

## Monthly Update July 2019

Bangladesh: Sustainable Reintegration and Improved Migration Governance (Prottasha)

### OVERALL OBJECTIVE

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

### SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 01

Irregular migrants returning to Bangladesh are sustainably reintegrated

### SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 02

The capacities of the Government of Bangladesh and other migration actors are strengthened to manage migration at central and local levels and to ensure reintegration of irregular migrants

### SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 03

Returnee migrants, potential migrants, families and community are empowered to make informed decisions about migration and adopt regular, safe, orderly and responsible migration behaviours including remittance management

### Project Overview

**Duration:** 4 years

(April 2017—April 2021)

**Funded by:** The European Union

**Lead Ministries:** The Ministry of Expatriates Welfare and Overseas Employment (MoEWOE) and The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA)

**Implementing Partner:** BRAC

**Service Coverage:** 64 Districts of Bangladesh

**Number of Primary Beneficiaries Reached:** 947

## Sustainable Reintegration

### Returnees Profiled and Screened

	July	Cumulative
 EU	52	503
 Transit	47	444

### Beneficiaries Receiving Psycho-Social Support

	July	Cumulative
 Enrolled	09	275
 Completed	11	149
 Referred for Trauma Counselling	00	07
 Referred for Medical Treatment	04	10

### Hotline Services







	July	Cumulative
 06	13	242
 07		

**164** beneficiaries received immediate assistance to date

### Beneficiaries Receiving Economic Reintegration Support

	July	Cumulative
 Completed Reintegration Plans	27	309
 Received in Kind Support	24	61
 Referred for Skills Training	01	17
 Referred for Other Support	05	91

### Social Reintegration Support

	July	Cumulative
 Workshops	13	555
 IPT Shows	128	1069
 Forum Meetings	14	476
 DCC Meetings	04	32
 Video Shows	343	617
 School Quiz	60	91



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- EU ambassador along with EU delegation and British High commissioner visited Khulna 17 July to 19 July 2019 to observe the activities and impact of Prottasha project. They visited a beneficiary's home, attended a meeting with field officer, saw the IPT show, joined district coordination meeting and visited reintegration service center (RSC) in Khulna.
- Successfully held a district workshop at Shariatpur on 31 July on reintegration and awareness on safe migration. With the objective to sensitize and raise awareness on reintegration services, safe migration and remittance management, the workshop brought together relevant stakeholders including government and non-government actors, CSOs, returnees and their families and host communities.



### Resurrect the Life with New Hope

“When I returned to Bangladesh from Greece, I was in deep mental shock and hopeless. I could not even understand what my future and livelihood would be. Prottasha project has given a hope to get back in life. I always dreamt of establishing a cattle rearing farm to generate more income to support my family. Prottasha project helped me to establish the farm”, said Musa, a 42 years returnee from Greece. He is one of the beneficiaries of Prottasha from Dumuria Upazila (subdistrict) in Khulna.

Musa is now doing good in terms of earning and maintaining the family. While talking to Musa, we came to know his journey to Greece. Like many other poor Bangladeshis, Musa wanted to go to Europe for a better life. He communicated with a middleman and gave him BDT 500,000 (5,952 USD) to migrate in Greece. Musa borrowed some portion of this money from his relatives. He managed the rest of by selling his land.



Musa's dream seemed true when he traveled to Greece and reached there in 2011. He managed work permit and got a job in an agricultural firm. And, he started to send money to his family. However, the remittance was too low to improve his economic situation. Because he had to give most of the earnings to his relatives to get rid of the debt. Furthermore, Musa had to work long hours at the agricultural farm which cost a lot to his health. He was getting sick and couldn't work well during the last days in Greece. Finally, Musa was forcefully sent back to Bangladesh on 18 March 2018 due to his physical illness. And, Musa's Europe dream came to an end and new challenges came in too.

He was mentally disappointed after coming back to Bangladesh as he couldn't earn money and manage a good life. Moreover, social pressure made his life complicated. Musa tried to earn money by establishing a grocery shop in a local bazaar (marketplace). But it was not enough to meet his family needs. One day he met Nazma, one of the 1,080 union-based volunteers under the Prottasha project. Musa then came to know the reintegration services of the Prottasha Project. He received counseling support from the project which helped him to get rid of mental pressure. Meanwhile, Musa wished to establish a cattle rearing farm. Prottasha project helped Musa to develop a business plan in this regard. Finally, he received cows as direct in-kind assistance which had a cost of BDT 90,000 (1,071 USD).

