



**The Sovereign Order of Malta and Global Strategic Operatives
Are pleased to announce the launch of the
Human Trafficking Policy and
Protocol for Global Healthcare Providers
and propose its adoption by the World Health Organization**

Date: 10:00 - 12:00: Thursday 29th September

Location: Economic and Social Council Chamber, United Nations Headquarters

CONCEPT NOTE

“Human trafficking is an open wound on the body of contemporary society, a scourge upon the body of Christ. It is a crime against humanity.”

-Pope Francis

Summary

For three years the Sovereign Order of Malta and Global Strategic Operatives have developed a protocol to assist health care providers globally identify and assist victims of human trafficking. Until now there has been no universally recognized and approved TIP response procedure framework to guide health care professionals (HCP) when they encounter victims of human trafficking in the course of medical treatment and assistance. The protocol was developed BY Global Strategic Operatives in the United States and has been piloted under careful control conditions in the US, India, Nigeria, Ethiopia, and Italy. An on-going study is currently underway in Cyprus.

Global Strategic Operatives

Global Strategic Operatives (GSO), a non-profit humanitarian organization, was established following a high-level interprofessional meeting on human trafficking at the United Nations in 2018 sponsored by the Sovereign Order of Malta Permanent Observer Mission to the United Nations. The primary purpose of GSO is in educating those who work in healthcare systems, providing guidance in the identification of victims of human trafficking. Numerous research studies report that 88-92% of victims sought medical care while being trafficked, and healthcare providers may be the only professional encounter they may have while under the control of the trafficker.



The Problem

There is a tsunami of human trafficking victims in the global healthcare system. Estimates are that nearly 30 million people are trapped in this modern-day slavery, which has affected more than 40 million victims worldwide. According to the International Labour Organization, human trafficking is a \$150 billion-a-year worldwide industry, thus making these crimes against humanity one of the biggest global markets. Specifically, \$99 billion of the \$150 billion is earned from commercial sexual exploitation.

Furthermore, women and girls are 72% of all human trafficking victims with 49% women, 23% girls, 21% men and 7% boys. Currently, there are an estimated 16 million persons worldwide exploited in labor trafficking, with 60% being men/boys and 40% women/girls. The type of victim breakdown varies frequently in different areas of the world. The estimate is that forty million people worldwide are trafficked in over 167 countries. Most experts believe this is a gross underestimation given recent migrations to the US borders, into Asia from Afghanistan and throughout Europe in the aftermath of displacement from the Ukrainian war front. Thus, the problem is only getting worse.

The Policy

Trafficked persons visit healthcare providers for a complex variety of acute and chronic injuries and diseases as well as mental health complaints, oftentimes making repeated visits, without appropriate screening. The purpose of this policy proposal is to present the World Health Organization and their stakeholders with a health care response to TIPs procedure framework for global adoption. The goal of this proposal is to sustainably empower organizations globally in adapting and modifying, (based on local laws, organizational policies, language, geographic regions, and cultural and ethnic norms,) policies and procedures to guide the trauma-informed, survivor-informed response to trafficked persons presenting for treatment in health care facilities.

The proposed *Protocol for Global Healthcare Providers* will define how to recognize, identify, and implement a trauma-informed, survivor-informed, person-centered, culturally appropriate response to trafficked persons seeking health care. Currently, there is no global, universally recommended or available TIP response procedure framework to guide the HCP's response when a trafficking victim presents for medical care. There is a dire need for a trauma-informed, survivor-informed, evidence-based procedural framework that organizations globally can adapt and modify, based on local cultural and ethnic norms.



Objective

This sidebar event to the 77th Session of the General Assembly proposes to accomplish the following:

- Provide an opportunity to engage in a constructive dialogue between member states, organizations and individuals who are working to provide healthcare services for those affected by this ordeal.
- Recognize the specific needs of healthcare professionals to aid victims of human trafficking.
- Encourage an exchange of practical, on the ground solutions that can be adopted, and supported, as soon as possible.
- Promote the GSO policy to formally guide health care workers globally, with the expectation that this policy will be recognized and recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO). The policy defines how to recognize, identify, and implement a trauma-informed, person-centered response to persons seeking healthcare, but who trapped in the human trafficking cycle.

Program Agenda

10 AM – 10:10 AM:

Welcoming remarks from H.E. Ambassador Beresford-Hill, CBE – Permanent Observer of the Sovereign Order of Malta to the United Nations

10:10 AM – 10:20 AM:

Introductory Remarks by Deb O’Hara-Rusckowski, including background, overview, and purpose of this event. She will also be the Moderator for the Panels below.

