



প্রত্যাশা • PROTTASHA
Sustainable Reintegration and Improved Migration Governance



BANGLADESH: SUSTAINABLE REINTEGRATION AND IMPROVED MIGRATION GOVERNANCE (PROTTASHA)



This Project is led by
Government of the
People's Republic of Bangladesh



Funded by
the European Union



Implemented by
IOM



In Partnership with
BRAC

MIGRATION OVERVIEW

Migration has been increasingly recognized as an accelerator for development at national, regional and international communities. With more than 12 million Bangladeshis migrants abroad, migration plays an important role in contributing to overall socio-economic development.



PROTTASHA PROJECT



10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

OVERALL OBJECTIVE 1

Contributing to the sustainable reintegration of returnees and the Progressive achievement of Goal 10.7 to facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed policies

In line with



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 01

Irregular migrants returning to Bangladesh are sustainably reintegrated

REINTEGRATION

Aims to ensure that 3,000 returnee migrants, primarily from the European Union are sustainably reintegrated

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 02

Improved migration governance facilitates regular, safe and orderly migration and reintegration of irregular migrants in Bangladesh

MIGRATION GOVERNANCE

Aims to support the Government of Bangladesh, and other migration actors to effectively manage migration at all levels

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 03

Returning migrants, aspirant migrants, families, communities, local government and private sector consistently make informed decisions about migration, and practice and promote safe, orderly and regular migration behaviours, including remittance management

AWARENESS RAISING

Aims to ensure returning migrants, aspirant migrants, families, communities, local government and private sector consistently make informed decisions about migration, and practice and promote safe, orderly and regular migration behaviours, including remittance management

Led by the Government of Bangladesh with the financial support of the EU:

- Reintegration and Awareness Raising components are implemented by IOM in partnership with BRAC
- Migration Governance component is implemented by IOM

REINTEGRATION

Individuals Identified
by December 2019 **1,205**



Key Activities



- Provide immediate assistance to returnees
- Provide needs-based trauma counselling to returnees and their families
- Sensitize National, District and Upazila officials, Chambers of Commerce and Civil Society on social reintegration issues
- Provide independent financial services support, including debt mediation services for returnee migrants, service advocacy, business development, and job placement
- Establish community enterprises in selected project areas, including the development of economic infrastructure in key returnee locations

Achievements So Far



- Provided immediate assistance to 236 returnees which include onward transportation cost, food, emergency medical treatment, psychosocial counseling and temporary accommodation support
- Profiled and screened 1,205 returnees (663 from EU & 542 from transit countries) & completed tailored reintegration plans for 354 returnees. 381 returnees have been enrolled for psychosocial support, 21 returnees received medical treatment support, 152 returnees received in-kind support and 28 returnees were referred for skilled training
- 1,621 Interactive Popular Theatre shows, 644 Upazila Migration Forum meetings, 2,288 video shows, and 288 school quizzes were conducted to raise awareness on reintegration services
- 20 migration fairs have been conducted to create linkage with the service providers and 581 workshop conducted to sensitize communities at the Union, Upazila and District levels
- 10 out of 10 District Coordination Committee have been formed comprising relevant departments and directorates. 43 DCC meetings were conducted

Impact Stories



Resurrect the Life with New Hope

Musa (pseudo name), a 42-year-old returnee from Greece is one of the beneficiaries of Prottasha from Dumuria Upazila (subdistrict) in Khulna.

Like many other poor Bangladeshis, Musa wanted to go to Europe for a better life. He contacted a middleman and gave him BDT 500,000 (5,952 USD) to migrate to Greece. Musa borrowed some portion of this money from his relatives. He managed to raise the rest by selling his land. After reaching Greece, he got approval to work through a broker and after a few months he started working at an agricultural farm. He then started sending money to his family. However, he had to work hard at the field and didn't get enough resting time. As a result, he would often become sick.

Finally, Musa was sent back to Bangladesh on 18 March 2018 due to his physical illness. He was disappointed after coming back to Bangladesh as he couldn't earn money. Musa tried to earn money by establishing a grocery shop in a local bazaar (marketplace) but was not adequate for a living.

One day he met Nazma, one of the 1,080 union-based volunteers under the Prottasha project. Musa then came to know about the reintegration services of the Prottasha Project. He received counseling support from the project which helped him to get rid of mental pressure. Finally, he received cows as direct in-kind assistance from the project which had a cost of BDT 90,000 (1,071 USD).



