

Sustainable Re/integration of migrant and trafficked women in Asia, Europe, and Latin America

Side-Event at the International Migration Review Forum

Date and Time: 17 May – 8.30 AM – 9.30 AM ET

Allocated Room: Room 8

Online participation:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_4hVsN1_0QOC60mJqBscCQ

Moderator: Carol Barton, Women in Migration Network

Speakers:

- Sumaiya Islam, BNSK, Bangladesh
- Jille Belisario, FairWork, Netherlands
- Betty Pedraza-Lozano, Corporación Espacios de Mujer, Colombia
- Dr Pia Oberoi, Senior Advisor on Migration and Human Rights, OHCHR
- Dr. Ahmed Munirus Saleheen, Secretary, Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

*Co-sponsored by the Government of Bangladesh, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women (GAATW), Women in Migration Network, Bangladesh Nari Sramik Kendra (BNSK), Espacio de Mujer (Colombia), Fair Work (Netherlands) and **Ovibashi Karmi Unnayan Program (OKUP -Bangladesh)***

The event will be one hour, in English and Spanish (with interpretation from Spanish to English provided online).

Context

In the Global Compact for Migration, states committed to promoting re/integration and social and economic inclusion of migrants through the provision of basic services, facilitation of access to decent work and employment, combating discrimination, reducing vulnerabilities, eradicating human trafficking, recognition of skills and competences, and sustainable reintegration, among others. However, many migrant and trafficked women face significant challenges in accessing such services and enjoying the benefits of migration.

At this event, speakers will share findings from research led by GAATW and its partners in South Asia, Western Europe, and Latin America. This research documented migrant and trafficked women's lived experiences with social and economic inclusion in the destination countries as well as with return and reintegration in their home countries. Speakers will discuss women's access to and experience with available programmes and services, and share recommendations for their improvement. While the Senior Advisor on Migration and Human Rights from OHCHR will underscore the importance of a human rights-based approach to reintegration, representatives from the co-sponsoring governments will share their ongoing

commitment to policy measures on return and reintegration. It is essential for state and non-state actors to listen to women's lived experiences so that programmes and services can be adapted in order to achieve meaningful re/integration of all migrant women.

Objectives

The event aims to share what migrant and trafficked women think of the available state and non-state services designed to promote their re/integration, including whether they are aware of and could access such services, whether they consider them beneficial and, importantly, what measures and services women themselves say they need. The objective is also to highlight the need for a human rights-based approach to reintegration, as well as to the steps taken by and commitments made by governments. The expected outcome is a heightened awareness among policy makers of migrant and trafficked women's needs and, ultimately, improved programmes and services that promote women's re/integration.

Relevance

The event will share evidence and data that are relevant to a number of GCM objectives, but particularly Objectives 5, 6, 7, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, and 21. It is also relevant to contemporary and emerging issues related to migration, including lessons learned from responses to the COVID-19 pandemic, which saw various attempts at reforming the re/integration of migrants

- Round table 2, in particular Objectives 10 and 21
- Round table 3, in particular Objectives 14, 15, 16 and 19
- Round table 4, in particular Objectives 7 and 17
- The Policy Debate, with its focus on contemporary and emerging issues related to migration, including lessons learned from responses to the COVID-19 pandemic, which saw various attempts at reforming the re/integration of migrants, albeit with significant implementation shortcomings.

Agenda

- 08:30 Carol Barton, WIMN: Welcome, objectives of the event, and introduction of speakers
- 08:35 Sumaiya Islam, BNSK: Return and reintegration of South Asian women migrant workers who returned from the Middle East – findings and recommendations
- 08:43 Jille Belisario, FairWork: Social and economic inclusion of migrant and trafficked women in Western Europe – findings and recommendations
- 08:51 Betty Pedraza-Lozano, Corporación Espacios de Mujer: Return and reintegration of trafficked women in Colombia – findings and recommendations
- 08:59 Dr Pia Oberoi, OHCHR: Primacy of Human Rights in (Re) Integration Measures



- 09:07 Dr Ahmed Munirus Saleheen, Government of Bangladesh: Policy Measures on Sustainable Reintegration: Response from Bangladesh
- 09:15 Questions & Answers
- 09:30 Close