10:20 AM – 11:00 AM:

PANEL I (each panelist speaks 5 min)

High level discussion on global human trafficking and why this policy & procedure is needed

- Mr. Kevin Hyland, OBE – Global Strategy Director, Santa Marta Group (via video)
- Mr. John Cotton Richmond, Former United States Ambassador-at-Large to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons and lead the US State Department’s Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons. Diplomat. Partner at Dentons Law Firm.
- Ms. Bethany K. Biesenthal, Partner, Jones Day Law Firm, Chicago office.
- Mr. Bill Woolf – Former detective on Gang Investigations, Executive Director of ‘Just Ask Prevention Project’, and Director of the National Human Trafficking Intelligence Center. DOJ Senior Executive overseeing a \$100 million budget to support human trafficking programs across the US
- Ms. Heather Fischer - Former Special Advisor of Human Trafficking at the White House, current Senior Advisor Human Rights Crimes, Thomson Reuters, Washington, DC
- Ms. Anne Basham - CEO at Ascend Consulting, Chair of the Taskforce of Human Trafficking for the Parliamentary Intelligence Security Forum
- Tanya Gould – Survivor, Leader Expert & Consultant, Vice Chair U.S. Advisory Council on Human Trafficking, Member of GSO



11:00 AM-11:40 AM:

PANEL II (each panelist speaks 5 min)

High level discussion specific to the GSO human trafficking pilot research study, results and policy & protocol formation

- Ms. Jasmine Fiandaca - Survivor, Author, and GSO speaker.
- Mr. Robert C. Garrett - CEO of Hackensack Meridian Health, New Jersey
- Dr. Cathy Miller, PhD, RN, Research Professor at UT Tyler, Texas, GSO Director of Research
- Nada Wakim, AVP Nursing, Nursing Administration, South Miami Hospital, Baptist Health
- Mr. Tracy Raggs, Acting Division Chief for Center for Countering Human Trafficking, CCHT, Homeland Security Investigations, Washington, DC
- Dr. Alessandro Stievano, PhD, MSN, MSoc, Med, RN, Research Coordinator/Professor University of Sacred Heart, Rome, and Dr. Rosario Caruso – PhD, RN, Head of the Health Professions Research and Development University of Milan, Italy (joint video)
- Dr. Santhosh Paulus - Hospitalist, Site Director of Huntington Hospital, Northwell Health, New York
- Dr. P.M. Nair – PhD Victimology, Career Police Officer and Investigator with Indian Police Service, TATA Chair Professor at TISS, and Dr. Devasitham Mani, Associate Director, International NGO, GSO Pilot Site Participant, Chennai, India (via video)

11:40AM – 11:45AM

Acknowledgments from “**Special Guests**”

- Patricia Speck, DNSc, Professor, Coordinator Advanced Forensic Nursing, University of Alabama at Birmingham
- Anna Cerra, Sr. VP Patient Care Services/CNO, Greenwich Hospital, CT
- Donna Hubbard, Survivor, Founder of Women At The Well Ministries, GSO Member
- Wilonda Green, Human Trafficking Program Northwell Health, NY, GSO Coordinator

11:45 AM – 12 PM: Open floor to questions and/or comments

12:00 PM: Official proposal of the policy to a high representative for the World Health Organization for approval, adoption, and dissemination worldwide.

On behalf of the Order of Malta and Global Strategic Operatives, we thank you all very much for your support as we fight against human trafficking in all its forms and strive to restore dignity to all victims.



Mr. Kevin HYLAND, OBE



Mr. Hyland, OBE, was the United Kingdom’s first Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner, leading the country’s efforts to tackle slavery and human trafficking. He was a police officer for 30 years and, as a detective, specialized in various crimes throughout his policing career including anti-corruption and then human trafficking and slavery. When working as a senior investigating officer, Hyland was responsible for the convictions of many international organized crime groups, including corruption, sexual exploitation, and human trafficking. In 2010 Hyland was appointed as the lead for the London Metropolitan Police’s Human Trafficking Unit. During Hyland’s tenure, the London Metropolitan Police saw an increase in victim identifications and successful prosecutions of traffickers. In 2014 he helped to establish the Santa Marta Group, a body comprising international law enforcement agencies, civil society, NGOs and the Catholic Church. In 2015 he led efforts for inclusion of human trafficking and modern slavery in UN Sustainable Development Goals. This was secured as SDG 8.7 on the final day of negotiations at the UN in New York in the summer of 2015. This has resulted in many global efforts focused on fighting modern slavery and human trafficking, including Alliance 8.7, an initiative led by the International Labour Organization. He is the Chair of the Institution for Human Rights and Business Leadership Group for Responsible Recruitment, a collaboration between leading companies and expert organizations to drive positive change in the way that migrant workers are recruited. Hyland was appointed Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) for "services to Combating Human Trafficking".

