

# Domestic workers in Thailand

By

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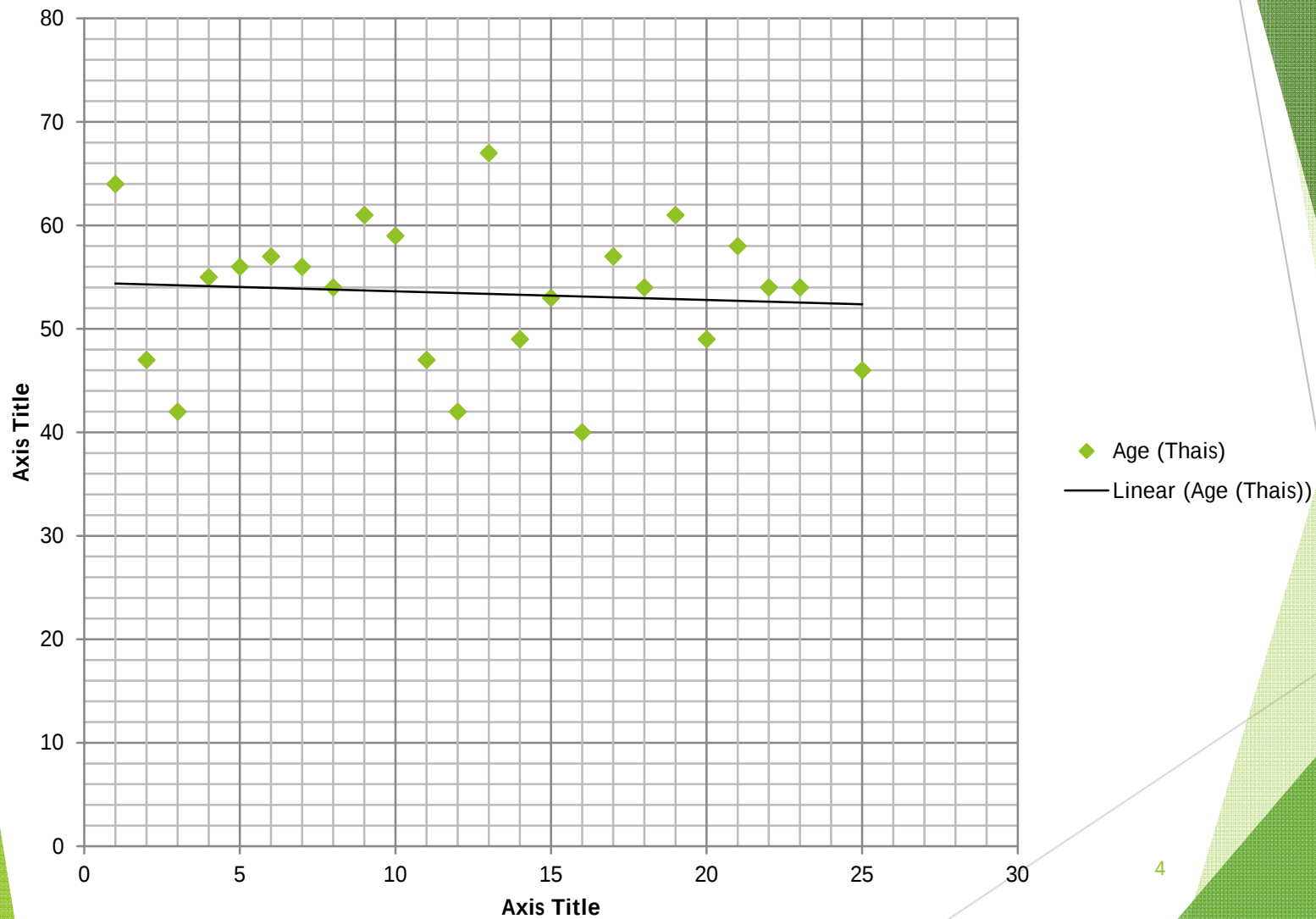
# Statistic & Demographic

Results from research of Chulalongkorn University Social Research Institute in 2017

