

Central Asia Regional Migration Programme



Labour migration is a response for many families and individuals facing the challenges of poverty. This is particularly so in the two poorest countries, the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan, where most rural communities are affected by migration, mainly to the Russian Federation and Kazakhstan.

What are challenges for labour migrants?

Labour migration provides a vital source of income for migrant women, men, and their families, who are driven persistent unemployment and poverty. Facing the need to earn the means to ensure the survival, they often see no alternative to working under irregular and exploitative conditions. Labor migrants often experience numerous challenges and grief, their children do not receive a full education, families are too often destroyed, and they often face xenophobia and discrimination. Female migrants also experience additional challenges, especially those with irregular status.



Five Program Directions

1. Policies for managing labour migration are evidence-based and effectively implemented.
2. Improve regional partnerships, dialogue and coordination on selected migration issues.
3. Labour migrants and their families benefit from a broader range of gender sensitive services provided throughout migration cycle.
4. Support families of labour migrants in the sending countries to enhance their skills and knowledge to improve their livelihoods.
5. Increase the capacity of civil society organisations to support measures to increase social tolerance of labour migrants and reduce xenophobia in destination countries.

What is CARMP?

The Central Asia Regional Migration Program (CARMP) seeks to contribute to poverty reduction in Central Asia through improving the livelihoods of migrants, by protecting the rights and enhancing the social and economic benefits of migrant men, women and their families.

Programme Results in the five areas by 1 December 2011:

1. Improving policies and legislation for managing labour migration in the countries targeted by the programme:

Kazakhstan: July 2011 - New law adopted on migration

Kyrgyzstan: National Road map for employment/labour migration for Kyrgyzstan developed and adopted by the Government

Russia: Support for development of a new concept for labour migration policy in place

Tajikistan: September 2011 - national strategy for labour migration for 2011-2015 adopted by the Government

New gender sensitive laws - on labour migration and private recruiting agencies – are drafted and under consideration of the Government

Experience on gender mainstreaming into national policy/legislation on labour migration is documented and available in Russian/English

Available Analytical Resource Materials

Tajikistan

Training module for migration officials to manage migration

Interagency briefing: international standards for readmission agreements

Campaign Materials

- "going abroad to work?"
- "Pocket guide for labour migrants"
- "Referral to MSC"

Kyrgyzstan

Challenges of migration data collection & sharing mechanisms

Legislative acts related to Migration Data

Migration data collection and information exchange in Kazakhstan

Migration data collection and information exchange in Russia

Environmental Change as a Push Factor for Migration from Kyrgyzstan

MOLEM Training Needs Assessment

Kazakhstan

Compendium of migration legislation

Analytical paper: best practices on managing internal migration

Comparative analysis of international rules for recruiting foreign labour force

Concept note: mechanism for estimating demand for foreign labour

Sociological survey: access to social services for migrants workers from Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan

Comments on draft Migration law

Report on media monitoring: materials produced by Migration Media Network

2. Improving regional partnership and coordination on labour migration issues:

The regional agreement on medical certification of labour migrants rafted and will be submitted for approval by states-members of EURASEC by the end 2011.

3. Provision of gender sensitive services to migrants and members of their families:

Established Information and Resource Centers for labour migrants in targeted countries

Discussing National referral Mechanism for labour migrants in Tajikistan with national partners

July 2011 - "*Mobile consultations on the wheels*" was conducted jointly by Trade union of labour migrants and IRC Consultant in Dushanbe- Moscow train providing direct services to migrants who are coming to Russia with information and consultations about the future life in Russia while on the move. In total, 273 persons received consultations, and more than 1,000 informational materials were distributed.

July 15 - The Round table "*Almaty-Safe City*" resulted in an agreement to cooperate between different departments of Almaty city administration and 2 Crisis Centers in order provide comprehensive care for women (including migrant workers) who are victims of domestic violence

Regional workshop on Labour Migration Management and implementation of organized Recruitment Schemes" was held in Astana participants included decision makers, practitioners, NGOs and private sector as well as regional and international experts to discuss local environment for implementation organized recruitment between CARMP countries.

Support for migrants' families:

Kyrgyzstan: 289 self help groups (SHGs) supporting labor migrant families to improve their livelihood were formed with 1,820 families of labour migrants (92% - women) in 54 program pilot villages. A component of the project is small-business through agro-activity. Hybrid vegetable seeds of tomatoes and cucumbers have been delivered to all pilot villages. 330 members of SHGs from 11 villages received seeds of different cultures. In September 2011, 100% of the families involved harvested a crop, producing more than 940 tons, with an estimated market value of \$286,384

Tajikistan: 235 SHGs covering 1,387 members of migrant families were mobilized and assisted with various projects in 11 villages of 3 districts of the country. Process of creation of SHGs is continued.



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Kazakhstan: Campaign Materials

- "How to fill the migration card in KZ"
- "Employment agreement for migrant workers in KZ"
- "Access to medical services for migrant workers"
- "The right to education"
- "Access to medical services for pregnant women"

Russia

Survey findings: social integration of migrants for Moscow and Saint Petersburg

Report on media monitoring: materials produced by Migration Media Network

Training methodology & module for employers on how to apply migration & labor legislation

Training methodology & module for migration officials in Russia Gender training module for IRC staff

Training module on managed labour migration for Mol Tajikistan representatives: Rights & duties of the states in migration management

International standards & mechanisms to protect the rights of labor migrants

Presentations on integration policies and practices

4. Work with media:

Media Migration Network created under CARMP and operational Study visit by journalists from Almaty, Shymkent, Moscow, St. Petersburg and Dushanbe to Khujand, Tajikistan

July-September 2011 - Photo Contest "Migration without risks" was held with winning photos published in a brochure

5. Social integration of labour migrants and members for their families in the countries of destination

Conducted an assessment of social integration of labour migrants in Russia and Kazakhstan. The findings were used to draft future concepts for social integration

Working Groups drafted the concept for the social integration of labour migrants and members for Moscow, Saint Petersburg, Almaty and Shymkent operations

July 2011 – Moscow work group members met Kazakhstan delegation (officials and NGO leaders from Almaty) and presented Moscow draft Concept, shared experiences, and the methodology to train migrant workers to give interviews to the mass media

Additional Resources & Links:

www.dfid.gov.uk

www.iom.kz

www.unwomen-eeca.org

www.worldbank.org

www.evrazes.com

www.mirpal.org

www.ruj.ru

<http://vd-spb.ru/index.php?lang=eng>

<http://aws-tj.org/>

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