

Organizing a Training Workshop: Curriculum on Occupational Standards and Professional Qualifications

On 6 July 2025, a training workshop on occupational standards and professional qualifications was organized. This training focused on professional housekeepers meeting national occupational standards in the *Service Business Profession – Cleaning Service Branch – Housekeeping Occupation, Level 3*.

The program was designed for domestic workers with at least one year of experience, with 50 participants taking part. The activity was jointly organized by the Foundation for Labour and Employment Promotion, the Domestic Workers' Network in Thailand, Sukhothai Thammathirat Open University, and the Thailand Professional Qualification Institute, with support from the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Participants who complete the course are required to pass the following assessments:

1. Selection, maintenance, and storage of cleaning materials and equipment for indoor use, as well as cleaning of various interior areas of the building.



2. Cleaning of bathrooms and sanitary ware, and proper arrangement of bathroom supplies.



3. Preparation of rooms for use, including maintenance and care of building facilities.



4. Selection, maintenance, and storage of cleaning materials and equipment for outdoor use, as well as cleaning of surrounding areas of the building.



Voices from Participants

“It was very useful. I didn’t even know the proper way to sweep the house before. From this training, I learned cleaning techniques, including why it always took me so long to clean — because I was doing it the wrong way”

“I’ve been working for 19 years. I never liked ironing, but I can do everything else and I work fast. Today I finally learned what good cleaning really looks like and how to use different cleaning products properly. I gave myself the opportunity to learn, and I’m glad I did”

“Housework always seemed like the easiest thing — I thought there was no need to study it. But when I joined this training, I realized there are actual methods and techniques. This opportunity to learn has been very valuable for me.”

Challenges

Participants faced difficulties in communicating with employers due to language barriers, which created obstacles both in finding jobs and in performing their duties. In addition, a lack of prior experience and age-related limitations affected their work capacity.

In some cases, domestic workers had to adjust their cleaning methods based on employers’ preferences or restrictions — for example, using warm water instead of chemical solutions. Furthermore, some employers did not provide the necessary cleaning materials or equipment, forcing workers to cover these costs themselves.

These challenges highlight the need for ongoing training and support to build workers’ capacity in a sustainable way.