

## **Marine Police Division and IOM partnership: Pilot Capacity Building Initiative**

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) has collaborated with Marine Police Division for a new capacity building initiative on counter-migrant smuggling in the context of maritime borders. The initiative that is supported by the Government of Canada is adopting a hybrid approach including an e-learning component followed by in-person practical workshops for 112 Marine police officials.

IOM's experts worked closely with Marine police officials to design 4 e-modules that were tailored to the national context and priorities:

1. Counter migrant smuggling in the context of maritime borders
2. Search and Rescue
3. Crime scene investigation on boats
4. Protection of Migrants

*"Marine security is crucial to Thailand. The Marine Police Division regularly conducts operations at sea to combat various organized crime including the smuggling of migrants and the trafficking in persons. This pilot capacity building initiative supported by IOM has helped our officers build a strong foundation of key concepts on relevant topics including migrant smuggling, search and rescue, crime scene investigation and protection. I hope the follow up in-person training phase will help our officers apply their learnings through different case simulations,"* said Pol. Major General Som-Kuan Peungsab, Marine Police Commander.

The e-modules have been made available through an e-learning platform that has been designed by IOM for capacity building of Royal Thai Government Agencies. The platform also offers modules on Border control, migration and border management, traveler assessment and role of information.

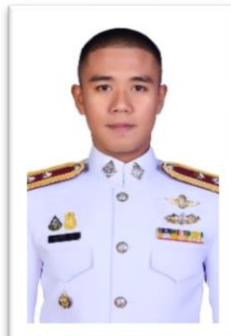
*“Countering migrant smuggling and ensuring protection of migrants at sea are key priority areas for IOM and we recognize the crucial role of the Marine Police Division in dealing with these issues. With funding support from the Government of Canada, IOM has been working with the Marine Police Division to pilot this capacity building initiative that include both e-learning and in-person workshops. IOM is grateful for MPD’s support in designing the course content and active participation of its officials. We look forward to expanding our partnership with MPD on future capacity building initiatives in the area of marine security and migrant protection,”* said Géraldine Ansart, Chief of Mission, IOM Thailand.

The cohort of marine police officials enrolled in the e-learning modules (<https://elearning.rpca.ac.th>) are a mix of operational staff and those in supervisory roles and represent duty stations in 25 provinces of Thailand. IOM looks forward to collecting feedback from the participants and further improve the course content.

The Marine Police Division and IOM would also acknowledge the top performers from the on-going cohort: Top Individual performers (as of 8 January 2021)



Pol.Maj. Supattarachai Siritum



Pol.Lt. Nontapat Kawchoo



Pol.Lt. Thanapol Jantarasena



Pol.Lt. Rattaphum Janthasan



Pol.Lt. Waranyoo Sudjit



Pol.Lt. Montri Subadirek



Pol.Snr.Sgt.Maj. Saranyu Compuan



Pol.Snr.Sgt.Maj. Teerapon Nooprom



Pol.Cpl. Nopparat Srithairak

1. Police Major Supattarachai Siritum, Ranong
2. Police Captain Sirot Chumsri, Krabi
3. Police Lieutenant Nontapat Kawchoo, Samut Prakan
4. Police Lieutenant Thanapol Jantarasena, Samut Prakan
5. Police Lieutenant Rattaphum Janthasan, Samut Prakan
6. Police Lieutenant Waranyoo Sudjit, Samut Prakan
7. Police Lieutenant Montri Subadirek, Samut Prakan
8. Police Senior Sergeant Major Saranyu Compuan, Chiang Rai
9. Police Senior Sergeant Major Putarin Rattanasri, Chiang Rai
10. Police Senior Sergeant Major Teerapon Nooprom, Krabi
11. Police Sergeant Nopparat Srithairak, Krabi
12. Police Corporal Nopporn Limchai, Samut Prakan
13. Police Corporal Kanawat Nangsin, Samut Prakan

#### Next steps:

Once COVID-19 related travel restrictions have been lifted, IOM also plans to invite the international expert to conduct in-person simulation exercises for Marine Police officials in Chonburi, Nongkhai, Phuket and Songkhla. These simulation exercises will focus on exposing participants to practical elements on countering migrant smuggling at maritime borders and also share international best practices.

Marine Police division and IOM look forward to strengthening this partnership and developing additional capacity building initiatives in the future.