



DIPLOMACY TRAINING PROGRAM

AFFILIATED WITH THE FACULTY OF LAW AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES
A training program for peoples of the Asia-Pacific region

30th Annual Regional Human Rights & Peoples Diplomacy Training Program

23 January - 3 February, 2023



Photo: Day 1 with Professor Vitit Munthabhorn, DTP Advisory Council Member/Trainer

Diplomacy Training Program (DTP) in Partnership with Mahidol University, Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (FORUM-ASIA), Pacific Islands Association of Non-Governmental Organisations (PIANGO), Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA), Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP), Human Rights Development Foundation (HRDF) and SHAPE-SEA (Strengthening Human Rights and Peace Education in ASEAN/Southeast Asia).

PROGRAM REPORT

The Diplomacy Training Program's 30th Annual Program received support from the Australian Government's Australian NGO Cooperation Program, National Endowment for Democracy, and from the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights



Overview

The Diplomacy Training Program's (DTP) 30th Annual Human Rights and Peoples' Diplomacy Training for Human Rights Defenders in the Asia-Pacific was held in Thailand from 26 January - 3 February, 2023 in partnership with Mahidol University, FORUM-ASIA, PIANGO, MFA, AIPP, HRDF, SHAPE-SEA¹.

Twenty-nine human rights defenders from 13 different countries participated in this program: Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan/USA, Myanmar, the Philippines, Papua New Guinea, and Timor-Leste. The participants work on a diverse range of human rights concerns including rights of migrant workers, women and children, LGBTIQ, gender justice, trafficking, Indigenous peoples rights, peace-building and struggles for self-determination, youth, environmental issues and climate change and human rights education. This two-week residential program of intensive learning, sharing and skills building was DTP's first regional face to face program (F2F) since 2019 and COVID.

Trainers, presenters and facilitators in the program included Professor Vitit Muntabhorn, Dr Sripapha Petchamesree Mike Hayes, Dr. Seree Nonthasoot, Dr. Wanun Permpibul, Kevin Lehmann, Anna Olsen, Romchat Wachirattanakornkul, Georgina Lloyd, Katia Chirizzi, Arnaud Chaltin, Nicholas Booth, Harpreet Kaur, Debbie Stothard, Joel Barredo, Harpreet Kaur, Pranom Somwong, Usa Lerdsrisuntad, Boonthan Verawongse, Ruki Fernando, Freddy Gamage, William Gois, Joshua Cooper, Arul Prakkash, and Patrick Earle. Trainers included at least three DTP alumni.

The program began with a focus on the 75th Anniversary of the UDHR, and the international human rights standards and mechanisms developed to promote and protect human rights over the last 75 years. It explored human rights in the context of the climate emergency and commitments to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). There was a special session reflecting on the achievements of Asia civil society mobilisation that resulted in the adoption of the influential 1993 Bangkok NGO Declaration on Human Rights, ahead of the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights and the relevance of this to today's challenges.

Some of the specific issues the participants worked on were explored in sessions on the rights of women, human rights and business, migrant workers and Indigenous peoples rights. There was a strong focus on practical advocacy strategies and participants had the opportunity to apply program content in practical exercises including developing a short video, group role-plays, exercises to engage with the Human Rights Treaty Bodies and Special Procedures and Universal Periodic Review, and lobby meetings with diplomats from the Australian Embassy.

The program continued DTP's long relationship with Thailand's human rights and democracy movements. It provided a safe space for reflection, sharing information, strategies and resources, and for establishing networks for continued solidarity amongst the participants. There was a focus on the current human rights crisis in Myanmar, and broader context of closing space for civil society and growing authoritarianism. The value of the program was reflected in participant evaluations. These evaluations inform this report.

DTP thanks its partners in the program, its trainers who donated their time, the participants who shared their knowledge, and the funders that made the program possible.

The highlight of the program was actually witnessing the demonstration for the Thai activists & solidarity event for Burma on the 2nd year of the coup. It was exciting to have the opportunity to connect with and learn more about the issues on the ground.²

¹Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (FORUM-ASIA) and Pacific Islands Association of Non-Governmental Organisations (PIANGO) and Judicial System Monitoring Program, Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA), Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP), Human Rights Development Foundation (HRDF) and SHAPE-SEA (Strengthening Human Rights and Peace Education in ASEAN/Southeast Asia).

