The ILO delivers assistance directly to migrant workers and their communities through a network of Migrant Worker Resource Centres (MRCs) across the ASEAN region. These MRCs are managed in partnership with government institutions, trade unions and civil society organizations (CSOs), and provide a range of services in countries of origin and destination. They are supported through the following projects: ILO-UN Women Safe and Fair, ILO TRIANGLE in ASEAN, ILO Developing International and Internal Labour Migration Governance (DIILM in Myanmar), and ILO Migrant Workers Empowerment and Advocacy (in Malaysia).

The MRCs work to ensure that workers seeking jobs overseas can get up-to-date information and counselling before making a decision about migrating. Returning migrants can also get information about opportunities for vocational training, employment in their communities or possibilities of re-migrating. Through the MRCs, women and men migrant workers are able to lodge complaints in case where migrant workers’ rights have been abused, or they have suffered exploitation as a result of their recruitment or migration experience. Some MRCs have particular provision for migrant women to receive immediate support and be referred to violence against women (VAW) specialized service providers, including health, police/justice, and social services.

TRIANGLE in ASEAN programme has supported the operation of Migrant Worker Resource Centres (MRCs) since 2011 in Cambodia, Laos PDR, Malaysia, Thailand and Viet Nam (and in Myanmar since 2014). The Safe and Fair Programme started supporting MRCs in 2019 and 2020 in Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand, with focus on providing services to women migrant workers and their families. The Developing International and Internal Labour Migration Governance (DIILM) project has been supporting Migrant Centres (MCs) in Myanmar since 2019. The Migrant Workers Empowerment and Advocacy project has supported MRCs in Malaysia since 2016.

As of 1 February 2021