Knowledge Corner
(Satellite Library)

The Challenge

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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 (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.

To improve CO-Manila's information dissemination effort, 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. This initiative started in September 2009 when the first ILO Knowledge Corner was set up in the University of the Philippines School of Labor and Industrial Relations (UPSOLAIR) in Quezon City.

Through the ILO Knowledge Corners/Satellite Libraries students, researchers, and library users now have a wider and easy access to ILO databases, publications, reports, videos, and other work-related information materials. The conduct of ILO orientation, knowledge sharing session, briefing on ILO online information resources, and provide resource speakers on specific issues on ILO's areas of work has been constantly extended to the different institutions and universities.

With the establishment of the Knowledge Corners, the ILO has interacted more effectively with other partner agencies and institutions. This also helps in ensuring that the ILO will be recognized as the center of knowledge on the aspect of decent and productive work. The attainment of sustainable, productive, and greener economy starts with accessible knowledge and information tools.

Objectives

- Popularize, expand, and institutionalize the knowledge sharing of ILO information and work-related services among concerned constituents and the general public.

- 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

- In partnership with UPSOLAIR, the first CO-Manila Knowledge Corner was established and launched with Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signing in September 2009. It was followed by the unveiling of ILO marker. CO-Manila donated one computer for easy access of ILO online databases, statistics, publications, and other information materials.

- After the establishment of the first ILO Knowledge Corner, several universities and constituent offices approached CO-Manila 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 in the SSS Main Office to provide the SSS employees and the public a convenient and easy access to ILO information on social security and other work-related materials. The ILO-Asian Institute of Management (AIM) Knowledge Corner was established on 18 October 2010. One ILO/UN Knowledge Corner was established at Pamulaan Center for Indigenous Peoples Education in the University of Southeastern Philippines in Davao City on 20 October 2010.

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- Established six Knowledge Corners in 2011 namely: De La Salle University (DLSU)-Manila and Makati Campuses on 31 January 2011; Ifugao State University (IfSU) on 18 May 2011, the first knowledge corner in Northern Luzon; Silliman University (SU) in Dumaguete City on 25 August 2011; and Lyceum of the Philippines University (LPU) in Laguna and Batangas City on 4 October 2011.

- In 2012, the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) and Senate of the Philippines Knowledge Corners were established.

- 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"; "Gender Equality, Decent and Production Work"; "Decent Work for All: Key Labour Market and Employment Trends in the Philippines"; "Decent Work Across Borders: Opportunities and Challenges with Health Professional Migration"; and "Highlights and Updates on Maritime Labour Convention".

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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).

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