Musa said, **“I couldn't even think of establishing an enterprise. Prottasha project made my dream come true. I want to give my special gratitude to BRAC, IOM and the EU for providing me with such kind of support.”**

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### Migration Governance

- **Bangladesh Migration Crisis Operational Framework (MCOF):** IOM is supporting the Government of Bangladesh to develop MCOF. The outline and structure of MCOF has been finalized. Field visit completed in Malaysia as a part of the data collection process to develop country specific migration crisis response plan for Malaysia.
- **International labour market study:** IOM is supporting the Government of Bangladesh to conduct international labour market study in three destination countries. Data collection tools for 3 selected countries has been finalized in coordination with the MoEWOE. ToR has been finalized to develop a promotional video to showcase the strengths of labour migration of Bangladesh to potential employers, government and other related stakeholders of destination countries.
- **Organizational strengthening of MoEWOE:** IOM is supporting MoEWOE in conducting a research in view of proposing necessary development strategies to strengthen the organizational mechanism towards an effective migration management in Bangladesh. Data collection tools for organizational assessment of the MoEWOE has been finalized in close coordination with relevant GoB officials.
- **Pilot IRIS in Bangladesh:** IOM is continuing the on-site consultations with two RAs to pilot IRIS in Bangladesh. Such consultation is assisting the recruitment agencies to identify their gaps and take necessary action points to comply with IRIS standard.
- **Information management platform of BAIRA:** IOM is supporting BAIRA to develop and operationalize an information management platform for RAs. A service provider was selected to develop the platform.



### Awareness Raising

#### Number of people reached with messages on safe migration, reintegration and remittance management

	July	Cumulative
 IPT Shows	39,215	3,07,838
 Migration Fairs	00	6176
 Tea Stall Meetings	2,677	9,405
 School Programme	5,304	6,240
 Video Shows	71,655	1,32,965

#### Develop curriculum and other materials for community dialogues on safe migration, reintegration and remittance management

	July	Cumulative
 Number of Capacity Building Curriculum	00	01
 IEC Materials Developed	01	02

#### Increase capacity of migrants and their families on financial literacy and awareness of available products and services

	July	Cumulative
 Number of ToT Conducted	01	01



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- **Orientation session for field organizers (FOs):** IOM organized an orientation session for FOs across 10 RSC to clarify the objectives, expected outcomes and field implementation modalities on awareness raising component. All the district level field staff of BRAC including FOs, RSC Managers, District Managers (DM) and counsellors participated in the orientation session. The orientation session focused to build the capacity of FOs to increase their skills in community engagement to conduct smooth field implementation on SO3 activities.
- **Inception report on the review and update of National Communication Strategy 2014 and a training module on awareness raising:** This task aims to re-strategize national level awareness raising interventions and to devise a training module to raise awareness among communities on safe migration and remittance management. The inception report of this task was completed in July. The assignment will support to update the National Communication Strategy 2014 and to develop a training module on Awareness Raising.
- **Training needs assessment (TNA) for developing training module on awareness raising:** The TNA was completed to develop a training module on awareness raising. The findings of the TNA will serve in developing the training module on awareness raising. Developing training module on awareness raising is in process.



Tea stall meeting on awareness raising



People watch video on migration

## Monitoring and Evaluation

- **Migration profile (MP):** Migration profile is conducted to consolidate all the data relevant to migration indicators and addresses the objectives of Global Compact for Migration (GCM) (1), SDG17.8, Migration Governance Framework (MiGOF) (Principle 2). The first workshop with Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), who are focal persons from various Ministries, was convened on 23rd July 2019 to map out the sources and custodians of different data required to complete the Migration profile of Bangladesh. Data for the profile will be shared by 21st August 2019.



