

Fifth technical Meeting of Focal Specialists on International Labour Migration Statistics in ASEAN

International Labour Organization Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

27-28 August 2019

Pullman Kingpower Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand

CONCEPT NOTE

Background and Rationale

The **International Labour Migration Statistics (ILMS) Database in ASEAN** has been published annually since December 2014 as a special collection on the ILO's central database, ILOSTAT, as well as through the AP-Migration web-portal. In validating, annotating and gathering together the information from the relevant surveys and administrative records produced in ten ASEAN Member States (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, The Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam), ILMS Database in ASEAN fills an important knowledge gap for national and regional policy-makers and for the broader research community. The sixth round of data collection for the ILMS Database in ASEAN was successfully completed in 2018 and data has been being published on the AP Migration portal.

The ILMS database was created in 1998 and maintained until 2006 by ILOSTAT, EURSTAT, UNSD and UNECE, with regular updates of data from 94 countries.¹ In the 2012, the ILO's **ASEAN TRIANGLE project**, funded by Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (GAC), reinvigorated the ILMS for ASEAN. Since 2016, the ILMS Database in ASEAN is supported by the **TRIANGLE in ASEAN** programme, which is a partnership between the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), the GAC and the ILO. TRIANGLE in ASEAN program delivers technical assistance and support with the overall goal of maximizing the contribution of labour migration to equitable, inclusive, and stable growth in ASEAN.

In July 2018, ILO Statistical Department's (ILOSTAT) decided to restart collection of ILMS at global level. TRIANGLE in ASEAN will continue to facilitate collection of ASEAN ILMS also in the years to come. Reinvigoration of the ILMS database at global level is important both for SDG monitoring, national planning, and global evidence base on labour migration.

In October 2018 the 20th International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) agreed for the first time on international standards on measuring international labour migration statistics, and adopted the Guidelines concerning statistics of international labour migration (see further details at: https://www.ilo.org/global/statistics-and-databases/meetings-and-events/international-conference-of-labour-statisticians/WCMS_648922/lang--en/index.htm) . Member States have therefore at their disposal the needed tools to measure and produce comparable statistics on labour migration.

¹ ILO. Labour Migration Highlights No. 1. Labour migration statistics
https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_protect/---protrav/---migrant/documents/publication/wcms_384858.pdf.

Collection of ILMS data in ASEAN is done annually with the help of a **network of ILMS focal specialists** in national institutions in all ten ASEAN Member States. This network of focal experts was established in 2013, and has since met in 2014, 2015 and 2017. The **fifth technical meeting of Focal Specialists on International Labour Migration Statistics in ASEAN** will be convened on 27-28 August 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand.

Objectives

TRIANGLE in ASEAN will host the **fifth technical meeting of Focal Specialists on International Labour Migration Statistics in ASEAN** on 27-28 August 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand. The overall objectives of the Meeting are to:

1. Share experiences on ILMS data collection in 1st-6th rounds of ILMS collection in ASEAN, and identify ways to further improve data collection and sharing among ASEAN Member States.
2. Discuss initial findings from ILO's draft report "Preparing ASEAN for SDG reporting on labour migration: Analytical report on the International Labour Migration Statistics Database in ASEAN"
3. Introduce the **new ILMS data collection template** developed by ILOSTAT and discuss upcoming changes in collection of ILMS data at global level
4. Brief ILMS national focal points on the new Guidelines concerning statistics of international labour migration
5. Discuss strategies to ensure the collection and production of international migration and labour migration statistics at national level, in line with recent international standards
6. Prepare for the seventh phase of data collection in ASEAN to be launched on 2 September 2019.

Participants

The Meeting will bring together representatives from national governments, the ASEAN Secretariat, ASEAN Statistics, and ILO. Member states' participants will ideally be the original (or prospective future) focal specialists from each country, including one or both of the Ministry of Labour and another Ministry responsible for data collection (e.g. National Statistical Office, Office of Immigration, etc.).

The Meeting will thus bring together the following ~26 partners and participants:

- ❖ *Member States' focal specialists* ~ 16 participants (see attached focal specialists)
- ❖ *ASEAN Statistics* 1 participant
- ❖ *ASEAN Secretariat* 1 participant
- ❖ *UN ESCAP* 2 participants
- ❖ *Government of Canada* 1 participant
- ❖ *ILO ROAP / DWT* ~ 5 participants

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AGENDA (preliminary draft)

DAY 1	Tuesday 27 August
8.30-9.00	<i>Registration</i>
9.00-10:00	Opening session
9.45-11.00	Session 1: International Labour Migration Statistics (ILMS) in ASEAN: An Overview Moderator: Marja Paavilainen, <i>Senior Programme Officer, TRIANGLE in ASEAN</i>
11.00-11.15	<i>Coffee break</i>
11.15-13.00	Session 2: Global updates on collection of labour migration statistics and SDG reporting
13.00-14.00	<i>Lunch</i>
14.00-15.15	Session 3: Validation of ILO draft analytical report on the ILMS in ASEAN 2013-2018
15.15-15.30	<i>Coffee break</i>
15.30-16.45	Session 4: Way forward to improve ILMS collection in ASEAN in line with SDG requirements and new international guidelines
16.45-17.00	Closing of Day 1
DAY 2	Wednesday 28 August
9.00-11.00	Session 5: Reinvigoration of the ILO's Global ILMS Database
10.30-10.45	<i>Coffee break</i>
11.45-12.45	Session 6: Preparing for the 7th round of ILMS collection in ASEAN
12.45-13.00	Closing remarks
13.00-14.00	<i>Lunch</i>