² These and other quotes are taken from the anonymous end of training evaluations.

1. Purpose

To enhance the effectiveness of civil society representatives working to promote and protect human rights across the Asia-Pacific region.

The program recognises the role that training can play in enhancing the effectiveness of advocates and advocacy, and the value of building support networks among advocates. Underpinning the program is an understanding of the critical role of human rights defenders and community advocates in protecting and promoting human rights – and of ensuring human rights agreements are implemented. This program is part of DTP’s longer-term strategy of building capacities and networks for the diverse human rights movements of Asia and the Pacific.

2. Program Methodology and Materials

Since 1990 the DTP has established its reputation for delivering relevant and practical human rights training programs for human rights defenders in the Asia-Pacific region. DTP recognises and values the experiences and skills that participants bring to its programs. Active participation is strongly encouraged throughout the program. The training methodology is interactive, with an emphasis on group work, discussion, role-play and case studies. Participants are involved in program management and in daily reflections. The course schedule is continuously reviewed and adapted to respond to participants’ feedback, advice and requests.

The opportunity to share experiences and lessons with other participants and trainers is one of the real benefits of participating in the program. All participants are encouraged to make short presentations highlighting the human rights issues they work on. This helps participants to develop skills and confidence in presenting, encourages sharing of experiences and strategies and builds knowledge on the diverse and shared human rights issues of the Asia-Pacific region.



Participants are provided with a comprehensive DTP manual to complement the training and for future reference. The DTP Manual and trainer and participant presentations are provided to the participants in soft copy.

3. Participants

DTP aims to have to have 25-30 participants on these programs. Information about the program was widely distributed by DTP and its partners through NGO networks in the Asia-Pacific region. Participants in the training program are selected through an open and competitive selection process. Efforts are made to ensure gender balance and geographic representation and priority consideration is given to Indigenous peoples’ advocates and women.

As this program was postponed from 2020 due to COVID, applicants were mainly selected from applications received in 2019/20. This made final program selection process more complicated than usual as some successful applicants had moved organisations or positions since they first applied. Over 30 participants were selected, but some last-minute withdrawals for personal reasons meant 29 participants completed the program.

Participants included lawyers, researchers, advocates, trainers, program workers and activists working on a broad range of human rights issues. This diversity contributed to the richness of the program.

DTP acknowledges the commitment of the participants, many working on challenging human rights issues in the region, thanks them for their energetic participation, for sharing their knowledge and experience and the support they extended to each other throughout this intensive learning program.

4. Program Description and Highlights

Through theory we were able to understand the concepts of international human rights laws, principles, mechanisms etc. And the practical sessions in the UNESCAP, the Australian embassy, the role plays, activities helped me understand the theory effectively.³

Welcomes and Opening - International Bill of Human Rights and the Human Rights Framework

Mike Hayes, International Human Rights and Peace Program, Mahidol University and Patrick Earle, Executive Director of DTP welcomed the participants to the program and to Bangkok, Thailand.

[Emeritus Professor Vitit Munthaborn](#), DTP Advisory Council member then led the first sessions of the program. He drew out and engaged the participants as he charted the development of international human rights standard and the UN Human Rights System. The 75th Anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and the 30th Anniversary of the Bangkok NGO Declaration were highlighted as key moments.

Dr Sriprapha Petcharamesree continued the focus on the UDHR – challenging participants to think of a world that did not have this statement on the shared rights and values of human dignity.

The International Bill of Human Rights is comprised of the (1) Universal Declaration of Human Rights, (2) International Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and (3) International Convention of Civil and Political Rights and its two Optional Protocols. The International Bill of Human Rights is the foundation for the framework of human rights standards and mechanisms that has been built over 75 years to promote and protect universal values of human dignity.

While we all have human rights – and we all have responsibilities to respect each other's rights, states have the primary responsibility to RESPECT, PROTECT AND FULFILL all human rights.

The UN has developed treaty-based and charter-based system/mechanisms to promote human rights, and to monitor and hold states accountable. The role of civil society has been recognised as critical to this system, including through the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders.