Ambassador John Cotton RICHMOND



Ambassador Richmond is an attorney and diplomat focused on human rights, democracy, and the rule of law. The U.S. Senate unanimously confirmed him to serve in the nation’s highest-ranking position dedicated to combatting human trafficking and leading foreign policy in the global fight for freedom. As a Partner at Dentons, Ambassador Richmond helps companies keep their supply chains and workforces free of human trafficking. He was named one of the federal “Prosecutors of the Year,” after a decade of successfully trying complex police misconduct, cross-burning, neo-Nazi hate crimes, forced labor, and sex trafficking cases across the country. Ambassador Richmond is a Senior Fellow at the Atlantic Council, Senior Advisor to Love Does, Fellow at the C.S. Lewis Institute, and a frequent speaker on justice, leadership, faith, and vocation.



Ms. Bethany K. BIESENTHAL



Ms. Biesenthal is a Fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers, a Chambers-rated litigator, and a former federal prosecutor. She has served as a lead trial lawyer in more than 20 trials and has argued more than a dozen federal circuit appeals. Bethany has successfully led litigation teams in high-stakes matters, including litigation brought by attorneys general and defending against allegations of corporate misconduct. As a prosecutor, Bethany led hundreds of investigations involving human trafficking, financial fraud, national security, health care fraud, securities fraud, and public corruption. As a result, clients now routinely seek Bethany's assistance in handling corporate and government investigations, including those involving allegations of government fraud and compliance audits led by government agencies. She also calls on her experience as head of the Human Trafficking section at the U.S. Attorney's Office to now serve as Jones Day's lead for global human trafficking-related litigation and regularly speaks on issues of human trafficking in corporate supply chains. At the U.S. Attorney's Office, she also served as lead for domestic and sexual abuse allegations and uses that experience to now guide clients through sexual abuse investigations.

Mr. Bill WOOLF



Mr. Woolf has dedicated his personal and professional life to combatting human trafficking – most notably being recognized by receiving the US Presidential Medal for Extraordinary Efforts to Combat Trafficking in Persons. He started his professional career as a police officer, and later Gang Detective where he encountered the insidious crime of human trafficking. Bill co-directed the task force with the US Attorney's Office and the Virginia Attorney General's Office. He was tasked with coordinating enforcement and interdiction efforts with other regional, state, and federal law enforcement. He was also tasked with forging partnerships with non-governmental agencies that could provide necessary services to those victimized by human trafficking. In the first two years, the task force was able to identify 217 victims of sex and labor trafficking and recover over 126 of them.

Bill founded the 'Just Ask Prevention Project', now Anti-Trafficking International, which continues to be a leader in preventing human trafficking in communities across the globe. He led the effort to develop a systematic approach of education, prevention and intervention developing strategies. Bill held the position as a member of the Senior Executive Service in the role of Human Trafficking Programs Director where he was responsible for overseeing the nearly \$100 million budget to support human trafficking programs across the United States. He was asked to step in as the Acting Director of the Office for Victims of Crime and continued to serve as the Principal Deputy Director overseeing more \$6.5 billion in grant programs. Bill also served as Special Advisor to the White House for Human Trafficking overseeing the implementation of the first-ever National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking.



Ms. Heather FISCHER



Ms. Heather Fischer currently serves as a senior advisor for human rights crimes at Thomson Reuters Special Services. She focuses on empowering the use of data to help create a safer world to protect the most vulnerable, including victims of human trafficking and child exploitation.

Previously, Ms. Fischer served as the first-ever special advisor and White House Czar for human trafficking. During her detail assignment at the White House, she served as the human trafficking coordinator for the Executive Office of the President components, the federal interagency, and the President's Interagency Task Force to

Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons to prevent and address all forms of human trafficking. Fischer was also special advisor to the Ambassador-at-Large in the Office of the Under Secretary for Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights, Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons (J/TIP) at the US Department of State.

