Empowering Women Migrant Workers in South Asia

As part of its universal mandate to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women, UN Women’s work with women migrants draws upon international human rights standards and encompasses countries of origin and destination.

The project on “Empowerment of Women Migrant Workers through Implementation of Standard Terms of Employment” is being implemented by UN Women in South Asia.

With support from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, UN Women is working in partnership with regional consultative processes, national governments, private recruitment agencies, civil society actors, other UN agencies and women migrant workers’ groups, to promote and implement standard terms of employment as, the lack of it results in exploitation and violation of women migrant workers’ rights.

Some Facts:
- In line with the global trend, women now comprise 48 per cent of migrants in Asia-Pacific.
- Women represent 82 per cent of the 52-100 million migrant domestic workers worldwide.

Source: IFRC, 2015
PROJECT GOAL

To ensure that the rights of women migrant workers, especially domestic workers, are protected and promoted through improved terms of employment.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

On the road to achieving the project’s goal, UN Women focuses on ensuring that more governments are implementing standard terms of employment contracts for women migrant workers.

The project implementation strategy focuses on five areas: 1) Partnerships 2) Synergies with multilateral organizations 3) Global fora and follow-up, 4) Regional dialogue mechanisms for advocacy, and 5) Capacity development.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

A  The implementation of standard terms of employment is advocated for protection of women migrant domestic workers through the engagement of key governmental actors who are in charge of migration affairs.

B  Ethical recruitment is promoted and practiced by recruitment/employment agencies to protect the rights of women migrant workers.

C  Standard terms of employment as part of ethical recruitment practices to protect women migrant workers, are enhanced and advocated through regional and national processes.

This project is supported by

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDG