

Tripartite Action for the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers in the ASEAN Region (ASEAN Triangle Project)

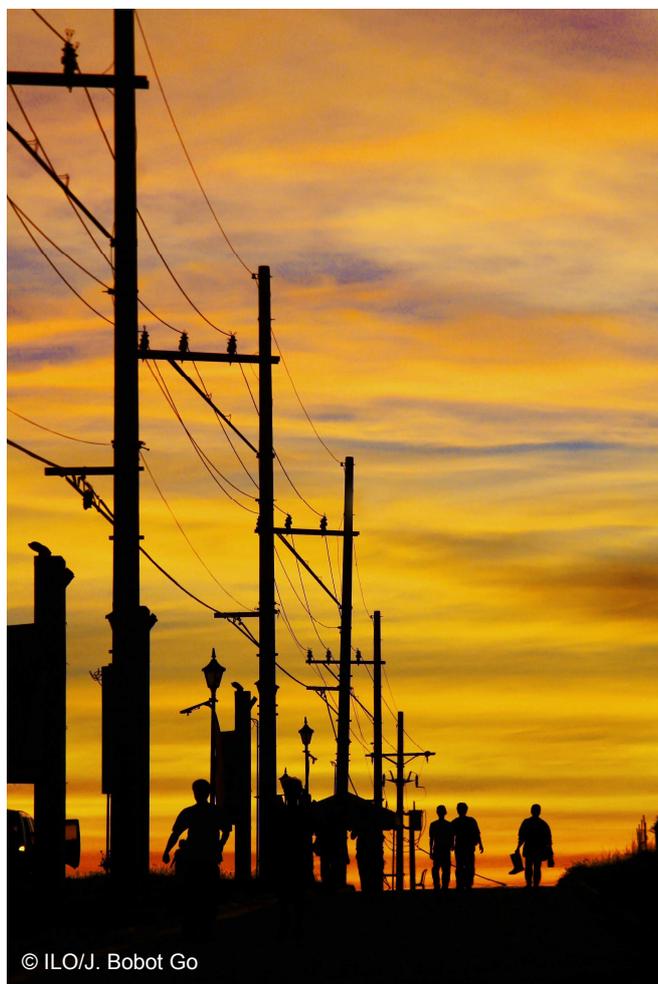


International
Labour
Organization

The Challenge

In recent years labour migration flows from and within southeast Asia have grown in volume and complexity. This trend is linked to a number of factors, including demographic changes, income disparities, human security concerns, established migrant networks and improved transport. But while migrant workers make an enormous development contribution to both their countries of origin and destination, many – particularly those with irregular status – suffer human and labour rights violations.

There is no effective, unilateral approach to international labour migration governance. Actions taken in countries of origin have fundamental consequences in destination countries and vice versa. Moreover, there is a remarkable commonality in the challenges faced by women and men migrants, service providers and governments across the region.



The Response

The International Labour Organization (ILO), with funding support from the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development is implementing a project called *Tripartite Action for the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers in the ASEAN Region (ASEAN Triangle Project)*.

The project aims to significantly reduce the exploitation of labour migrants in the region through increased legal and safe migration and improved labour protection. The project will promote both bilateral and regional approaches to deal with shared concerns, make regionalism more effective and enhance the capacity of institutions in ASEAN.

Canada



Objectives

The project objectives are in line with the strategic priorities of the ASEAN Labour Ministers Work Programme (2010-2015).

- A stronger regional legal and policy framework to more effectively govern labour migration and protect the rights of women and men migrant workers, in a gender responsive manner.
- Enhanced capacity of governments to oversee the enforcement of labour and migration laws and regulations, in a gender responsive manner.
- Enhanced capacity of social partners to influence labour migration policy and protect the rights of women and men migrant workers.



Philippine-led Activities for 2014

- Conducted a financial literacy needs assessment of ASEAN migrant workers located in Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand
- Developed a financial education curriculum and teaching materials specific to the needs and concerns of ASEAN migrant workers and their families
- Capacitated migrant leaders, civil society organizations and embassy staff to conduct financial education workshops
- Conducted a consultation workshop among Philippine stakeholders in support of developing an ASEAN database on labour migration statistics
- Supported Philippine civil society organizations (CSOs) develop a primer on the ILO Domestic Workers Convention (No. 189) and Philippine Kasambahay Law
- Organized a regional CSO forum on ILO Domestic Workers Convention (No. 189) to strengthen ASEAN CSO networks and advocate for the ratification of Convention No. 189
- Convened the 2014 ASEAN Labour Inspection Conference in partnership with the Department of Labor and Employment wherein labour inspection in migrant-inspection was adopted among the recommended strategies
- Developed a training curriculum and conducted a course for ASEAN labour attaches on strategic negotiations, conflict management and ASEAN labour migration systems
- Conducted a tripartite national preparatory workshop for the 7th ASEAN Forum on Migrant Labour (AFML) to examine the Philippines' progress vis-a-vis previous AFML priorities and produce a set of recommendations for the 7th AFML
- Supported the ASEAN Trade Union Council's (ATUC) formal adoption of regional complaints mechanism processes and trade union-to-trade union agreements in relation to migrant workers in ASEAN member States
- Organized a regional forum gathering the ASEAN Committee on Women (ACW) and the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children (ACWC) to validate a tool on developing gender-responsive labour migration policies, discuss specific concerns of vulnerable groups of migrant workers and advocate gender-responsive practices

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Components

Donor: Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development

Duration: 2012-2016

Partners: Tripartite constituents in ASEAN member States, ASEAN Secretariat, ASEAN Trade Union Council (ATUC), ASEAN Confederation of Employers (ACE)

Geographical Focus: Southeast Asia

Target Beneficiaries: Governments, Workers' and Employers' Organizations (including ACMW, ACE, ATUC), Migrants in the ASEAN Region

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