of the most vulnerable and marginalised children in Malaysia. He heads the ATD unit which provides foster care placement for the care and protection of unaccompanied and separated children (UASCs) within the refugee communities.



Alex supervises a team of case managers who works with these UASCs to formulate care plans that work towards finding durable solutions for them. He also conducts training on child right issues and the use of foster care case management as an alternative to detention. He is a clinical psychologist by training and a member of the Malaysian Society of Clinical Psychology.

Ms Ann-Clare Fitzgerald

Australia

Mrs Ann-Clare Fitzgerald has been working as the Director of Status Resolution Support Services (SRSS) Program Management in the Department of Home Affairs since May 2020. The SRSS program provides temporary, needs-based support to unlawful non-citizens seeking to resolve their immigration status.



Her teams are responsible for SRSS program operational policy and guidance and the assessment of SRSS applications. The teams also manage contractual arrangements with nine SRSS service providers and undertake the financial management of the SRSS program.

The teams regularly undertake SRSS program monitoring and evaluation, and are responsible for the service delivery assurance of the overall SRSS program.

Ms Annabel Brown

Australia

Ms Annabel Brown is Program Director at the Centre for Policy Development (CPD), with oversight over CPD's migration and settlement related activities, including the Asia Dialogue on Forced Migration (ADFM) and the Cities and Settlement Initiative, focused on refugee economic participation in Australia. She is an experienced advisor and facilitator with over 18 years' experience supporting effective social and economic development in Australia and the Asia Pacific.



Ms Brown has particular expertise leading research and evaluation projects focused on understanding policy influence, advocacy, leadership development, governance, accountability and empowerment. Agencies and networks she has worked with include Transparency International, Oxfam, WaterAid, the Secretariat of Pacific Community, the Australian Public Service Commission and the Australian Aid Program.

Ms Brown has a Masters in International Development from RMIT University and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Western Australia, majoring in philosophy. She is passionate about generating knowledge through collaborative processes, and using that to improve policy and practice.

Ms Baiq Frieda Intan Nouvia

Indonesia

Ms Baiq Frieda Intan Nouvia has been a Foreign Service Officer in the Sub-Directorate of Vulnerable Group Rights at the Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs since February 2019. Prior to this appointment, she was Second Secretary for Economic Affairs at the Indonesian Embassy in Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran. She has also worked in the Center for Policy Analysis and Development for America and Europe (2011-2015) and the Bureau for Law and Administration (2010-2011).



Ms Baiq Frieda Intan Nouvia holds a Bachelor of Economics from Mataram University, and a Master's Degree in Political Economy from the University of Sydney.

Ms Caitlin McCaffrie

Australia

Ms Caitlin McCaffrie is a Policy Adviser at the Centre for Policy Development (CPD) where she leads the Secretariat of the Asia Dialogue on Forced Migration (ADFM), providing policy analysis, advice and research on topics including human trafficking, forced migration, migration governance and refugee resettlement. Caitlin has previously worked for a range of human rights organisations, including Stanford University's WSD Handa Center for Human Rights and International Justice, managing the Cambodia Office Programs of research, education, outreach and trial monitoring of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia.



Caitlin holds a Masters of Public Policy and Management Degree from the University of Melbourne and a first class Honours degree in International Studies from the University of Adelaide.

Ms Carolina Gottardo

International

Carolina Gottardo is a migrant lawyer and economist who has worked on human rights issues for more than 20 years in different countries and contexts. Her areas of specialisation are migration, asylum and gender. Carolina started at IDC in November 2020. Before commencing at IDC, she was the director of the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Australia for almost 4 years, and the director of the Latin American Women's Rights Service (LAWRS), a UK women's rights organisation working with refugee and migrant women for almost 6 years.



She is currently a member of the board of the Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN) and the Global Coalition for Migration (GCM). Carolina is currently a member of the Global UN Women Expert Working Group to address the human rights of women in the Global Compact for Migration, and a co-lead of the UN Migration Network working group on regularisation pathways. Carolina has a Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Economics from the Universidad de los Andes, as well as a MSc in Development Management from the London School of Economics and Political Science. Carolina is the mother of three boys and enjoys spending time with her family.

