

CARAM Asia Task Force on Migrant Workers Rights

Strategic Plan 2021 TO 2024

The Migrant Workers Rights Programme seeks to address the absence of legal protection, rights to redress and access to justice for migrant workers. The abuse, exploitation and discrimination faced by migrant workers are compounded by the fact that migrant workers are often viewed as temporary cheap commodity to meet the destination countries' production and domestic needs. The situation is made worse with the rising costs of migration that force many poor workers to migrate through unofficial channels resulting in them becoming undocumented migrant workers. Some exploitative employers refuse to renew work permits and pay wages, majority of employers keep passports and/or traveling documents in their own custody which force migrant workers to become undocumented too. However, CARAM Asia views the lack of documentation as an administrative issue which should not deny undocumented migrant worker's human rights. Through advocacy with various stakeholders, CARAM Asia has been consistently lobbying for comprehensive legal protection measures be made available for all migrant workers regardless of their immigration status.

The Foreign Domestic Workers (FDW) program of CARAM Asia area focuses on the recognition of domestic work as an economic activity and to have it included under national employment act or labour laws in both origin and destination countries. Key activities include advocacy, utilizing appropriate international instruments (SDG, Domestic Workers Convention 189, Core labour standards of ILO, CEDAW Convention Recommendation NO. 26, and Migrant Workers Convention) public campaigns and awareness programmes. Building regional cooperation with other networks, trade unions and organizations to strengthen the response towards protecting and promoting labour and health rights of foreign domestic workers. CARAM Asia has initiated the formation of the United for Foreign Domestic Workers Rights (UFDWRs), a coalition of regional and international groups to advocate for foreign domestic workers' rights. Due to lack of recognition and protection under labour laws, foreign domestic workers experience rights violation as well as violence, abuse and exploitation by employers, recruiting agents and other involved actors. The FDWs stay at employer's houses in isolation without any social protection and freedom to mobility which put them at risk of sexual and physical violence. CARAM Asia addresses this issue and provide legal services to the survivors of violence under this task force.

Key Priorities:

- ✓ **Women Migrant Workers with a focus on Foreign Domestic Workers**
- ✓ **Access to justice/ legal framework**
- ✓ **Undocumented migrant workers (addressing modern day slavery)**



Goal: Improve protection of migrants' rights through increased accountability and transparency of stakeholders

Strategy	Objectives	Activity	Output (tangible) Outcome (intangible)	Impact Indicator
<p>1- Undertaking Participatory Action Research (PAR) & related activities in knowledge creation and dissemination for the advancement of migrant workers' rights</p>	<p>1. Enriching with knowledge through Participatory Action Research (PAR) and other research related activities</p>	<p>1.1 Produce research reports or evidence based data on 'New form of slavery and supply of workers'</p> <p>1.2 Collection of evidence based data on member's case management specifically on arbitration and mediation & produce a report for advocacy</p> <p>1.3 Engagement with opportunities on discourse around like Convention C189 & C190</p> <p>1.4 Desk research on implementation of Kafala system in the destination countries</p>	<p>-Knowledge from various sources is obtained which can be implement in the future for MWs</p> <p>- The relevant stakeholders and authority in charge obtain current knowledge on issues face by MW like new form of slavery, kafala system etc via research</p>	<p>-Valid and quality research reports and data are available to be used for advocacy and awareness</p>

<p>2- Undertaking advocacy activities both at the national, regional and international levels for the advancement of migrant workers' rights</p>	<p>1. Protect and promote migrant worker's rights by addressing issues faced by MWs</p>	<p>1.1 Actively engage with Government, national and regional bodies like (ASEAN), & INGOs (ILO, IOM) for advocacy</p> <p>1.2 Collaboration with UN network and other groups on migration related work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Review the existing resources and monitor the practices - Engage with regional platform like CP, ADD, GFMD, GCM 	<p>-Knowledge of Member organizations' & Migrant workers on addressing migrant's rights is enhanced</p>	<p>-Laws and policies are in place for MWs</p>
<p>3- Undertaking relevant capacity building initiatives depending on the needs of the identified stakeholder (e.g MWs, CSOs, etc)</p>	<p>1. Increase capacity of the members to implement and conduct project effectively</p>	<p>1.1 Organize regional training for members on the use of International Instruments to address migrant's right to stay and redress with focus on receiving countries</p> <p>1.2 Conduct capacity building program for partners and develop IEC materials for issue that being addressed like new form of slavery, kafala system etc</p> <p>1.3 Conduct capacity building to partners of national partners (stakeholders) to development of new policy, laws and other legal reforms.</p>	<p>-Member's Capacity and knowledge is enhanced and flourished</p>	<p>-Quality of the services provided by member is elevated</p>

<p>4- Undertaking media, campaigns and related publicity initiatives for the advancement of migrant workers' rights</p>	<p>1.Increase awareness and grab attention of the relevant stakeholders and government</p>	<p>1.1 To develop campaign to raise awareness on new form of slavery</p>	<p>-Awareness regarding new form of slavery is spread widely</p> <p>-MW's issue is spotlighted to the authority</p>	<p>-Modern day slavery practice is reduced</p>
<p>5- Undertaking and/or coordinating access to services for migrant workers such as access to legal services, health services and any related services through establishing proper and functioning referral mechanisms</p>	<p>1.Expand migrant worker's access to Services</p>	<p>1.1 Providing legal support like referral services, paralegal services, filing cases in relevant courts etc</p> <p>1.2 Providing legal services for MWs by the partners in the country of origin - Develop online case referral system</p>	<p>-MWs received legal assistance in solving injustice or conflicts faced by them in the destination countries</p> <p>-Regional referral system is developed and the available network is strengthen</p>	<p>-MWs obtained justice legally.</p> <p>-Referral document or system is in place for easy reference</p>



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