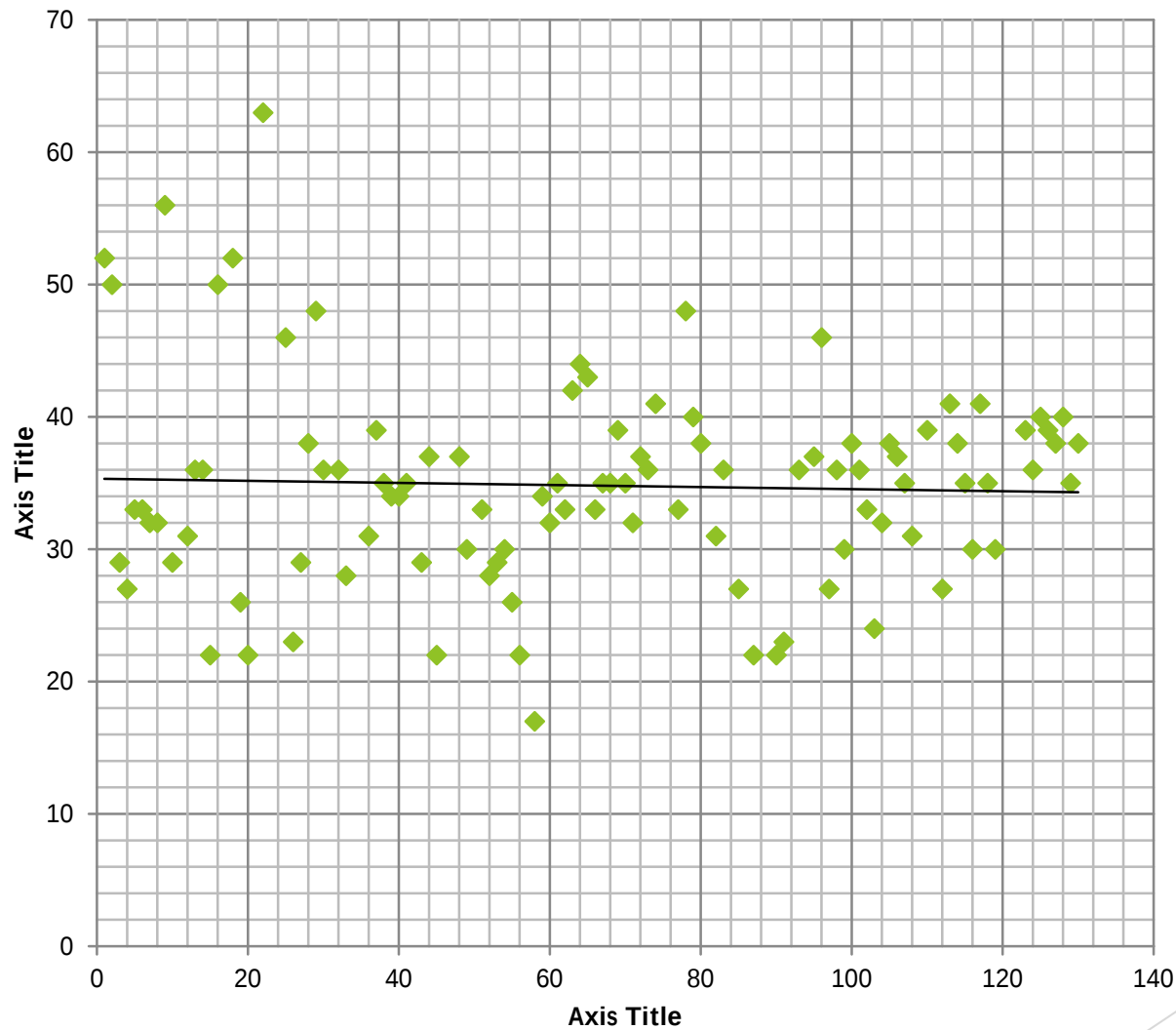
Employees in private household

- ▶ TDWs: 1,282,000
- ▶ MDWs: 149,000

# Age Group (TDWs)



# Age group (MDWs)



# General problems and administration

- ▶ No regular day off
- ▶ Long working hours (8-15 hours)
- ▶ No social security
- ▶ No employment contract
- ▶ TDWs need not to register with MOL but MDWs need to register with MOL but about double numbers are not register

# MDWs: problems and administration

- ▶ Have to stick with registered employer, can't change employers
- ▶ Cannot travel to other area
- ▶ Language and communication problem
- ▶ Cannot access to health information
- ▶ No appropriate family planning, faced with reproductive health problem

# Legal Protection

- ▶ Under Ministerial Regulation No.1, DWs are entitled to 6 days of annual leave
- ▶ 2011, ILO adopted Convention 189
- ▶ 2012, Ministerial Regulation No. 14 is enacted, DWs are entitled to one weekly day off, paid sick leave, holidays, annual leave, over time pay, **minimum age 15 years old**

# Child labour

- ▶ Survey of ILO (Oct. 2005 – June 2006)
- ▶ Objective: to assess the situation of children in Worst Forms of Child Labour (WFCL)
- ▶ Result: in WFCL, 72% are domestic labourer
- ▶ Majority are non-Thai