Mr Chawaratt Chawarangkul

International

Chawaratt Chawarangkul (Mic) has been with the IDC as the Southeast Asia Programme Manager since July 2020. Prior to that, he served in a wide range of roles within the humanitarian, human rights and development fields across Asia and Africa contexts, advocating for and protecting the rights of marginalised groups, building resilient communities, and promoting sustainable development environments for the poorest and most vulnerable. He also facilitated the development of the Thailand policy to end the immigration detention of children, and fostered the development of the national refugee screening mechanism in Thailand.



At IDC, Mic is working with coalition members and partners to prevent and reduce immigration detention, including through promoting alternatives to detention and the ending of child detention in Southeast Asia.

Ms Ciput Eka Purwianti

Indonesia

Ms Ciput Eka Purwianti, S. Si. MA, is a statistician, trainer, child and women rights defender, community dialogue facilitator and gender specialist in international development, climate change, forestry, gender budgeting initiative, and public policy.



She currently is the Director of Special Protection for Children from Violence, Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection, Indonesia (MOWECP). Prior to the position, she has been working for 20 years in MOWECP majoring in data management, foreign affairs, gender mainstreaming, and women's protection against trafficking. As an officer of Indonesian policy-making and coordinating agency, she has assisted and advocated the policy making processes both at national and local levels. One of her achievements is the development of gender disaggregated data at provincial levels and guidelines for local government in integrating gender issues into vulnerability assessment, climate resilience strategy and development planning and budgeting. The most recent work is Inter-Sectors Protocol to respond on the needs of Child Protection during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Mr David Keegan

Australia

Mr David Keegan is the founder and Managing Director of HOST International, a not-for-profit charity working across the Asia Pacific region to assist refugees to prepare for and find a new home. HOST International provides a range of direct aid and empowerment programs that build independence and encourage communities to be involved in solutions.



David is passionate about finding innovative solutions to complex problems and working with multiple stakeholders to implement approaches that build a fairer and more inclusive society. He is a qualified social worker and holds a Masters in Community Management along with a 20-year career leading projects supporting vulnerable groups in Australia, the Pacific and Southeast Asia. He has also co-authored publications that focus on resilience building and responsibility sharing in urban displacement contexts.

Ms Farida Wahid

Indonesia

Ms Farida Wahid is the Head of the Sub-Directorate for Instrument of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights within the Indonesian Ministry of Law and Human Rights of the Republic of Indonesia. Prior to this appointment, she was Head of the Evaluation and Reporting Section for the Rights of Vulnerable Groups from 2011-2018.



Ms Farida Wahid has been working on human rights within the Government of the Republic of Indonesia since 1999. Over her career she has been actively involved in preparing regulations on the issues of children, women and persons with disabilities, drafting Law No. 8 of 2016 on Persons with Disabilities, and facilitating reconciliation in conflict areas such as Ambon, Palangkaraya and Ternate.

Mr Gading Gumilang Putra

Indonesia

Mr Gading Gumilang Putra is National Legal Liaison Officer of Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Indonesia. JRS Indonesia has taken the role of assisting refugees and asylum seekers since 2009. JRS Indonesia initially accompanied Rohingya asylum seekers in Aceh and North Sumatra before developing assistance for refugees in Medan immigration detention centers (2012-2013 and 2018), Surabaya (2012-2015), and Manado (2015-2018) as well as assistance for urban refugees in Cisarua (2010 - present) and Jakarta (2018 - present). JRS Indonesia provides accompaniment, health services, cash-based assistance for food and housing, psychosocial, informal education, livelihood, protection and advocacy.



Gading graduated from the Faculty of Law, Universitas Gadjah Mada in 2013 specialising in International Law and passed his bar exam in 2017. His main role is as focal point for advocacy, protection and legal aid for JRS Indonesia in Jakarta. Currently his work involves coordination and capacity building among refugee communities, the government, NGOs, and private sector for a stronger collaboration in realising refugee rights in Indonesia and in the region.

Mr Gatot Subroto

Indonesia

Mr Gatot Subroto is part of the National Immigration Task Force within the Coordinating Ministry for Political, Legal and Security Affairs of Indonesia. He worked for Indonesian Immigration for 33 years before joining the Coordinating Ministry for Political and Security Affairs in 2019.

