

# Regional Peer-Learning Platform and Program of Learning and Action on Alternatives to the Detention of Children in the Context of Migration in Asia Pacific

## What is it?

- Launched in 2019, it is an informal group dedicated to peer-learning on effective ATD practices.
- Participants come from policy and implementing agencies in Australia, Indonesia, Malaysia, New Zealand and Thailand, and civil society.
- Meetings are co-convened by the Asia Dialogue on Forced Migration Secretariat and International Detention Coalition.
- Topics and frequency of meetings are chosen by participants.

## The Platform enables:



**Knowledge sharing:** sharing practical resources, toolkits and materials to support implementation of alternative care arrangements



**Technical assistance:** capacity-building of front-line officers and implementing staff, training or support in developing manuals etc



**Peer-learning:** bilateral study/learning trips and site visits (when possible)



**Regional dialogue:** at the regional or national level, to build relationships and advance specific proposals

## What are the benefits?

- Opportunity to engage with counterparts in other countries working on similar issues.
- Opportunity to engage with others in your own country working on the same issues.
- Meetings are closed door, and conducted under the Chatham House Rule to provide a safe space for sharing.
- Meetings are participant-led, meaning they can focus on issues of most relevance at any one time.
- Learn about innovative ways to better support children and their families in the context of migration.
- Simultaneous translation provided.

## Timeline



*Agreement at ADFM Meeting to create a Regional Peer-Learning Platform (Jakarta)*

2019



Launch of the Platform with site-visit in Bangkok, co-hosted by the Royal Thai Government

2020



First virtual session:  
**Mainstreaming child protection**

*Follow up: Australia/ Thailand bilateral call*

2021



Second virtual session:  
**Case management approaches**



Third virtual session:  
**Education of refugee and migrant children**

*Follow up: Indonesia/ Thailand bilateral call*

2022



Fourth virtual session:  
**What makes government/civil society partnerships effective?**

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### Participant feedback

*It has been terrific to meet people who are informative and inspirational.*

*There is no perfect country. We can all learn from each other.*

*We've made lots of good connections with this platform.*

*It's been a safe space for govt and NGOs to speak together on a difficult issue.*

*Despite the fact that countries have very different contexts, it's been great having opportunity to do this via Zoom regularly. Many ideas and comments have refocused me and allowed me to be challenged*

*It's been eye-opening and exciting to see what's been going on in other countries. To see how we are all rising to prioritise this issue*

Proudly co-convened by:

ASIA DIALOGUE



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

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