TAC Workshop to develop migration profile



Honourable Foreign Secretary, Md. Shahidul Haque, congratulates TAC for taking the initiative to develop Bangladesh migration profile

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- **Remittance study:** Remittance study was conducted to identify the gaps regarding remittance management. The first draft of the report was shared by the consultant and reviewed by IOM. The findings of the study will support to develop advocacy content and messages for financial literacy and remittance management. Final report is expected in August.
- **Returning migrants comprehensive database:** IOM is supporting the Government of Bangladesh to develop a comprehensive Returning migrants' database. A service provider was selected, approved by the Joint technical committee, led by the MoEWOE to develop the database and the procurement of hardware to host both the aspiring and returning migrants databases was initiated during the month.
- **Mid term review (MTR):** An MTR is being conducted to evaluate the project and document the relevancy, efficiency, effectiveness, sustainability and knowledge generation of the project. Data collection was completed. The report is expected to publish in August 2019 and the findings of the study will indicate the progress of the project and aid in developing a sustainable exit strategy.

### Communication

#### Media Engagement & Coverage

	July
 Newspaper Articles	<b>05</b>
Daily Star Dhaka Tribune New Age Migration News UNB	
 Press Release	<b>01</b>

#### Reached through Digital Media

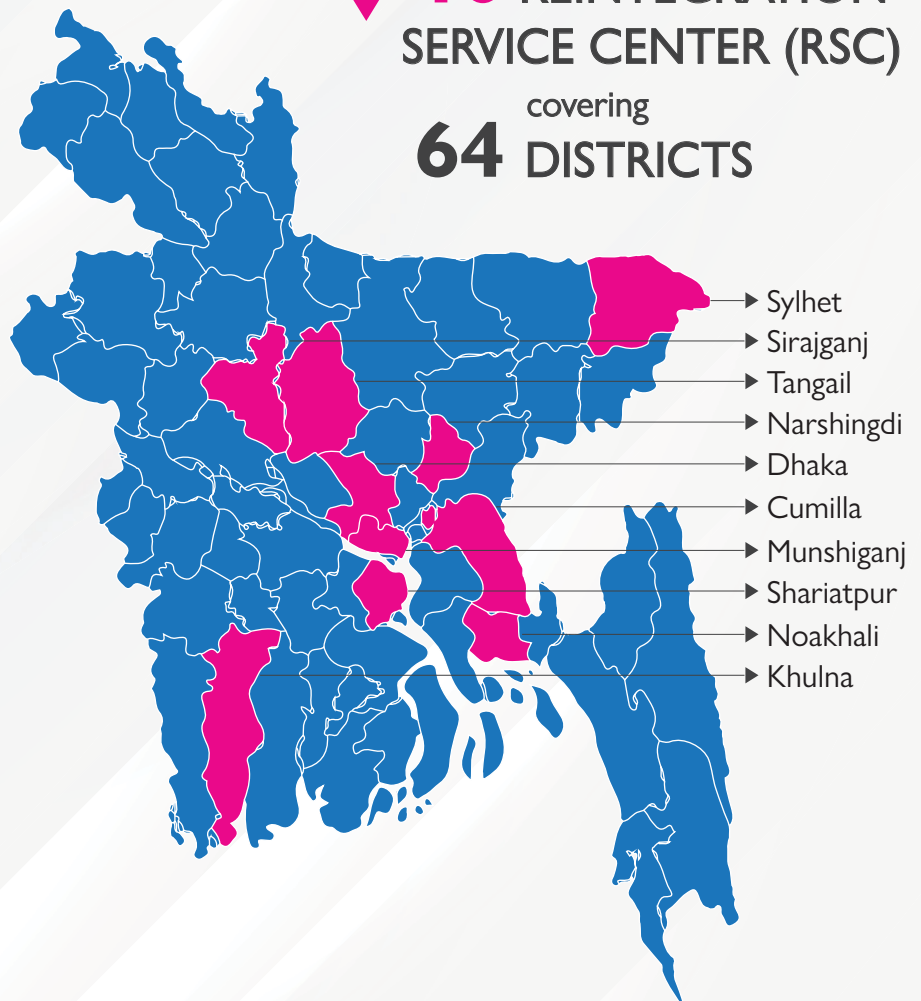
	July	Cumulative
 Facebook	<b>14,120</b>	<b>1,00,851</b>
 Twitter	<b>10,200</b>	<b>28,051</b>

#### Achievement of Communication

- Media coverage by a national newspaper on Prottasha project activities.
- Good documentation (photo and video) on EU delegation field visit.
- Produced a documentary on Migration Governance.

### Project Area

 **10** REINTEGRATION SERVICE CENTER (RSC) covering **64** DISTRICTS



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