Before joining the Coordinating Ministry, Mr Gatot Subroto worked in various roles related to immigration within the Ministry of Law and Human Rights. He has previously served as the Head of the Sub-Directorate of Detention and Deportation, Director of Immigration Investigation, and Enforcement at the Directorate General of Immigration, and the Head of Immigration Division in Papua Province. Prior to retiring from Indonesian Immigration in 2015 he served as Director of Immigration Intelligence, Directorate General of Immigration since 2012.



Mr Gatot Subroto holds a Masters Degree from Tarumanegara University Faculty of Law.

Mr Jake Sharman

Australia

Mr Jake Sharman is the Australian Co-Manager of the Bali Process Regional Support Office. He joined the Department of Home Affairs in 2004 and has worked in a range of policy, program management and operational areas focused on irregular migration, international policy and capacity building, and refugee and humanitarian protection. Prior to commencing his current role, Jake was Director of the No Money For Terror Ministerial Counter Terrorism Financing Taskforce in Home Affairs' International Policy Division, Chief of Staff to the Commonwealth Counter Terrorism Coordinator, manager of the Displaced Persons Policy Unit, and Assistant Director of the Indonesia and Timor-Leste Unit in International Policy Division.



He is an experienced negotiator and diplomat having undertaken official postings to Indonesia, Kenya and Fiji. He has also undertaken short-term assignments to Timor- Leste and Papua New Guinea. Jake graduated from the University of Canberra with a Bachelor of Applied Business (Management).

Mr Josef Szwarc

Australia

Mr Josef Szwarc works with the Victorian Foundation for Survivors of Torture (Foundation House), which provides a range of services to people of refugee backgrounds, including those seeking asylum who are in immigration detention. Many of its clients in detention have been children of various ages, both with and without family members.



As well as providing direct services (eg counselling) to detained children, Foundation House has advocated to the Australian government to provide alternatives to detention. Prior to his current position, Josef worked on diverse social policy and human rights issues for government and non-government agencies in Australia and the UK.

Ms. Katchada Prommachan

Thailand

Ms. Katchada Prommachan is Country Manager of HOST International. She has oversight over the implementation of community-based protection program for children and their families who have been released from detention. HOST International has coordinated with the Department of Children and Youth of the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security and the Immigrant Bureau, in order to ensure the implementation of the MoU on the Determination of Measures and Approaches Alternative to Detention of Children in Immigration Detention Centers.



HOST International has directly engaged with beneficiaries of the program by providing support on Community Based Case Management Project and Livelihood and Community Development project. Moreover, HOST has also conducted capacity building sessions for CSO networks and government agencies (DCY & Immigration).

Mr Kiradit Sachdev

Thailand

Mr. Kiradit Sachdev is a junior diplomat (First Secretary) currently working at Social Division under the Department of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand.

His main responsibilities covers the issues related to irregular migration at operational level at the Ministry, such as on the issue of protection, engaging and cooperating with relevant agencies to reach sustainable solutions on various aspects of irregular migration at local, regional and international levels. Between 2016-2019, before joining the Social Division, he was posted to the Royal Thai Embassy in Lima, Peru, working as political and economic officer at the Embassy.



Ms Kornkanok Wathanabhoom

Thailand

Ms. Kornkanok Wathanabhoom is a Policy Advocacy and Communication Coordinator at Asylum Access Thailand. She is also the Coalition for the rights of Refugees and Stateless Persons (CRSP) coordinator. She cooperates with the CRSP partner organisations to uphold the urban refugee rights in Thailand particularly on the implementation of the national screening mechanism and the MOU on Alternative to Detention. Moreover, she promotes the understanding of refugee issues to the general public on Asylum Access Thailand's social media platform as well as teaching law students on the issue of the refugees in Thailand.



Ms Min Jee Yamada Park

International

Min Jee Yamada Park joined the IDC as the Asia-Pacific Programme Officer in 2019. Prior to that, she worked in the areas of detention monitoring, research, policy advocacy, and capacity building, particularly for government actors in Southeast Asia and Africa. Her previous role as a Policy and Research Coordinator with the Thailand Institute of Justice focussed on advocating for the humane treatment of marginalised groups including migrants, stateless persons and ethnic minorities in criminal detention and promoting the implementation of the relevant international human rights standards into national laws and policies in Southeast Asia.