Fischer is currently in the Executive Master of International Relations program at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University and the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) in Washington, DC.

Ms. Anne BASHAM



Anne Basham is the Chair of the Task Force on Human Trafficking for the Parliamentary Intelligence Security Forum, where she leads a coalition of parliamentarians, government leaders, and lived-experience experts from around the world in discussions about policy solutions to effectively combat human trafficking globally. In this role, she also speaks about human trafficking and leads panel discussions at parliaments and congresses throughout the world, focusing primarily on the connection between modern slavery and global security. Additionally, she is the founder and CEO of Ascend Consulting which provides government advocacy and grant opportunities for human rights organizations. Within this capacity, she

crafts legislation and policies to serve and protect the most vulnerable. Prior to this, Anne was the Senior Advisor at the Department of Justice Office for Victims of Crime where she advised on policies and developed strategies for over \$2 billion in federal funding for nonprofit organizations serving victims of human trafficking, terrorism, sexual assault, and child abuse. Anne began her career in the United States Senate, and since then has worked in both the legislative and executive branches of the federal government as well as the private sector. Focused primarily on human rights issues, she developed bipartisan legislation and public policies for organizations by working with members of the U.S. Congress, Executive Branch and state governments. Dedicating her personal and professional life to stopping human trafficking, violence against women, and child abuse, she has also helped survivors throughout the world safely leave difficult situations, navigate the legal system, and secure safe housing and restorative care.



Ms. Tanya GOULD



The Honorable Tanya Gould is a solutionist fighting against human trafficking, striving to impact legislative policy and raise public awareness. She is the Anti-Human Trafficking Director for the VA Commonwealth Attorney General’s Office and also serves on the Governor’s Commission on Human Trafficking Prevention and Survivor Support. This year Tanya received the *Presidential Award for Extraordinary Efforts to Combat Human Trafficking in Persons*. She served 2 terms on the U.S. Advisory Council on Human Trafficking. Tanya has given lectures and training at universities, Human Trafficking conferences, and faith communities raising awareness both nationally and abroad. She has served as a consultant to various anti human trafficking organizations, as well as DOJ’s Office for Victims of Crime, DHS’ Blue Campaign, Global Strategic Operatives for the Eradication of Human Trafficking, Inc. and DOS’ TIP office. She also serves on boards and organizations such as Polaris, Beloved Haven and Parliamentary Intelligence-Security Forum Taskforce on Human Trafficking. Tanya Gould shares her story of being trafficked as part of her advocacy and gives credit to Survivors, family and friends of her community who have helped her in achieving her goals.

Ms. Jasmine Grace Marino FIANDACA



As a survivor of sex trafficking and drug addiction, Jasmine is an effective keynote speaker, panel participant and facilitator for training, workshops and groups. She has spoken on panels at the U.S Commission on Civil Rights in New Hampshire and at two side panels for members of the United Nations in New York. She has also been featured on ‘The 700 Club’ and many other online news sources. In addition, Jasmine consults with healthcare professionals, law enforcement personnel, educators and nonprofit organizations. She advises on issues such as safe homes, program growth, curriculum development, survivor support and peer mentorship. Jasmine is also the Founder and Director of Jasmine Grace Outreach. JGO empowers women as they exit and recover from the commercial sex trade and addiction. Lastly, she is the author of “The Diary of Jasmine Grace. Trafficked. Recovered. Redeemed”.



Mr. Robert C. GARRETT



Robert C. Garrett is the CEO of Hackensack Meridian Health, New Jersey's largest health network. Under his leadership, the network has made major strides in medical education, behavioral health care, innovation, and research. In 2019, the network merged with Carrier Clinic, New Jersey's largest behavioral health provider to expand access to treatment, better coordinate care and innovate therapies. The merger resulted in the opening of the first urgent care behavioral health center in New Jersey as well as a new state-of-the-art destination addiction treatment center that opened in February 2021.

Dr. Cathy MILLER



Dr. Miller is a Professor of Nursing at the University of Texas Tyler and has worked with anti-Human Trafficking organizations for over 15 years, with over 25 years experience caring for victims and survivors in the emergency department. For the past 12 years, she has focused her program of research exclusively on the education of health care providers on trafficking in persons (TIP) and the health outcomes and needs of survivors. She presents and trains nationally and internationally about TIP and complex trauma. Dr. Miller has multiple peer-reviewed published works on child and adolescent complex trauma, child sex trafficking, and human trafficking as well as textbook chapters in Maternal Newborn and Public Health textbooks on TIP. She also co-authored the position statement on TIP which was adopted by the American Public Health Association in 2015. The Miller Model of Health Care Provider Education on TIP was the result of over 10 years of peer-reviewed research. She joined Shared Hope International (SHI) as a Fellow in 2010 and became their Research and Health Care Consultant in 2014 and was the primary author of the iCare guide for health care providers on the provision of care to trafficked persons.