There are formal and informal opportunities for civil society to engage in UN processes and to influence outcomes – especially where governments have ratified specific human rights treaties. Human rights are included in the UN Charter – and this provides authority to the UN Charter based human rights mechanisms - the Human Rights Council, Universal Periodic Review (UPR) and UN Special Procedures (SPs).

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and The Right to Housing

Dr Seree Nonthasoot, training with DTP for the first time, shared his role as a member of the UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights – and developed participants' understanding of state obligations to human rights, the content of economic, social and cultural rights, and the importance of the Committee's General Comments for understanding these rights. He also introduced the UN human rights treaty reporting process as a key accountability mechanism. Mike Hayes then led a practical and participatory session on

³ These and other quotes are taken from the anonymous end of training evaluations.

applying the right to housing to a real-life scenario of negotiation on land – involving competing claims and interests.

Human rights, Climate Change and the Environment

Dr. Wanun Permpibul led the session on human rights and climate change – leading participants through why the climate crisis is also a crisis for human rights. Vital responses to the climate crisis also threaten human rights – as economies transition, old industries shed workers, and the hunger for new minerals places added pressure on Indigenous peoples, threatening to displace them and denying their human rights right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment. Dr Wanun admirably compressed key points from a five-day capacity building program on climate change and human rights into a single session.

Dr Wanun's session was followed by Romchat Wachirarattanakornkul (OHCHR)/Georgina Lloyd (UNEP) drawing out the intersections between the environment and human rights, the [16 Framework Principles on Human Rights and the Environment](#). They also introduced the [Environmental Human Rights Defenders Toolkit](#).

Field Visit to UNESCAP - The Human Rights System in the Asia-Pacific, Labour Standards and Business and Human Rights -

The UN Development Program (UNDP) hosted a visit by the participants to UNESCAP – where there was a welcome and introduction to OHCHR in the Asia Pacific from Katia Chirizzi, and a session on human rights accountability mechanisms and processes with Arnaud Chaltin. Anna Olsen introduced the ILO – and in particular its regional work on the rights of workers and migrant workers/trafficking. There are now 190 ILO treaties – covering many areas of human and workers' rights – including domestic work, forced labour and the rights of Indigenous peoples. The ILO also has distinct and important complaints and accountability processes. The final session of the day was with Nicholas Booth and Kevin Lehmann who shared UNDP's work on human rights, and business and human rights in Asia.

Strategic Advocacy and Developing Advocacy Campaigns

Approaches to advocacy, how to make change for human rights, is an integral part of the program and included in many sessions, but it was also given specific focus by one of the region's most experienced advocates, [Debbie Stothard](#). Participants were encouraged to be clear about their objectives, focus on the change they want to see and the steps needed to get there, including who they need to influence/persuade to take action and to think about who or what might influence them to make the desired change. Participants exchanged on the range of techniques and tools that can be used in advocacy and there was discussion of the need not to just focus on problems but to have recommendations for change.

Using the UN's Human Rights Accountability Mechanisms: The UN's Special Procedures

[Ruki Fernando](#) led sessions on how to engage with and use the UN's Human Rights Special Procedures in defence and promotion of human rights. There are over 60 UN mandates for Special Procedures – most recently on Human Rights and Climate Change. They can receive and communicate urgent actions, undertake country visits, make public statements, and undertake studies on thematic issues. Understanding them as become a vital part of a human rights defenders toolkit.

Building and Sustaining International Solidarity

Freddie Gamage from Sri Lanka then led a reflective session, looking back at many years of experience in human Timor Leste – and a focus on the challenges of building solidarity today – on Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Cambodia.

There was a rich sharing between the participants who were joined by representatives of Asia Democracy Network, AltASEAN, Asian Network for Free Elections, the International Commission of Jurists and Human Rights Watch.

On Sunday, Thai human rights activist and DTP alumnus, Boonthan Verawongse hosted a visit to Thailand's October 14 Memorial Hall. He told us about the history of human rights activism and the movement for democracy in Thailand and took us on a guided walking tour of Bangkok's monuments to Thailand's democracy movement. Several participants noted it as a highlight in their evaluations. Meals together help with the network building objectives of the program.



