Apprise: proactive and consistent screening of vulnerable populations

Hannah Thinyane, Principal Research Fellow @ UNU-CS
Evaluation

• Using in the field since March 2018
• Ongoing evaluation with NGOs in Thailand
  • At port / at sea: Samut Sakho, Chonburi, Rayong, Songklha
  • Processing and manufacturing: Samut Sakhon
  • Sexual exploitation: Pattaya, Bangkok, Chiang Mai
  • Forced begging: Bangkok
• 1387 recorded sessions *
Ease of use: workers

• Able to understand purpose of interviews
• Able to identify language from flag
• No pressure to respond quickly
• Able to listen to and repeat questions multiple times
• Control of the interview situation
Ease of use: frontline responders

- Appreciate ability to interview multiple workers at the same time, whilst maintaining privacy
- Vulnerability rating
- Privacy of screening responses
Communication

I am from Myanmar. I can speak Burmese, Thai and Mon. However, I sometimes meet people from other parts of a country who spoke other languages like Tai Yai and Akha. I use the app in my phone to interview them if I think they might need help. If it shows that they are highly vulnerable, I immediately refer them to the case management team.

Volunteer, Samat Sakhon
Privacy

I don’t like telling my story repeatedly to others. I know that it is important to talk to them but it is bitter to talk about things I wish to forget. Sometimes a face-to-face conversation is much harder than I expected. My privacy is protected when the interview is done without others knowing my answer.

Cambodian fisher
Moving forward

• Sentinel surveillance
  • Useful when high quality data is required
  • Centrally coordinated system with anonymous testing in sentinel sites for diseases where the disease is stigmatized, or there are negative consequences for patients to be associated with the disease.
  • Involves a limited number of carefully selected reporting sites
  • Used to identify trends, and monitor for outbreaks in a community
  • Involves a core function of ‘action’, which consists of three components: control / response, policy, and feedback

• Sentinel surveillance and labor exploitation?