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Foundation for Education  
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**This project is funded by the European Union**

# ***Rights of Migrants in Action***

**REGIONAL CONSULTATION**

**01-02 March 2017**

**Bangkok, Thailand**



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## Objectives

*To promote and protect the rights of Burmese migrant domestic workers and victims of human trafficking in Thailand with a specific focus on access to services.*

*Empowering Burmese women: breaking stereotypes and giving females knowledge, strength and confidence to stand up for their rights*

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## Target population/ recipients

- **Project Target Group:** The Burmese domestic migrant workers and the victims of human trafficking community in Thailand. Our estimate is that 50,000 domestic workers will indirectly benefit, through exposure to our activities on social media, radio, TV and in journals, while we intend to work directly with an estimated 10,000 to 15,000 domestic workers through trainings and public forums.
- **Project Target Area:** Bangkok, Nonthaburi, Chon Buri, Rayong Ratchburi, Pechaburi, Samut Sakhon Ayutthaya, Samut Prakan , Nakhon Pathom, Samut Songkhra, Phang-Nga, Phuket, Ranong, Surathani and Tak province. The provinces are near Bangkok and special economic zones in Thailand, where many Myanmar domestic workers are working.





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## Next steps

FED is providing an opportunity for migrants and especially for women and young girls to get involve in most of our activities such as women's exchange program (topics – health, education, politics, labor right, women rights, media), women vocational skills training, internship program and communities health volunteers program. FED wants to show the women what they really can do and how strong they really are to stand up for their rights. It's good that some men got involved in the trainings, if we want to change the point of view of Burmese communities towards domestic workers; we need men to support this idea. We are planning more domestic worker empowerment trainings in 2017. We know that we cannot change everything in one day, but we believe that if we keep up the trainings, we will see differences.



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## Achievements

In 2016, we provided 19 domestic workers empowerment trainings, 2 public forums and 3 CSO network meetings. These took place in the areas of Mae Sot, Bangkok, Ranong, Suratthani, Phuket, Samut Sakorn and Phang Nga.

FED gives information about their rights; the topics are human rights, women rights, legal rights etc. In the past year, we provided 19 domestic workers empowerment trainings. The total of participants was 877, including 587 women and 290 men.

There were **1,126** people directly reached by the project and **26,438** people indirectly reached by getting the information through pamphlets, radio broadcasts, FED website, FED's social media (Facebook and Instagram) and FED's annual reports.



## Key obstacles and challenges

- Thai government announced new migrant documentation role and law of identification, Burmese migrant workers had registered into the pink card process. It has many restrictions such as not allow travelling to other provinces, not allow to change new employees, not allow to work in different work sectors, not allow to apply driving licence, not allow going back its own country. Due to these kinds of restrictions, Burmese migrants are been limited to participate in our activities.
- A time constraint is also a barrier to provide all relevant information to participants.
- Migrant workers are not really interesting in the training topics of domestic worker right
- Migrant workers themselves prefer to work even on the weekend because they want to earn more income for their family survival



## Lessons learned

- Some migrant youth are interested in to learn from trainings and publications
- Migrants are interested about documents such as (passport, work permit, pink card, social security and health insurance)
- Some Burmese women in the communities nearby our office based, are interested in to learn vocational skills, such as sewing, knitting, crochet and flower decoration including interpretation skills .





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