MIGRATION GOVERNANCE



Achievements So Far

Key Activities



- A comprehensive migration governance framework will be developed for Bangladesh
- Enhanced capacity to implement the 'Overseas Employment and Migrants Act 2013' and Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act 2012
- High level migration indicators linked to the SDGs and the 7th 5-year plan are available to guide migration governance planning
- A multi-stakeholder co-ordination mechanism is available for reflection and advocacy to improve policies and practices
- GoB has the skills and knowledge to create effective evidence-based migration-related policy supporting effective bi-lateral partnerships and initiating market driven interventions

- First ever Bangladesh Migration Governance Framework was developed
- Bangladesh Migration Crisis Operation Framework (MCOF) and five country specific response frameworks were developed
- Promoting ethical recruitment and piloting IRIS in collaboration with the IOM-BAIRA joint working committee
- Bangladesh Migration Profile was initiated to enhance policy coherence, evidence-based policymaking and the mainstreaming of migration into development plans
- Supporting GoB with labour market research in three destination countries to explore new market opportunities
- Migration related indicators have been developed to track the progress of the SDGs and the 7th 5-year plan
- Strengthened partnerships for advocating for joint positions at GFMD and GCM platforms

Quotes



"We affirm that the compact process is state-led and state-owned. Already, Bangladesh has gone ahead and draft national strategy on migration governance in consultation with all stakeholders and with assistance from IOM" - Bangladesh statement in the plenary of the high level Intergovernmental Conference to adopt the GCM by Ambassador H.E. Mr. Md. Shahidul Haque, Foreign Secretary of Bangladesh, 10-11 December 2018

"It is indeed a proud achievement for our country to be one of the first to develop a National Migration Governance Framework (MiGOF). The MoEWOE acknowledges the role of IOM Bangladesh in supporting Bangladesh to contextualize the MiGOF"- Ms Rownaq Jahan, Secretary, Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment. May 2019



"While the global indicators for migration exists, it is critical to contextualize and establish interlinkages among goal and targets in the context of country's development plan so that the government can support the achievement of the development goals. I would like to express thanks to IOM Bangladesh for working in close collaboration with GED, Bangladesh Planning Commission for this initiative."- Dr. Shamsul Alam, Member (Senior Secretary), General Economics Division (GED). September 2019

"BAIRA is keen to support the interventions for ethical recruitment of Prottasha project, implemented by IOM with support from the EU and is committed to comply with the international standards and tools such as the International Recruitment Integrity System (IRIS)"- Mr Benjir Ahmed MP, President, BAIRA, at the Sensitization Workshop on Migration and Rights



AWARENESS RAISING

People Reached
Till December 2019 **996,003**



Key Activities



- Updating National Communication Strategy (2014) and closely working with MoEWOE
- Developing modules on Financial Literacy and Remittance Management, Reintegration and Awareness Raising
- Sensitization through mass media engagement and community activities
- Capacity building of NGO partner and relevant stakeholders on service driven awareness raising, returnee reintegration and safe migration. Community based dialogue on safe migration, remittance management and reintegration
- Advocacy dialogue with financial service provides in key locations and develop comprehensive digital information platform on safe migration, remittance management and reintegration

Achievements So Far



- Working with government to review the National Communication Strategy 2014
- Initiated mass level awareness raising through community engagement and mass media including IPT shows, school programme, video shows and tea-stall meetings, as well as promoting key messages in mass media
- Developed module on financial literacy and remittance management and initiated the development of module on reintegration and awareness raising
- Initiated the development of digital information platform to promote safe and orderly migration and sustainable reintegration

Community Reach



Rebuilding Hope for Safe Migration

Community based awareness raising interventions of Prottasha project has created a steady stream of information dissemination at the community level and motivating individual and community action to prevent irregular migration. After watching one video show in three aspirant migrant workers from Sylhet decided to abandon their plan to go to Greece through irregular channel and negotiated the recovery of BDT 2.4million from the middleman.

In another case, Rafiq (not his real name) recovered BDT 200,000 from another unscrupulous middleman which he paid to migrate to Italy through irregular route with tampered documents. In both these cases respectively from Osmani Nagar Upazilla and Golapganj Upazilla the migrants received support from the Migration Forum which is formed by the Prottasha Project.

This is now an emerging trend in Sylhet district since Prottasha Project initiated awareness raising activities. The activities include IPT show, video shows, school programmes, tea-stall meetings and community meetings.