Week 2

The Rights of Women, The Rights of Migrant Workers, the Responsibilities of Business – and Reflections on the 30th Anniversary of the Bangkok NGO Declaration on Human Rights

Week 2 of the program began with a focus on the rights of women – with 1995 DTP alumna, Usa Lerdsrisuntad, of the Association for the Promotion of the Status of Women who was able to share very practical experience of using CEDAW and CEDAW reporting processes to address issues of gender and discrimination.

This session was followed by William Gois of Migrant Forum in Asia, DTP's longstanding regional partner. He, shared why the rights of migrant workers is such a major issue in the region, and how important the Convention on the Rights of Migrant Workers is – and how advocates can use this and other human rights standards in their advocacy.

Harpreet Kaupur of UNDP's Business and Human Rights (BHR) Team then joined the participants and introduced them to the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs), their framework of *Protect, Respect and Remedy*

- Protect: State duty to hold businesses accountable for acting with due diligence to avoid human rights violations
- Respect: the responsibility of businesses to ensure they do no harm through their operations and supply chain – and exercise due diligence
- Remedy: the responsibility of states and companies to provide access to remedy where harms have been done

This framework does not provide any mechanism for accountability or redress, and there are calls for the development of a binding international human rights treaty on business and human rights. In the absence of such a binding treaty there has been a focus on strengthening legal obligations in relation to due diligence.

For the final session of the day Debbie Stothard led a session with some of those involved in the mobilisation of civil society and the drafting of the Bangkok NGO Declaration on Human Rights. This strategic advocacy defeated the governments that were promoting “Asian” values of human rights to undermine universal human rights standards. It also contributed to the development of today’s human rights architecture – of the UN Human Rights Council, the Universal Periodic Review, the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. The activists reflected on why they came together then, how they mobilised and some of the lessons for now, as civil society advocacy space shrinks and authoritarian governments again undermine universal standards of human rights.

Video Advocacy – Using Mobile Phones in Advocacy, Online Security

Skills development is an important part of the program, integrated into many sessions – and the focus of its own sessions that focus on advocacy skills of documentation, messaging, and targeting. [Arul Prakash](#) of WITNESS introduced the importance of technology in human rights documentation and raising the profile of human rights issues, building awareness and support, and targeting key audiences.

Participants were given advice on developing communication strategies, and how to make short videos using their phones. There was an emphasis on personal safety and security – as well ethical considerations and practical advice on how to protect privacy, and prevent the identification of those at risk of human rights violations. He provided technical training on security and safety and on producing compelling and effective film footage. Participants took part in a practical video filming session. Prakash shared tips and introduced participants to some of the useful apps and internet resources available for human rights defenders in their work.

Lobbying Skills Development – Practical Engagement Exercise at Australian Embassy

The DTP course puts an emphasis on developing participants skills in dialogue and negotiation – developing the skills of “peoples’ diplomacy”. This includes the development of skills in engaging government officials, politicians, diplomats, faith leaders and others. Through different exercises through the course participants built their skills and confidence in constructing their arguments, and in engaging in dialogue with others in pursuit of change. The importance of having clear objectives, of having specific and realistic recommendations relevant to the different target audiences was emphasised – along with the need to consider and prepare for counter-arguments.

The Australian Embassy in Bangkok hosted a practical exercise – giving participants 5 different human rights scenarios that Embassies have faced – and asking participants to develop their responses as if they were Australian diplomats. Participants and diplomats shared their reflections on the exercise afterwards. It was a fun and practical experience of “peoples’” diplomats exchanging their ideas with real diplomats. This was followed by a reception hosted by the Australian Ambassador, HE Angela McDonald.



Cambodian DTP participants Sa Im Meas with Australian Ambassador, HE Angela McDonald and DTP Program Participants at the Australian Embassy

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Protecting the Defenders

DTP alumna Pranom (Bee) Somwong of Protection International led a dynamic and practical session on the importance of human rights defenders, introducing participants to the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders, and measures that can be taken to try and ensure personal safety and security.



