



August 2019

ILO Director-General Visits Ship to Shore Rights Partners

Bangkok — ILO Director-General Guy Ryder returned to Thailand in late July for an [official visit](#) and meeting with Thailand’s Prime Minister, General Prayuth Chan-o-cha and newly-appointed Minister of Labour, M.R. Chatumongkol Sonakul. He also heard from employers’ and workers’ partners in the Ship to Shore Rights Project—the Thai Tuna Industry Association and the ITF Fishers’ Rights Network. His two-day visit included a field visit to the Samut Sakhon Port-in/Port-out (PIPO) control center for a first-hand look at labour inspections in fishing, and a visit to the nearby Unicord tuna processing plant.



Watch the Two New Ship to Shore Rights Films

The Project has just launched two new short films on ratification the ILO Forced Labour Protocol (P. 29) and best practices for enforcement of new Thai laws on work in fishing. A third film focused on the work of union and civil society partners in the project will be launched in late 2019, and the project’s first film—a look at the revised GLP programme—can be seen [here](#).



Working Conditions Endline Research Data Collection Begins

Rayong — Teams of researchers and interpreters are in major port and seafood processing areas in July and August to interview workers on working conditions for the Ship to Shore Rights Project’s ‘endline’ research to take stock of changes in the industry since the ILO’s 2017 baseline report [link]. The research teams from ILO partner Rapid Asia are sampling 470 workers across 11 port areas in Thailand on key issues including recruitment, contracts, pay, hours, getting help, and forced labour. The project will publish the Endline Report publicly in Q4 2019. The 2019 report will include never-before-collected data on home-based work in Thai seafood processing.



SeaWeb 2019 Panel Discussion on Work in Fishing

Bangkok — ILO Ship to Shore Rights Project led the [SeaWeb Seafood Summit 2019](#) panel on “Work in Fishing from the Far End of the Supply Chain” in June 2019 as part of the final global Seafood Conference. The ILO covered all perspectives on changes in labour practices from the Thai perspective—workers and workers’ organizations, Thai suppliers, and regulators as well as the ILO and EU perspectives on reforms since 2015. [The ILO also brought a representative of the Indonesian government](#) to react to the changes made by Thailand in recent years. Panel members included Giuseppe Busini, Deputy Head of Mission, EU Delegation to Thailand; Patana Bhandhufalck, Director of International Cooperation Bureau, Ministry of Labour, Thailand; Basilio Dias Araujo, Coordinating Ministry for Maritime Affairs, Indonesia; Attapan Masrungson, Thai Tuna Industry Association; Ussama Kaewpradap, Fishers’ Rights Network/ITF. Jason Judd—the ILO Ship to Shore Rights Project’s Chief Technical Advisor—acted as moderator.



Seafood GLP Working Committee Organizes

Bangkok — The Seafood Good Labour Practices (GLP) Working Committee held its first meeting at the Ministry of Labour (MOL), with tripartite stakeholders from the Department of Labour Standards, Department of Fisheries, employers' and workers' organizations, and the two GLP industry associations—Thai Frozen Foods Association (TFFA) and Thai Tuna Industry Association (TTIA) — which co-chair the new committee with the MOL. The committee reflected on the GLP activities carried out by TFFA/TTIA, which included trainings for factory members' representatives and factory visits by the associations. The committee re-iterated its commitment to building a tripartite oversight body for GLP programmes. The year-end GLP report with new metrics on member factory performance is slated for release in December 2019.



The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of the ILO Ship to Shore Rights Project and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union or the Thai Ministry of Labour.

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