Precarious livelihoods in Eastern Indonesia: how & why fishermen become people smugglers

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Structure


2. Anti-people-smuggling information campaigns

3. Poverty, economic needs and environmental disasters as drivers
Current asylum seeker movements
People smuggling activities between Indonesia and Australia
Popular routes from Indonesia to Australian territory
Locations of Indonesian courts included in this study
Known people-smuggling cases heard in Indonesian courts, 2011–2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year of final verdict</th>
<th>Number of cases</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>36</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>2015</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tbody>
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Ages of those prosecuted for people-smuggling offences (n=99)
Origin of those prosecuted for people-smuggling offences
Former employment of convicted people-smugglers
Length of prison sentences (in months) of convicted people smugglers
Public Information Campaigns (PIC)

- PIC to reach far-flung fishing communities & communities of displaced populations in Indonesia
- film, radio, TV, and printed materials
- “campaign was used to disseminate information on migration policies, irregular migration and its implications”
  
Raising awareness

Photographs by AM
Excerpt from sample Muslim sermon

„The blessed people of Allah, many among you are fishermen ... who work in the coastal industry. There has been news circulating recently of many irregular migrants trying to reach Australia through our borders, through this area. The way they can reach Australia is by using our boats, our people, our knowledge. They ask for help but blessed people of Allah, I tell you that this is not the help that is talked about in the Al Qur’an. Bringing irregular migrants to Australia is illegal. And it is a sin. If you agree to help house irregular migrants before they leave for Australia, if you have anything to do with smuggling these irregular migrants to Australia, it is a sin. You are not helping them, you are doing something wrong in the eyes of Allah.“
The poor East
Making money in jail

“Amir’s” story:

• twice imprisoned in Australia
• speaks about his prison term as “work”, a job just as precarious and risky as any other option available to him
• earned small amounts of money in jail in Australia
• prospect of serving time in jail in Indonesia was seen as ultimate disincentive
Restricted fishing grounds
Environmental damage: oil spill
Thank you for your attention!

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