Rights of Indigenous Peoples and Self Determination

Longstanding DTP trainer, [Joshua Cooper](#) led a session on the rights of Indigenous peoples, sharing the story of how advocacy by Indigenous peoples had carved out spaces for Indigenous peoples in the UN System and secured adoption of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) by the UN General Assembly. This advocacy began before WWII with Indigenous peoples' representatives from NZ and the USA making appeals for recognition and justice to the conscience of the world through the League of Nations. It is an inspiring story – and today Indigenous peoples' advocates can take their concerns to the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the UN Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP) and the UN Special Rapporteur on Indigenous Peoples. Indigenous peoples also have a special place in the SDGs and in the consideration of the UN human rights treaty bodies. The right of Indigenous Peoples to Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) recognises and demands self-determination.



Free, Prior and Informed Consent – a continuing process, not once-off decision:

- **Free:** free decision made without any intimidation
- **Prior:** early consultation; sufficient time; all members of the community are consulted; prior notice
- **Informed:** tell everything; no one left behind especially the women; consultation meetings so that the community can determine whether or not to give consent
- **Consent:** Written/oral; win/win processes; good faith

Bringing it All Together – Bangladesh at the UPR – Practical Role Play Exercise

The final sessions of the program focused on the Universal Period Review (UPR) – the process in which every UN member state has their human rights record reviewed. A simulation of the Bangladesh UPR, which will take place later in 2023 was the focus of the end of training simulation – with participants given the roles of different governments, government officials and NGOs. The simulation was led by Joshua Cooper.

Final Reflections and Closing ceremony

One of Thailand's most distinguished human rights defenders and DTP Advisory Council member, Somchai Homlaor, brought the program to an official close awarding each participant their DTP/UNSW certificate. He made the time to offer support and encouragement to these human rights defenders. The closing ceremony was followed by a casual dinner and gathering outside the venue where participants had the opportunity to meet with DTP alumni and to talk further with trainers and discuss future plans and collaborations.

5. Program Evaluation

Participants were involved in daily reflections and evaluations of the program that enabled adjustments and changes to be made. At the end of the training participants completed extensive anonymous evaluation questionnaires – and this was followed by a final group sharing of reflections. All participants took the opportunity to share their reflections on this intensive program.

The group sharing, which was very positive about the value of the program, was reflected in the responses in the individual evaluation surveys. All participants strongly agreed or agreed that they had gained knowledge of international human rights law and principles, built knowledge and skills in engaging the UN human rights accountability mechanisms and UN system, gained practical skills in strategic advocacy, video advocacy, lobbying, and ‘peoples’ diplomacy’. 25 participants said the training had met their expectations and 3 said it had partially met their expectations. All except one participant said they had built stronger networks in the region to enable the sharing of information and support. The majority of the participants said they found that the training was the right length and the right level of difficulty.

The highlight of the program was the holistic concept of human rights & its related issues. It helped me to broaden my vision about human rights.

The main highlight of the program for me is how human rights underpins all the UN systems, policies and programs, including the UNSDGs. Moreover, the short term & long term remedies of human rights issues. This really helped/enriched my understanding in effective and efficient advice & recommendations of community based initiative projects on climate change.

It was clear that participants both enjoyed and found the role play session effective for learning - with the role play on UPR session nominated as a highlight by many participants.

The UPR practice is the highlight. We learned so many tools before the UPR and then practiced to lobby and wrote precise statement. It's a practical session and quite stressful.

Participants also reflected on the value of combining theoretical and practical approaches during the program:

Through theory we were able to understand the concepts of international human rights laws, principles, mechanisms etc. And the practical sessions in the UNESCAP, the Australian embassy, the role plays, activities helped me understand the theory effectively.

I appreciate the variety of theoretical, technical and hands on learnings.

Some said the best part was the opportunity to interact with and learn from others from around the region

The training has provided space to engage with fellow participants, alumni, activists, diplomats, human rights professionals etc to create stronger network enabling sharing of info & support.

The best thing of this training is the network building that I made. More like minded organisations can work together towards the same goal.

Participants valued accessing new information on human rights and advocacy and reported that they were returning to their organisations with additional tools to apply to their work and with more confidence about speaking up on their issues. There was appreciation for a better understanding about how their work as individual human rights advocates was connected to the roles of international and national organisations. Learning from other human rights defenders in the region and having the opportunity to share their work more widely was significant for meeting expectations. The value of the practical sessions on advocacy, lobbying and networking were also seen as instrumental to building tools to be more effective in their work.

