

The Challenge



The International Labour Organization (ILO) is mainly involved in data collection, research, gathering, and analysis of information related to the world of work.

The experience and knowledge gained by the ILO are organizational assets which should be safeguarded and used to inform future activities and to constituents.

In the Philippines, knowledge gaps remain a pressing issue as it could possibly hinder the improvement of the quality of life of its people. Without comprehensive knowledge on labour concerns, decent work may not be realized. Providing access and dissemination to information and knowledge tools is important for policy makers and ordinary persons alike.

Bearing this in mind, public awareness on issues affecting the world of work emerges. Increasing knowledge and understanding through the available means serves as a potential tool in making sustainable and inclusive growth possible in the Philippines.

The Response

The ILO Country Office for the Philippines (ILO CO-Manila) has been constantly working to improve the means of making ILO publications and information materials more accessible to its social partners and constituents. It also takes extra effort in raising public awareness on issues relevant to the world of work.

For the ILO CO-Manila to improve its information dissemination efforts, Knowledge Corners/Satellite Libraries have been set up in various regions in the country. This step helps in increasing the visibility of the Decent Work Agenda within the local context. The initiative started when the first ILO Knowledge Corner was set up at the University of the Philippines School of Labor and Industrial Relations (UPSOLAIR) in September 2009.

Through the ILO Knowledge Corners/Satellite Libraries, students, researchers, and library users now have wider and easy access to ILO database, publications, reports, videos, and other information materials. The ILO CO-Manila also conduct orientation, knowledge sharing session, and provide resource speakers on specific issues on ILO's areas of work and has been constantly extending its network to make information materials more accessible to the public.

With the establishment of the ILO CO-Manila's Knowledge Corners in 2009, the ILO has widely interacted more effectively with other partner agencies and institutions. This also helps in ensuring that the ILO will be recognised as the centre of knowledge on the aspect of decent and productive work. The attainment of a sustainable, productive, and greener economy all start with accessible knowledge and information tools.

Objectives

- Contribute to popularize, expand, and institutionalize the knowledge sharing of ILO information and information-related services among concerned constituents and the general public.
- Help identify knowledge gaps, which is needed in improving the ILO's research and technical capacity.
- Connect social partners, constituents, and the public by sharing knowledge tools on the world of work.

Achievements

- The first ILO CO-Manila Knowledge Corner partnership with UPSOLAIR was established in September 2009. To strengthen this partnership, a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was signed between the ILO followed by unveiling of ILO marker. One used computer was donated for easy access of ILO online statistics, database, publications, and other information resources.
- Following the establishment of ILO-UPSOLAIR Knowledge Corner, several © ILO / M. Rimando universities and constituent offices have approached the ILO to set up similar Knowledge Corner to make ILO publications available in their own institution. The ILO-Social Security System (SSS) Knowledge Corner was established on 01 September 2010 and is being housed at the SSS Main Office in Quezon City to provide SSS employees and the public a convenient access to ILO information on social security and other work-related materials.
- The ILO and the Asian Institute of Management (AIM) Knowledge Corner with signed MOA was established on 18 October 2010.
- One ILO/UN Knowledge Corner was established at Pamulaan Center for Indigenous Peoples Education at the University of Southeastern Philippines in Davao City on 20 October 2010.
- Six ILO CO-Manila's knowledge corners were established with signed MOA, namely: De La Salle University (DLSU)-Manila and DLSU-Makati on 31 January 2011; Ifugao State University (IfSU), the first knowledge corner in Northern Luzon on 18 May 2011 and was provided one used computer for easy access of ILO online resources; Silliman University (SU) in the Visayan Region on 25 August 2011; and Lyceum of the Philippines University (LPU)-Laguna and LPU-Batangas on 4 October 2011.
- Conducted series of ILO knowledge sharing session, briefing on ILO online information resources, and lectures on "Poverty to Decent Work: Bridging the Gap through Millennium Development Goals"; "Introduction to Fundamental Principles and Rights and International Labour Standards"; "Pathways to Education and Decent Work for the Youth"; and "Gender Equality, Decent and Production Work".

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Strategy

To maintain ILO's status as a leading knowledge institution in the world of work and influence on policy debates, the ILO invested in knowledge management and knowledge sharing strategies. The ILO imposes an integrated and systematic approach in managing its wealth of knowledge.

Knowledge sharing will ensure that the ILO's services and knowledge products are established in local realities. This will promote better partnerships and understanding within and outside the ILO (Strategic Policy Framework for 2006-09 and related guidance from the Governing Body 291st Session, November 2004).