She has also published and spoken at various international and regional platforms on the experiences and challenges of vulnerable groups deprived of liberty, particularly women and their accompanying children, based on her extensive field research in detention facilities in Cambodia, Indonesia, Thailand and Kenya. Min received a Master of Arts in Development Studies from the International Institute of Social Studies, Erasmus University Rotterdam in the Netherlands. She is currently based in Bangkok, Thailand.

Ms Noor Azilah binti Amit

Malaysia

Noor Azilah binti Amit is an Administrative and Diplomatic Officer currently serving the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development, Malaysia as an Assistant Secretary in the Policy and Strategic Planning Division. Among her key responsibilities in the Ministry are introducing legislative and administrative reform relating to children's policy; designing and overseeing administrative reform pilot projects; and coordinating and overseeing the development of the new National Child Policy and accompanying Plan of Action (expected to complete in early 2021).



Currently she oversees the Family Based Care pilot project for children in institutions (began implementation in mid-2019) as well as monitoring the National Strategy Plan in Addressing the Causes of Child Marriage 2020-2025.

Noor Azilah binti Amit studied Social Science at University Malaysia Sabah and also holds a Postgraduate Diploma in Public Management from the National Institute of Public Administration, Malaysia. She is fluent in English and Malay.

Mr Pitchayadet Osathanon

Thailand

Mr. Pitchayadet Osathanon is a Senior Policy Analyst of the Division of Internal Security at the Office of the National Security Council. In this role, he is in charge of issues related to illegal migrants especially those in need of international protection.



Mr. Pitchayadet Osathanon was one of the Thai Government delegations who made an oral submission of the report to the Human Rights Committee under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) in Geneva regarding the human rights issues in Southern Border Provinces of Thailand.

Ms Rebekah Kilpatrick

Australia

Rebekah Kilpatrick is the Head of Australia's National Office for Child Safety, within the Commonwealth Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. As Head of the National Office, Rebekah leads a team dedicated to the implementation of nationally-focused recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (Royal Commission). Rebekah has worked with the National Office for Child Safety since it was established in July 2018 as part of the Australian Government response to the Royal Commission. The National Office provides national leadership, working across governments and various sectors, to develop and deliver national policies and strategies to enhance the safety of children and young people, and reduce future harm. Working with survivors, peak bodies, and policy makers is a core part of the National Office's everyday business.

Rebekah has significant Commonwealth public policy experience across a range of agencies, including the Attorney-General's Department, Department of Social Services, Department of Home Affairs and the Australian Bureau of Statistics. Her professional experience has in large part focused on protecting our most vulnerable – including work on issues such as children's policy, human rights policy, and human trafficking, slavery and forced marriage policy and legislation. Rebekah also has experience in law enforcement and national security policy and legislation

Ms Shellie Carr

Australia

Ms. Shellie Carr has been working as Director of Child Wellbeing Operations in the Department of Home Affairs since October 2018. Her team promotes and oversees child safeguarding policies and procedures across both the Department and the Australian Border Force and supports officers to uphold domestic child safeguarding and protection responsibilities. Her team also monitors and reports on the compliance of business areas with child-related policy and procedure and assists in the Department's implementation of the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. Shellie has worked for the Department for more than ten years in immigration compliance, case management, detention and international policy functions.



Currently, Shellie is acting into the Assistant Secretary role for Child Wellbeing, which requires her to oversee the Department's participation in the National Redress Scheme for Institutional Child Sexual Abuse and its Unaccompanied Humanitarian Minors Program, in addition to the Department's continued implementation of the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations.

Ms Su-Anne Lee

International

Ms Su-Anne Lee is a Child Protection Specialist with UNICEF Malaysia, focusing on children affected by migration. Prior to UNICEF, she worked on governance for development and institutional reform with UNDP and refugee protection with UNHCR in Malaysia.

She also worked in the areas of migration, anti-trafficking, and business and human rights in the international nonprofit sector in Hong Kong and Tokyo. She holds an LLB from the University of Sheffield and an LLM from Columbia Law School.



Dr Sriprapha Petcharamesree

Thailand

Dr Sriprapha Petcharamesree is currently the Director of the International PhD Program in Human Rights and Peace Studies at the Institute of Human Rights and Peace Studies, Mahidol University, Thailand and is part of the Secretariat of the Asia Dialogue on Forced Migration. She was appointed by the Thai Government as the Thai representative to the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) where she served between October 2009 to December 2012.



