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*Advocacy toolkit case studies*

# IMPROVING CONDITIONS FOR MIGRANTS IN THAILAND

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<b>THEME:</b>	<b>Migration and refugees</b>
<b>ADVOCACY APPROACHES:</b>	<b>Building relationships Educating community members Government officials: educating</b>

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Two million migrants from Myanmar live and work in northern Thailand. Many arrive with dreams of overcoming poverty, while some are forced to migrate due to conflict. All of them are easy prey for exploitation and discrimination, and many lack legal papers and are not aware of Thai employment laws.

One of Tearfund's partners, MMF (Mekong Minority Foundation), integrated advocacy into its programmes to respond to the need, and decided to address all the main issues simultaneously.

They built relationships with the companies that employed migrant workers, to help them improve working conditions. They worked with the local government departments responsible for legal paperwork to help the migrant workers register officially so they could claim their rights to basic services while in Thailand. They trained church and community leaders to identify people who may be at risk of exploitation and discrimination. They raised awareness among the migrant communities about Thai employment laws, and the requirements expected of migrant workers. They also cared for migrant children, who were vulnerable to trafficking while their parents were working, by opening a day-care centre.