

Migrant rights NGO, Thai Union team up for new project



MWRN and Thai Union launch new initiative. Source: MWRN

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[Undercurrent News](#)

NGO Migrant Workers Rights Network (MWRN) and Thai Union have joined forces to start up a new project, aimed at creating better protection for migrant employees.

The one-year scheme, "Promoting Workers Rights and Social Dialogue in Thai Union Facilities", will allow MWRN to better and more systematically map worker conditions and migrant systems in each of the tuna canner's five export facilities in Thailand.

MWRN will also develop worker rights curriculum based on a needs assessment and train workers -- all with the hope that enhanced rights protection and social dialogue in Thai Union facilities will be rigneur by the end of 2016.

Unveiled on Jan. 19, the first day of the project entailed mapping, engagement and training activities, led by MWRN at Thai Union's Mahachai and Songkhla Canning Hatyai facilities.

Migrant rights' activist Andy Hall was present at the proceedings. Last week, Thai Union -- along with the Thai Tuna Industry Association -- [paid bail surety of THB 300,000 for Hall](#), who currently face charges of criminal defamation and computer crimes case brought against him by Thai pineapple exporter Natural Fruit Company.

However, as part of the conditions of bail, Hall has had his passport seized by Thai authorities, and is currently unable to leave the country.