6. Reflections and Lessons Learnt

Program Location in Thailand:

DTP has a close connection with the human rights movement in Thailand, with many DTP alumni there, and many existing partnerships. Holding the program in Thailand also gave opportunities to build on more recent partnerships with Mahidol University via the director of the Institute of Human Rights and Peace Studies (IHRP), Mike Hayes, and SHAPE-SEA (Strengthening Human Rights and Peace Research and Education in ASEAN/ Southeast Asia).

The program was held at Ibis Riverside, Bangkok, with visits to UNESCAP and the Australian Embassy, and a weekend field trip to the historic city of Ayutthaya, a UNESCO World Heritage Centre, and other significant sites of interest in the area.

With Thailand as a regional hub for NGOs and the UN, it provided an accessible location for people to come together to share experiences, build knowledge, skills and alliances. It offered participants opportunities for further engagement and collaboration with locally based partners, trainers, alumni and participants. Mike Hayes made himself available to any participants interested in learning more about the IHRP's Masters of Human Rights. Participants were able to learn more about, and offer solidarity to current movements for democracy and human rights.

Participants: All the facilitators and trainers were impressed by the participants. There was a good balance of age, gender, and experience with different human rights concerns amongst the participants. There was limited representation from the Pacific. The group was very supportive of each other's learning needs and established a *WhatsApp* group to stay connected throughout and beyond the program.

Trainers: DTP expresses its appreciation to all of the trainers who donated their time to share their knowledge. The opportunity to have Vitit Muntarbhorn provide the keynote address was extremely valuable. It was also notable that several of the trainers were DTP alumni. Other DTP alumni took the opportunity to visit the program and share some of their experiences, to join us for the solidarity night dinner and/or the closing night dinner. It is a nice part of the program that all the trainers are thanked formally by the participants, who give them a Timorese Tais and a UNSW Law Certificate of Appreciation.

Program Content and Methodology: The participants were very positive about the program content, and the balance of theory and practice with almost all participants reporting that it met or exceeded their expectations.

Outcomes and Sustainability:

A program WhatsApp group was established by participants at the beginning of the program which helped with sharing updates and logistical information. Participants have been very active in sharing their activities – including on how they are applying and sharing what they learnt during the training.



*Photo: Closing ceremony at Ibis Hotel.
Participants received DTP certificate from DTP and the Faculty of Law and Justice, UNSW, Sydney,*



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Annex – I

Participants List

Country	Name	Organisation
Bangladesh	Toni Chiran	Joyenshahi Adivasi Unnayan Parisad (JAUP)
Bangladesh	Ripon Ronjon	Bangladesh Indigenous Peoples Forum (BIPF)
Bangladesh	Oishi Roy	Bangladesh Nari Sramik Kendra (BNSK)
Bangladesh	William Nokrek	International Movement of Catholic Students', Asia Pacific (IMCSAP)
Bangladesh	Asma Abbasi	Madaripur Legal Aid Association
Cambodia	Yuthyia Soun	Cambodian Center for Human Rights
Cambodia	Sa Im Meas	Cambodian Human Right and Development Association
India	Beema Basheer	Center for Indian Migrant Studies. (CIMS)
India	Ngankiuwang Kahmei	Indigenous Women And Children Foundation (IWCF)
India	Shrivaiyshnavi Nataraj	Tamil Nadu Domestic Workers' Welfare Trust- TNDWWT
Indonesia	Temu Irawan	Indonesia Migrant Workers Union
Japan/USA	Elizabeth Katherine Gamarra	The Peacebuilding Association of Japan
Myanmar	Aung Than Oo	art4cdm
Myanmar	May Toe Myat Htun	Myanmar Students' Association in Wellington/ Fighting against military regime
Nepal	Raju Rai	NGO-Federation of Nepalese Indigenous Nationalities (NGO-FONIN)
Nepal	Gita Chaudhary	Youth Advocacy Nepal(YAN)
Philippines	Danica Castillo	IBON International
Philippines	Jacob Ngileb	Philippine Ecumenical Youth Fellowship (PEYF)
Philippines	Sarah Jane Lopez	CMA Center for Migrant Advocacy Philippines, Inc.
PNG	Jenny Wakfen	Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme, United Nations Development Programme
Singapore	Belle Koh	Humanitarian Organisation for Migration Economics
Singapore	Jor Wan Odette Yiu	Humanitarian Organisation for Migration Economics
Sri Lanka	Leeta Shobanee Don Madappuli Arachchige	Center for Peoples Dialogue/Meepura publications
Sri Lanka	Tharindu Jayawardhana	Young Journalists' Association of Sri Lanka (YJA), Center for Society and Religion (CSR), MediaLK.com
Thailand	Prakaidao Phurksakasemsuk	Cross Cultural Foundation (CrCF)
Thailand	Niaswane Kortonilo	Human Rights Development Foundation
Thailand	Ganyaphak Sutphakde	Human Rights Development Foundation
Timor Leste	Pascoela Barreto	Alola Foundation
Timor Leste	Elisabeth Da Costa Lopes	UNTL (National University of Timor Leste)



