



## Reintegration of Migrant Workers in Bangladesh

<b>Swiss Portfolio Outcome:</b>	Sustainable and more inclusive economic development
<b>Implementation Period:</b>	01.07.2022 – 31.10.2026
<b>Implementing Partners:</b>	International Labour Organization, International Organization for Migration, UN Women, BRAC, Ovibashi Karmi Unnayan Program and Manusher Jonno Foundation
<b>Swiss Contribution:</b>	CHF 8.05 million
<b>Modality:</b>	Co-financing with the European Union, Government of Bangladesh (through loan from World Bank)

### General Description

International labour migration is one of the key drivers of economic growth in Bangladesh. In the last five years, more than three million migrant workers have travelled from the country for (mostly low-skilled) jobs to the Middle East and have remitted about CHF 86 billion. Reintegration of migrant workers is the 'missing link' in the migration cycle for Bangladesh, meaning that while outbound migrants receive attention from the stakeholders, those who return, are not given sufficient attention for their meaningful reintegration into the society. When migrants return, they are often unable to find employment opportunities. Female migrant workers encounter additional social hurdles when it comes to reconnecting with their families and communities as they have to deal with the taboo of being sexually exploited, even without any evidence.

### Objectives

The programme aims to enable returnee migrant workers to reintegrate economically and/or socially in their communities and benefit from the increased effectiveness of services provided by the Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment (MoEWOE). The project will directly reach out to more than 13'000 men and women returnee migrant workers and system will indirectly benefit at least 500'000 returnee in the coming years.

### Lines of Action / Components

- Returnee migrant workers (15% women) and their families improve their livelihoods through economic reintegration support and skills training.
- Returnee migrant workers and their families benefit from social reintegration support and counselling services.
- MoEWOE enacts an inclusive, gender responsive and accountable framework for reintegration of migrant workers and a framework for coordination.
- MoEWOE creates synergies with employers' organisations wage-employment opportunities for returnee migrant workers.

### Intended Impact in terms of Systemic Change

The intended impact of the project is that the Government of Bangladesh initiates the framework for reintegration of men and women migrant workers, so that migrants can make their migration experience sustainable and are not obliged to re-migrate. Alongside, service delivery models for returnees will also be tested to formulate an evidence-based policy and public system for reintegration on migrant workers, especially women.

### Intervention Targets

- In 17 districts where the project is operational, 1'600'000 community people, including family members of the returnees, are benefitted from the social and economic reintegration of the returnees.
- 13'320 returnee migrants have better access to reintegration and economic opportunities.