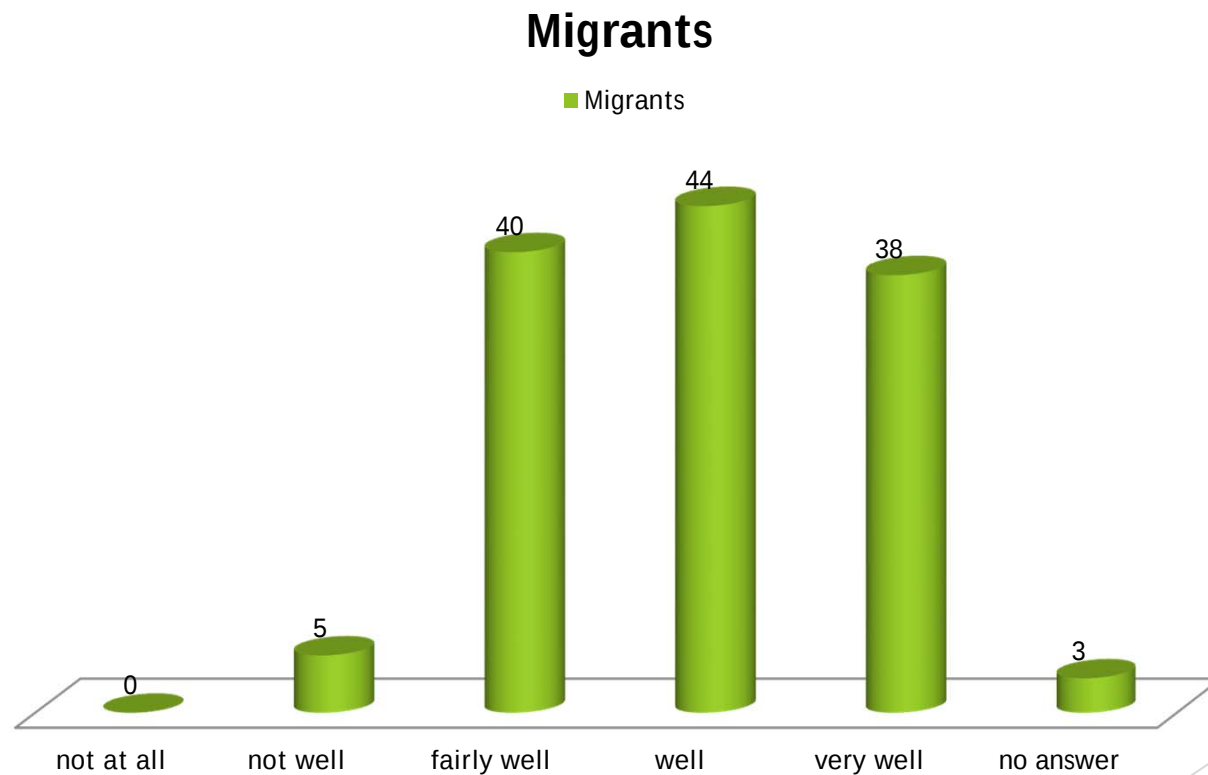
# Problem of Child Labour

- ▶ Hazardous working condition (dust and smoke, noise, chemical substance), 'moral harms', abuse by employers e.g. physical confinement, physical punishment, sexual harassment, rape, low payment, etc.

# Legal Protection (cont.)

- ▶ Employers and DWs have limited knowledge on this law
- ▶ Still inactive enforcement

# Knowing about Employment Rights of Respondents



# Social Protection

- ▶ TDWs-are under **Universal Health Care** Coverage but mostly register in the hospital far from their work places lead to limited use of free health services
- ▶ MDWs –are forced to buy **health insurance** (HI) during registration process(1,600 THB per year) but don't make use of the system or have barriers to make use of the system. As a result, many MDWs don't pay for HI in the second year.

# Social Protection (cont.)

- ▶ New social security law has expanded to cover DWs in 2015 but SSO still delay to cover DWs with 3 reasons, no formal figure of DWs, in general-employers treat their DWs as a family members and it will create difficulties to employers to pay contribution for DWs.

## Livelihood opportunities and skills training (cont.)

- ▶ In the past, both TDWs and MDWs access to job opportunity through friends and family members. At present, increasing use of services from employment agency.
- ▶ Lack of skill training from government agencies.