**DTP 30th Annual Human Rights & Peoples'
Diplomacy Training Program
With Forum Asia, MFA, AIPP, Mahidol, PIANGO and
SHAPESEA**

**Thailand
23 January - 3 February 2023**

PROGRAM SCHEDULE v.8

Week 1- UDHR @ 75	Jan 23rd - Monday	Jan 24th – Tuesday	Jan 25th – Wednesday	Jan 26th – Thursday	Jan 27th – Friday	Jan 28th – Saturday
8.30 to 9.00	Welcome and Introductions: DTP/Partners	Recap & Participant Presentations	Recap & Participant Presentations	Recap & Participant Presentations	Recap & Participant Presentations	
Morning 1 9.00 to 10.30	Opening Ceremony – Participant Introductions DTP 30 th Annual Program Keynote – The UDHR 75 th Anniversary and the World Today Professor Vitit Muntabhorn	An Introduction to Economic Social and Cultural Rights & State Duties to Respect, Protect and Fulfil Human Rights	Participant Presentations Leave for <i>UNESCO</i>	An Introduction to Advocacy for Change – Some Tools for Developing Strategy – Deciding Who to Target and How	Using the UN’s Human Rights Accountability Mechanisms - Mechanisms: Human Rights Treaty Bodies and The UN’s Special Procedures -	
Facilitated	DTP/Partners	Dr. Seree Nonthasoot UN Committee on ESC Rights		Debbie Stothard	Ruki Fernando	
Break 10:30-45						
Morning 2 10:45-12:30	Introductory Session cont’d : Professor Vitit Muntabhorn Plus Expectations, Course Outline and Materials.	Understanding Economic, Social and Cultural Rights - The General Comments and How to Use Them – Participant Group Work	Human Rights in the UN System – Welcome and Overview – OHCHR in Asia/Pacific. - The UN Human Rights Treaty System	Practical Exercise in Developing Strategy – Group Work on Case Studies with Participants	Using the Human Rights Special Procedures - Practical Exercise - Using Participant Issues/Cases	
Facilitated	DTP/Partners	Mike Hayes (IHRP)	Katia Chirizzi/Arnaud Chaltin	Debbie Stothard	Ruki Fernando	
Lunch 12:30-1.40			UN ESCAP			
1.40 – 2.00		Participant Presentations	Participant Presentations	Participant Presentations	Participant Presentations	
Afternoon 3 2:00-3:30	Introduction to Human Rights - The Universal Declaration of Human Rights and International Bill of Rights	Human Rights, Sustainable Development and Climate Change - Climate Action Networks	A/* Introduction to the ILO Standards on Migrant Workers and its Complaint Mechanisms	Human Rights Advocacy and Lobbying - Influencing Strategies in Relation to Business - Practical Lobbying and Advocacy Exercise	Building Solidarity – Reflections from the Timorese and other struggles. Freddie/Chalida/Others (TBC)	
Facilitated	Dr Sriprapha Petchamesree	Dr. Wanun Permpibul Climate Watch	Anna Olsen & Colleagues	Debbie Stothard	Ruki Fernando /Boonthan/Freddie Gamage	
Break 3:30-3:45						
Afternoon 4 3:45-5:30	Human Rights and Democracy in Asia – Key Challenges and Opportunities - Practical Exercise	Framework Principles on Human Rights and the Environment – And Introduction to the Environmental Human Rights Defenders Toolkit	– Human Rights and Sustainable Development – UNDP in Asia-Pacific and UNDP’s work on BHR (part 1) Nicholas Booth (UNDP), Kevin Lehmann (UNDP), Elin Gidloef	Human Rights Advocacy and the Media – Building Media Strategies into Human Rights Strategies	Informal Engagement with HR INGOs / ICJ/ADN/ANFREL/HRW/ AltASEAN	
Facilitated	DTP/Partners	Romchat Wachirattanakornkul (OHCHR)/Georgina Lloyd (UNEP)	DTP	Debbie Stothard	Forum Asia /	
	Diary Exercise	Diary Exercise	Diary Exercise	Diary Exercise	Diary Exercise	
Evening	Welcome Dinner-	Dinner -Out/Free Night	Free Night	Free Night	Solidarity / Cultural Night	