Dr. Miller is co-founder and co-chair of the Texas Coastal Bend Border Region Human Trafficking Task Force, and a member of the Department of Health and Human Services SOAR technical working group, the Texas Attorney General's Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force, and serves as the Director of Research and Scholarship for Global Strategic Operatives.

Recent awards and recognition include: 2020-Nurses with Global Impact Honoree. International Nurses Day-United Nations and 2019-Honorable Mention-The Gold Foundation-Pearl Birnbaum Hurwitz Humanism in Healthcare Award



Ms. Nada WAKIM



Ms. Wakim is the Assistant Vice President of Nursing at Baptist Health, South Florida. She received her undergraduate at the American University of Beirut, and her Master's degree from Florida Southern College in Nursing Education. She completed her Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing in 2012 at Barry University. She has engaged and worked in the field of both nursing and nursing education for the past decades and has been serving as a 'Next Gen Leadership Fellow' with the American Hospital Association starting this year.

In addition, she has been published in several Research Journals and has taken part as a panel speaker at national and international events in her field. In the past, she has collaborated with organization leaders to effectively align and support key business initiatives.

Mr. Tracy RAGGS



Mr. Raggs serves as the Acting Division Chief for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Center for Countering Human Trafficking (CCHT) Operations Unit in Washington, DC. He has over 25 years of government service, with more than 15 years combating human trafficking and child sexual exploitation. Mr. Raggs was the chief architect in the creation of the DHS Center for Countering Human Trafficking, which operates on the whole of DHS approach to combatting human trafficking. In his current position at CCHT, Mr. Raggs oversees and supports Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) human trafficking mission of employing a victim-centered approach, whereby equal value is placed on the identification, rescue, and stabilization of victims as well as on the investigation and prosecution

of traffickers. Furthermore, he was the Chief over HSI's Human Trafficking Unit where he initiated the Human Trafficking Strategic Targeted Outreach Program, which targeted the healthcare, hospitality, and transportation industry, as well as the public about the red flags of human trafficking. Throughout his career, Mr. Raggs has focused on proactively identifying, disrupting, and dismantling transnational criminal organizations that are involved in human trafficking/smuggling, child sexual exploitation, forced labor, money laundering, narcotics trafficking, and other violent crimes. He has forged strong partnerships with domestic and foreign law enforcement agencies, the financial industry, faith-based communities, as well as Nongovernmental Organizations, to ensure victims receive the necessary services and resources needed to start the healing process. Mr. Raggs is a decorated veteran of the United States Marine Corps and has received numerous accolades and awards throughout his career for his contribution to protecting the public safety and national security of the United States of America



Dr. Alessandro STIEVANO



Dr. Stievano is the research coordinator of the Centre of Excellence for Nursing Scholarship of OPI Rome – Italy (the Regulatory Authority for the Nursing Professions in Italy).

The Centre of Excellence for Nursing Scholarship in Italy is a novel project that represents a unique venture for Italy, and one of the first to be set up in Europe, in line with the positive experiences matured in this direction in advanced countries. The Centre has funded more than 250 research projects since its inception in 2010. He is an expert on learning processes and social issues and, in this logic, has received a master's degree in Education and another one in Sociology for Health and Policy. He is the author of many publications on a national and international level, particularly on ethics and transcultural matters. He is Professor at the University “Our Lady of Good Counsel” Tirane – Albania, at University of Messina – Italy and at Unicamillus University in Rome and visiting Professor at Boston College (USA). Furthermore, he has got appointments at University Vita and Salute S. Raffaele – Milan and the University of Pavia, Tor Vergata University - Rome and the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart Rome – Italy. He has served as Associate Director for the International Council of Nurses and on the Board of Trustees of the CGFNS (USA).

Dr. Rosario CARUSO - PhD, RN



Dr. Rosario Caruso is currently a researcher at the University of Milan, Department of Biomedical science for health, serving as the head of the Health Professions Research and Development Unit at IRCCS Policlinico San Donato. He leads research in different fields of Health Science, Public Health, and Nursing Science, coordinating several funded and not funded research programs in Italy and internationally. He achieved a Master's in Clinical Research and a Master's in Health Organization Management, and further post-graduate education in clinical research from Harvard University.

