

Bank Training: Identifying Suspicious Activity

Modern slavery generates billions of dollars of revenue every year, money that is laundered through legitimate financial institutions. In addition, complex supply chains in companies mean that client portfolios may contain undetected modern slavery risk. It is vital that financial service professionals understand modern slavery and key indicators specific to this illicit activity, as not to do so poses serious reputational and financial risk to the institution involved. Modern slavery continues to exist because it continues to be profitable for the criminals involved, the financial services community has the power to change this. Invite one of our modern slavery experts to come to your place of work and deliver training developed to your requirements, from frontline staff and relationship managers to FCC and compliance teams. This training is tailored to the needs of your organization and the depth of understanding required, ranging from 1 hour to a half-day session.

The Problem



Modern slavery is arguably the most serious human rights violation of our time. Often a result of human trafficking, it occurs when a person is tricked, sold or forced into a highly exploitative, work-related situation, with little or no payment, or few options to escape because of fraudulent debt or threats of violence. Because modern slavery tends to be an underground practice, there is a false perception that this form of slavery was abolished years ago and therefore no longer exists. However, it is estimated that there are several million men, women and children languishing in slavery today – more than at any other time in history. Following recent legislation shifts such as the California Supply Chains Act and the Modern Slavery Act, the issue has gained new international attention both from the public and private sector. Understanding what the problem is, and what the current and emerging responses are, is an important component for any students and practitioners in human rights, cooperation and development, corporate responsibility, diplomacy, risk and compliance, and other fields.

Learning and Sharing

An interactive training session is offered to participants in a classroom style setting. The overall goal of the session is to equip relationship managers with an understanding of the topic of modern slavery, how this risk may be present within their client portfolios, and specific indicators related to modern slavery that they have the ability to identify in their daily roles.

- What is modern slavery
- Types and examples of modern slavery worldwide
- Modern slavery & money laundering
- Emerging anti-slavery legislation
- Industry & country risk
- Behavioral, demographic, & transactional indicators
- The Asia Pacific Banks Alliance
- Future developments and trends

About the Mekong Club

Based in Hong Kong, the Mekong Club provides unmatched technical expertise to empower and mobilize the private sector, development workers, diplomats, law enforcement professionals and the broader community to fully understand and address the issue of human trafficking. The organisation is comprised of leading experts in human trafficking, as well as a broad coalition of experienced volunteers and consultants. The Mekong Club also offers mentoring support to schools, NGOs and community organizations on awareness raising, and education on the issue of modern slavery.

Watch the Mekong Club [promo](#) video.

Our Awareness Raising Program

We have trained over 52,300 people and over 8,000 companies since our awareness program started in 2011. We have presented in over 15 countries, including Hong Kong, Australia, Macau, USA, Singapore, Thailand, Japan, Bangladesh, Italy, China, and Sri Lanka.

Speakers



Matt Friedman

Matt Friedman is an international human trafficking expert. From 2006 to 2012, Matt was the Regional Project Manager of the UN Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking (UNIAP) in Thailand. From 1991-2006, Matt worked for the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in Thailand, Bangladesh and Nepal. He also helped establish a counter-trafficking regional training centre, participated in resource mobilization, and produced two award-winning international films about sex trafficking.



Mark Devadason

Mark Devadason is a global leader with 30 years of broad based commercial banking experience. His last role was Global Head of Sustainability at a leading international bank where he was in charge of the Group's overall Sustainability agenda, including responsibility for the Bank's environmental and social risk management function and community investment activities. Mark is Senior Advisor in Asia for the global sustainability consultancy Business for Social Responsibility, and Director in Asia for Australian based Northquest. He is chairman of the Mekong Club financial services working group.



Phoebe Ewen

Phoebe Ewen is a project manager at The Mekong Club, engaging with the association of businesses, coordinating and managing projects, writing and conducting research. Phoebe has a background working in financial services, specialising in financial crime compliance and anti-money laundering, with a strong belief in the role of the financial service sector in the global fight against modern slavery. She has delivered specialized modern slavery training to law enforcement, frontline banking staff, and financial crime specialists. She is also ACAMS accredited as a Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialist.

For more information or to book a session, please contact phoebe.ewen@themekongclub.org.