Dr Petcharamesree's research and expertise focus on human rights, ASEAN and Southeast Asian studies, migration, including statelessness and citizenship, business and human rights, and international relations. She has spoken and written extensively about all of these issues. She has released a paper with Monash University, regarding the roles of ASEAN on forced migration.

Dr Petcharamesree has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Thammasat University, Thailand. She received her PhD from the University of Paris-X Nanterre in France.

Mrs Thientong Prasanpanich

Thailand

Mrs Thientong Prasanpanich, Director of the Protection System Development subdivision, conducts oversight and plays a significant role in the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) in Thailand. She also heads the secretariat of the Child Protection System Development Subcommittee under the National Child Protection Commission. Moreover, she has responsibility in developing policies and strategies for vulnerable children including children affected by migration.



Mrs. Thientong is currently a major part of a team working to develop ASEAN Regional Plan of Action on Implementing the ASEAN Declaration on the Rights of Children in the Context of Migration (ASEAN RPA on CCM), Cross-Border Child Protection Systems and the implementation of the MOU on the Determination of Measures and Approaches Alternative to Detention of Children in Immigration Detention Centers, including the role of case management in the protection of children.

Ms Vijeyatharzhini Bathmanathani

Malaysia

Vijeyatharzhini Bathmanathan is an Administrative and Diplomatic Officer currently serving the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development, Malaysia as an Assistant Secretary in the Policy and Strategic Planning Division. Among her key responsibilities in the Ministry are introducing legislative and administrative reform relating to children's policy; designing and overseeing administrative reform pilot projects; and Coordinating and preparing the Country Report on the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).



Among the pilot projects she helms at current are the Diversion pilot project for children in conflict with the law (approved by Cabinet in September 2019 and began implementation in December 2019) and the Alternatives To Detention pilot project for children in immigration detention (design and formulation stage).

Vijeyatharzhini Bathmanathan studied Actuarial Studies at Macquarie University, Australia and also holds a Postgraduate Diploma in Public Management from the National Institute of Public Administration, Malaysia. She is fluent in English, Malay, and Tamil.

Ms Vivienne Chew

International

Ms Vivienne Chew joined the International Detention Coalition as the Asia Pacific Regional Coordinator in 2012. Prior to that, she worked for over eight years with refugee and asylum-seeking communities, predominantly in countries of first asylum. During that time, she successfully established and managed refugee legal aid programs for Asylum Access in Thailand and Tanzania. Ms Chew has undertaken a number of research projects on children's rights, birth registration, statelessness, and the inclusion of refugees in the formal labour market in Malaysia.



Ms Chew holds a Law degree from the University of Cardiff, Wales, and a Master's degree in International Human Rights from the Josef Korbel School of International Studies, University of Denver. Prior to joining the humanitarian sector, she practiced as a corporate finance lawyer for Clifford Chance LLP in London and Thailand.

Mr Wili Kurniawan

Indonesia

Mr. Wili Kurniawan is a Foreign Service Officer at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia. He has recently joined the Directorate of Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs back in August 2020, shortly after completing his mission as Consul for Information and Sociocultural Affairs at the Indonesian Consulate General in Marseille, France.



His current role in the Ministry covers multilateral cooperation on humanitarian issues such as refugees, disaster-related cooperation, humanitarian assistance, and international humanitarian law. This role is closely related to his Master's degree in development studies, which was obtained from the University of Melbourne, Australia, back in 2015.

Ms Yuyum Fhahni Paryani

Indonesia

Ms Yuyum Fhahni Paryani is currently the Indonesian Representative to the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) especially for children's rights, under the Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection. As an ACWC Representative, she is a resource person within ASEAN to strengthen the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).



Ms Yuyum Fhahni Paryani is also currently an independent consultant and expert in child protection in development and emergency contexts. She has experience in establishing community-based child protection, child friendly spaces (CFS) - psychosocial support (PSS) in emergencies, child protection assessment in emergencies, research in child protection and child participation, strengthening child protection system, and as a trainer, facilitator and moderator in child protection.

She has formerly worked with Save the Children-UK, LAPIS Project – AusAid, Plan International Indonesia, Plan International Philippines and Plan International Nepal, focusing on child protection in development and emergency situation, and recently joined with KIAT (Indonesia Australia Partnership For Infrastructure) IEEI Design project in Palembang focusing on child protection issues in infrastructure.