## Social Protection (cont.)

- ▶ In 2005, all children without Thai citizenship are allowed to study in public school

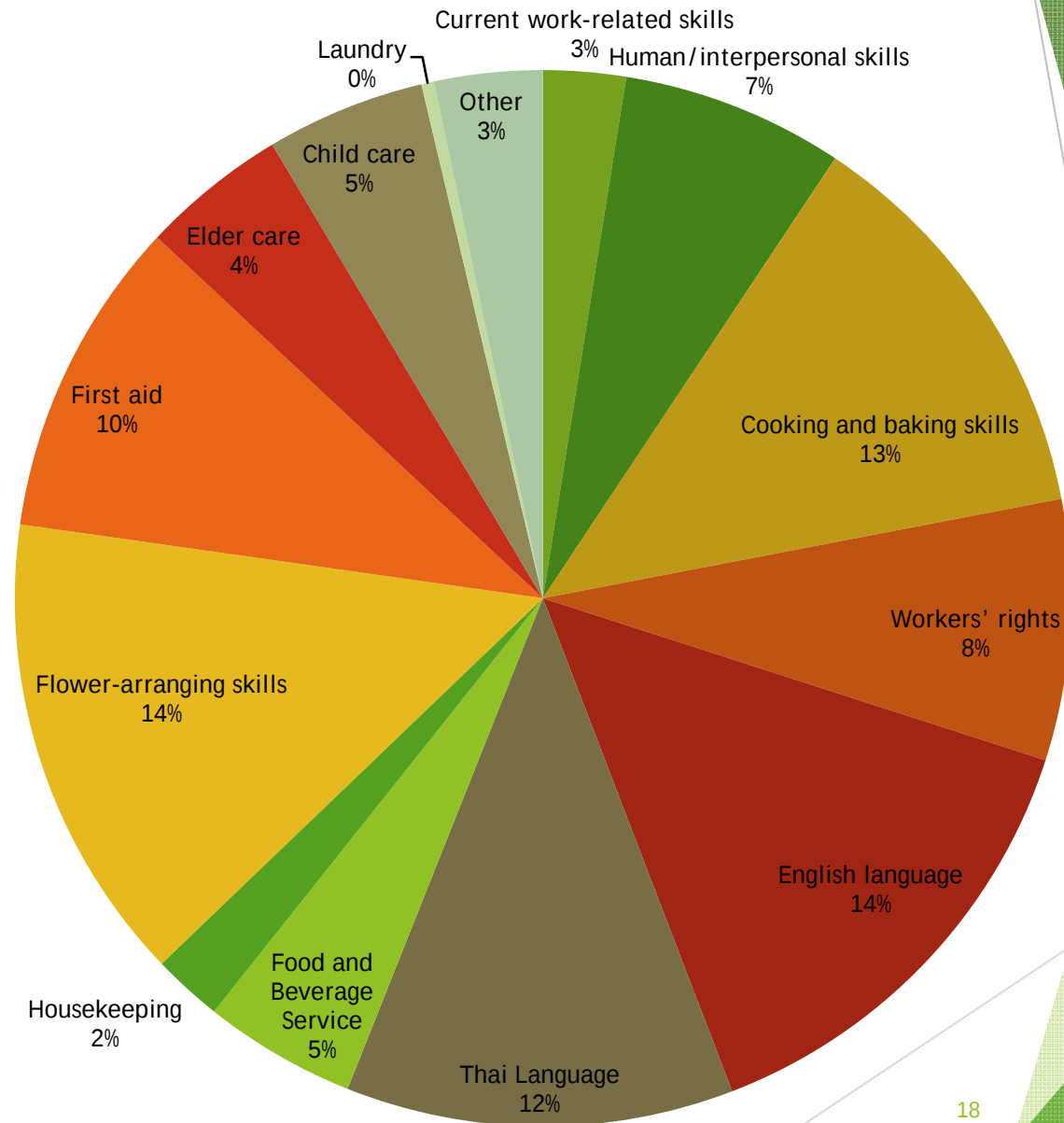


- Establish school-based vocational training programmes for children aged 13-14 as a strong incentive for parents to keep their children in school and to enhance the employment opportunities available at the working age of 15.

