

ELAINE SIM

Migratesafe Employment Agency

2025 Global Fellow



BIG BOLD IDEA

Foster upward social mobility, dignity, and agency for Indonesian migrant domestic workers by facilitating debt free, safe, and ethical overseas job placement in Malaysia.

ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

Migratesafe is an ethical job placement agency for domestic workers in Sarawak, Malaysia. Its goal is to build safe recruitment solutions in underserved markets, setting the benchmark for scalable, ethical recruitment in Asia by proving that ethical recruitment can be both sustainable and profitable. It offers safe migration alternatives for Indonesian women earning less than \$5 a day to seek legal, safe, and debt free income through placements in Malaysia. Migratesafe sources, trains, and matches committed domestic workers to vetted and compliant households. It operates on a strict zero placement fee policy for workers to eliminate debt bondage.

PERSONAL BIO

Elaine Sim is the co-founder and managing director of Migratesafe Employment Agency. As a child, Elaine was raised by multiple Indonesian women domestic workers in her family home in Kuching, Malaysia. Because of the kindness and warmth she experienced from these women who cared for her, Elaine found it hard to reconcile the poor treatment of domestic workers in society. She has committed herself to dismantling barriers, uplifting, and defending domestic workers. With experience co-founding and scaling two domestic worker placement agencies in Malaysia, Elaine is poised to set a new benchmark for ethical, sustainable practices in the domestic worker industry. She has two degrees in law from Queen Mary, University of London and William & Mary in the United States respectively. She obtained her LLM from the latter on a full scholarship as a Drapers' Scholar. Elaine has been named a Forbes Asia 30 Under 30 Entrepreneur, a Rhodes Scholarship finalist and a qualified lawyer in Malaysia. Prior to her current role, she co-founded the Pinkcollar Employment Agency in Kuala Lumpur.

Organization/Fellow Location

Kuching, Malaysia

Impact Location

Malaysia

Organization Structure

For-profit