He is the former Director of the Master of Science in Nursing and Midwifery at the University of Pavia (from 2018 to 2022). Dr. Caruso developed and implemented educational programs for nurses practicing in Egypt under the umbrella of the GSD International Nursing Academy; these programs aimed to spread best practices by educating champions of critical care, operating room, primary care, and care for people with diabetes across the Egypt (mainly Port Said).

His service as a board member of the regulatory nursing body for the nursing profession in Milan, Lodi, and Monza-Brianza mainly represents his commitment to the regulatory aspects of the nursing profession. He is currently the President of the Italian Association of Cancer Nurses and a member of the board of Trustees of the Italian Consortium for Biomedical Sciences.



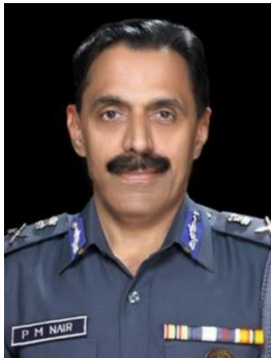
Dr. Santhosh PAULUS



Santhosh Paulus, M.D. is the Senior Program Director for the Human Trafficking Education, Advocacy, Response & Training Program for Northwell Health, and Site Director for Graduate Medical Education for the Family Medicine Residency Program and Hospitalist at Huntington Hospital. He is also an Assistant Professor at the Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell and is the Founder and President of Cycling for Change (c4c), a not-for-profit that raises funds and awareness to fight human trafficking.

During his 20 years at Northwell Health, Dr. Paulus created and led the Human Trafficking Response Program Task Force which evolved into a System initiative as the Northwell Health Human Trafficking HEART Program. During the 5 years in his current role, Dr. Paulus has partnered and collaborated with local, national, and international leaders in the anti-trafficking community to help shape and position the Human Trafficking Education, Advocacy, Response & Training Program as a resource and source of influence to an interdisciplinary audience. Dr. Paulus also serves on the Board of Directors for ECPAT-USA a nonprofit that works on the issue of commercial sexual exploitation of children and is a member of the Suffolk County Anti-Trafficking Initiative (SCATI). Through Cycling for Change, he organized athletic fundraising events and has supported organizations on the frontlines of battling human trafficking with over \$121k in funding.

Dr. P.M. NAIR



Dr. P.M. Nair, MA (Sociology), LLB, PhD (Victimology), is a career police officer with the Indian Police Service since 1978. After 35 years of service in the IPS in various capacities in Bihar, CBI, NHRC, UNODC, CRPF, etc., he retired in 2013 as the Director General of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and Director General of Civil Defense for the government of India. He has handled several high-profile crimes including the Rajiv Gandhi assassination, the ISRO Espionage case, the International Arms drop at Purulia, the Sanjay Ghose abduction, as well as terrorist crimes, human rights violations, and many interstate and international organized crimes, specifically focusing on human trafficking.

A powerful voice in the Anti-Human Trafficking mission in the region, Dr. Nair is continuing his mission of empowering vulnerable persons by undertaking skill-building programs.



Dr. Mani DEVASITHAM



Dr. M. Devasitham is the Head of Strategic Development at International Justice Mission (IJM), Chennai. He has been working in International Justice Mission for over 10 years. Motivated by his passion to serve marginalized communities, he joined IJM in 2010 and started his fight against Human Trafficking. He supported District Administration and Law Enforcement Officials to investigate, identify and rescue the victims of human trafficking across the country. Being a part of a team in IJM, he rescued more than 3500 victims of labour trafficking in collaboration with local Government and Police department. His rich field of experience led him to undertake a practical study on the status of bonded labourers (Victims of Labour Trafficking) during identification, release, rehabilitation, and prosecution for which he received the Doctorate in Philosophy (PhD). As Head of Strategic Development, he and his team have trained more than 10000 Government and non-government agencies through impactful training and supported Law Enforcement officials to develop strategies to combat human trafficking and crimes against women and children. Dr. Devasitham is instrumental in setting up some of the strategic projects such as the Anti-Human Trafficking Help Desk at transit points, Child-Friendly Police Stations, Safe Community Project for the victims of Human Trafficking, Project SHIELD – evidence-based policing to prevent crimes against women and children.