

Capacity strengthening of DSD's caregiving training provision: Consultancy service for production of a green and digital blended 70-hour older person caregiving curriculum, a training manual, and an assessment package.



The Strengthening Capacity to Promote Gender-Responsive Investments in the Provision of Decent Care Services in Thailand Project (The Care Economy Project – THA/21/01/RBS) works in collaboration with ILO constituents and other social partners with an integrated approach to investments in the care economy (childcare and long-term care), addressing both the supply and demand sides and identifying and addressing gaps in policies, investments, service provision, skills and decent work. The project promotes the strategic need for accessible, professional, affordable public care options while also promoting decent jobs in the care sector and improving working conditions and social protection coverage of vulnerable care workers, therefore, addressing a strategic need towards the achievement of gender equality: recognising, reducing, and redistributing unpaid care duties – while also valuing care workers by enhancing and accrediting their skills and improving their working conditions, generating a virtuous circle.

Under Output 5.3: Increased capacity of the ILO constituents to design and deliver innovative, flexible and inclusive learning options, encompassing work-based learning and quality apprenticeships. The intervention aims to support the Constituents to develop the innovative, blended transformation of learning programmes. A focus will be given to childcare and long-term care workers, benefitting particularly women who make up the bulk of care workers.

Deliverables under this output are review and upgrading of existing national standards, curricula, and training packages for both i) elderly care and ii) early childhood care occupations. In light of the Future of Work needs, digital, green and gender-related dimensions will be strengthened in the existing DSD care curricula. Gender-responsive coaching program on how to develop “Blended skills development packages” (including competency standards, curricula, training, assessment and recognition of prior learning packages) for DSD, social partners, civil

society associations and vocational training institutions. Training, upskilling and recognition of prior learning for 100 vulnerable care workers will be undertaken.

To achieve this output, the project has collaborated with the ILO/ITC Turin to provide a coaching programme to strengthen capacity of the Dept of Skill Development (DSD), the Ministry of Labour (MOL), to blend the “Core Skills for Life and Work in the 21st Century”, specifically the green and digital skills into the DSD existing curriculums. The online coaching programme titled “At the intersection of the digital and green transformations: toward a renewed TVET offer in Thailand” has started in June 2022 and will end in October 2022. A composition of care sector participants (recruited by the DSD through a process of the announcement and voluntary application) included the skill development officers as well as their collaboration networks such as the representatives from the Provincial Health Office (PHO), the medical doctors and nurses from the District Hospitals, university, caregiving training schools, and care manager of private elderly nursing home. A blending of 70-hour older person caregiving curriculum was selected for a pilot test, taking into account the project's limited timeframe (ending in January 2023). Support to blend other curriculums such as a 420-hour older person caregiving curriculum and other child caregiving curriculums will be discussed later, subject to the pilot test's results, fund availability, and timeframe.

The 1st part of the coaching programme was completed on 8 August. The 2nd part started on 5 September and will end on 14 October 2022. It covers the practice part to blend digital and green skills into the existing curriculum. Currently, the care sector participants have successfully developed a skeleton of the green and digital blended 70-hour older person caregiving curriculum. A face-to-face technical consultation workshop will be required to translate the skeleton into a full body of blended curriculum. In addition, the training manual and assessment package, teaching materials (e-Book and printed books) and digital media will be required for training of 100 care workers in the pilot provinces of Chiangmai, Sukhothai, Kanchanaburi, and Surin (The training is tentatively planned for 13-27 Dec 2022). A team of multi-disciplinary national consultants is needed to undertake these works.

It is critical to the project that the blended curriculum be finalised, and the training manual and assessment packages with necessary teaching materials be produced as soon as possible so that the training of care workers can start and be completed within the project timeframe. This blended curriculum has the potential to become an innovation in the caregiving sector. Thailand will be the first country in the world to design and implement it.

NIDA Consulting Center and services has conducted this project in which To produce the upgraded (including green and digital skills), blended 70-hour older person caregiving training curriculum, training and assessment packages in the Thai language, in the e-Book and other electronic files.

The training manual should be easy to use and easy to understand, including pre and post - assessments, with proper photos, infographics, illustrations, video clips, PowerPoint. etc., which the instructor/trainer can easily show on screen and through various online applications such as Zoom, MS Team, etc.

***The blended training curriculum, training manual and assessment package will follow the updated technical contents of the 70-hour older person caregiving training manual of the Department of Hygiene, including identified additional green and digital skills, and the DSD curriculum development guideline.