Day Trip –
Ayutthaya

Jan 29 th – Sunday	WEEK 2 Bangkok @ 30	Jan 30 th – Monday	Jan 31 st – Tuesday	Feb 1 st	Feb 2 nd – Thursday	Feb 3 rd – Friday	Feb 4 th – Saturday
Free Time Optional Activities – Walking Tour – Democracy Monument & Thailand’s Democracy Movement DTP Alumni Meeting DTP Alumni Dinner	8:30 – 9:00am	Recap & Participant Presentations	Recap & Participant Presentations	Video Advocacy Prakkash - WITNESS	Recap & Participant Presentations	Recap & Participant Presentations	
	Morning 1 9:00-10:30	CEDAW, The Rights of Women and Gender	Video Advocacy		Human Rights Defenders and Diplomats – Reflecting on Embassy visit	UPR Role Play Preparations	Participants Depart
	Trainer(s)	U-sar Lerdgrisuntad – Association for the Promotion of the Status of Women, Thailand	Prakkash - WITNESS		Ruki Fernando	Joshua Cooper	
	Break 10:30-45						
	Morning 2 10:45-12:30	Building Movements for Human Rights – Perspectives from the Migrant Workers Rights Movement	Video Advocacy	Video Advocacy	Protecting the Defenders – The UN Declaration & Guidelines for Safety and Security	UPR Role Play Preparations	
	Trainer(s)	William Gois	Prakkash - WITNESS	Prakkash - WITNESS	Bee Somwong / Protection International	Joshua Cooper	
	Lunch 12:30-1.40						
	1.40 – 2.00	Participant Presentations	Diplomats and Human Rights – Preparation for Visit to Australian Embassy Ruki Fernando	Participant Presentations	Participant Presentations	Participant Presentations	
	Afternoon 1 2:00-3:30	Business and Human Rights – the UNGPs – and Practical Business Engagement Exercise	2.20 Depart to Australian Embassy	Video Advocacy	Indigenous Peoples Rights – Recognition	UPR Role Play	
	Trainer(s)	Harpreet Kaur – UNDP – BHR	DTP	Prakkash - WITNESS	Joshua Cooper	Joshua Cooper	
	Break 3:30-3:45						
	Afternoon 2 3:45-5:30	Reflecting on the 30 th Anniversary of the Bangkok NGO Declaration – Mobilising Civil Society for Human Rights Today - Boonthan Verawongse, Ed Legasgo, William Gois	Engagement With Australian Ambassador – Human Rights in Diplomacy	Video Advocacy	Bringing it all together – UPR – An introduction and overview The UPR Role Play	Closing Ceremony	
	Trainer(s)	in Conversation with Debbie Stothard	Ruki Fernando/DTP	Arul Prakkash	Joshua Cooper	DTP and Partners	
	Evening	Free Night	Australian Embassy / Dinner Out - Invite Alumni to join	Solidarity Event for Myanmar – 2 nd Anniversary of the Coup		Closing Ceremony Closing Night Dinner	