KEY STAKEHOLDERS

Ministry of Expatriates Welfare and Overseas Employment	
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Special Branch
Ministry of Home Affairs	Private Sector
General Economics Division	Media
Bureau of Manpower Employment and Training	International Community
District Employment and Manpower Office	Wage Earners' Welfare Board
Bangladesh Association of International Recruiting Agency	Returning Migrants
Local Government	Community leaders
Civil Society	Potential Migrants
Local Administration	Migrants' Families

INNOVATION AND KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

PRO-MIS



IOM has developed an MIS to automate the data management process of the Prottasha project called ProMIS. Comprising of an app and a web-based platform, ProMIS is an integrated digital system to collect, analyze and share the data with internal and external stakeholders. ProMIS is supporting real-time data collection, collation and analysis from the field and assist to control, track the achievements, manage and streamline the project as part of the Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning process.

CRM APP

IOM has developed the Community Response App available on Android & iOS system to collect and disseminate credible video stories. This initiative allows project participants to provide their migration experiences, support they receive from the Prottasha project and message to aspirant migrants. Using CRM App, field staff record video narratives of the migrants. IOM then develops short videos and put on different platforms including digital media. CRM App helps to increase the visibility of the project.



CALL CENTER



Prottasha project has established a hotline number (08000102030) to provide information to returnee migrants and their families and the potential migrants. They get reintegration related information and consult with the experts about their problems & solutions through the hotline service. People can call from 7:00 AM to 11:00 PM every day for free. Information seekers can talk to get information on safe migration, legal support, referral and linkage services available opportunities in destination countries for migration/re-migration and so on.



SERVICES FOR RETURNING MIGRANTS

Immediate assistance to the returning migrants upon arrival.

Psycho-social counselling to returning migrants and their families.

Medical treatment, referral for social safety net, access to legal support and education to returning migrants.

In-kind economic reintegration assistance for livelihood development. Referral for skills training, job placement, financial services and entrepreneurship development. Financial literacy and remittance management training to returning migrants and their families.

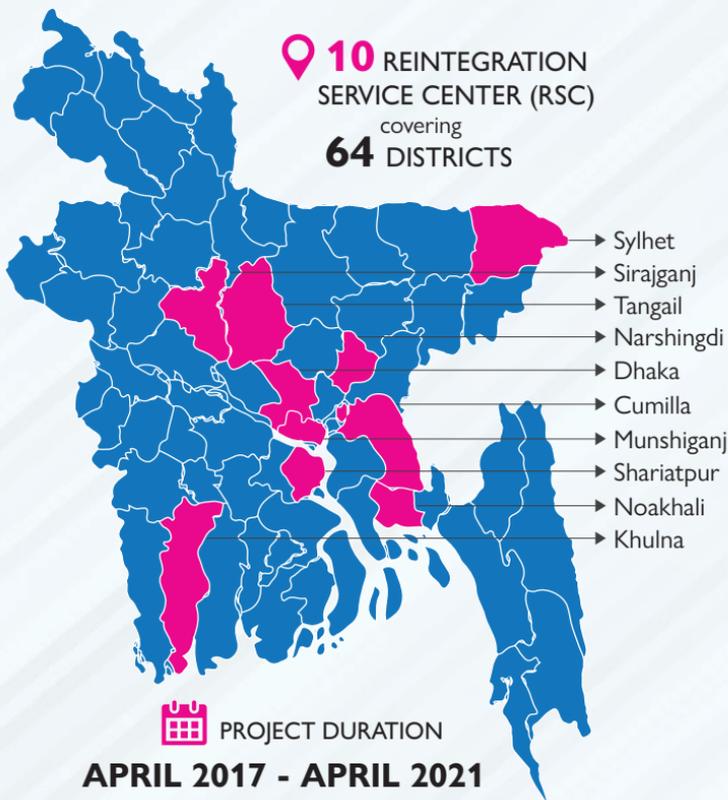
For any migration related information and support
please call Prottasha Hot Line:



08000102030

(Toll Free)

09610102030



For more details of the project, please contact:

Phone: +880-25504481-13, Email: DhakaProttasha@iom.int, IOMDhaka@iom.int

Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare & Overseas Employment

71-72 Old Elephant Road, Eskaton Garden, Dhaka-1000

Website: <https://probashi.gov.bd/>

**International Organization for Migration
 Bangladesh Country Office**

House # 13A, Road # 136, Gulshan-1, Dhaka-1212

Website: <https://bangladesh.iom.int/>

BRAC

75 Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212

Website: <http://www.brac.net/>



This Project is led by
 Government of the
 People's Republic of Bangladesh



Funded by
 the European Union



Implemented by
 IOM



In Partnership with
 BRAC