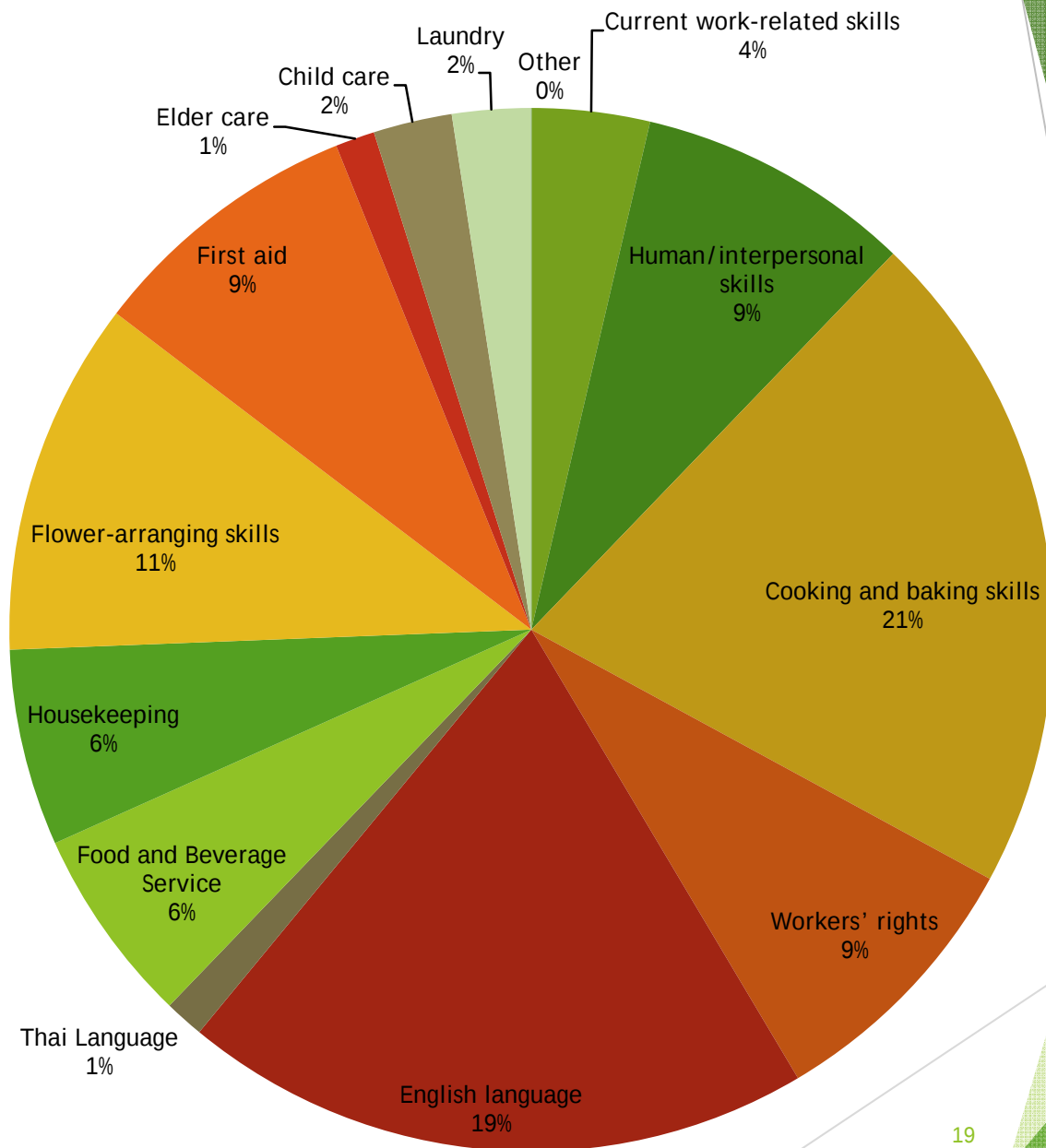
## Livelihood opportunities and skills training (cont.)

- ▶ Need training on language, domestic work, cooking, employers 'cultural and using of electronic appliances
- ▶ Employers' needs DWs to receive training on first aid, elderly care and child care

# Migrants



# Thais



# What we have done so far?

- ✓ Organize and strengthen the Network of DWs in Thailand (392 Thais and 161 migrants) >> increase no. of member
- ✓ Advocated for Ministerial Regulation No.14 (2012) to protect DWs' rights. Now we are advocating for the enforcement of this MR.

## What we have done so far? (cont.)

- ✓ Advocated expansion and campaign on Social Insurance to cover DWs
- ✓ Advocated for extending access to justice and health insurance
- ✓ Training on First aid, RH, OHS, elderly care, child care, team working, etc.



## Training on first aid



Panel discussion on how  
to look after Domestic  
worker



**Activities on  
May Day (2016)**



## Training on Social Protection providing in Thailand

## What we have done so far? (cont.)

- ✓ Advocated through Mobile application namely “Smart Domestic Workers”, Facebook, Hotline, etc.



# Future Plan

- ▶ Survey on employers' training needs for their DWs
- ▶ Cooperate with employers to arrange skill training
- ▶ Cooperate with GOs preparation for elderly society (e.g provide DWs training on elderly care, etc.)



***Thank you very much!!!***