



Human Rights at Work for Migrants
Tuesday, 9 February 2016
9 am to 5:30 pm
Location: World Bank's Main Complex, MC 13-121
1818 H Street, NW Washington, DC

Background:

Fulfilling the promise of decent work for migrants worldwide is a development priority. Contributions from migrant workers to their origin countries are critical to many least developed countries. Remittance flows to developing countries amounted to USD 435 billion in 2015, or three times larger than total overseas development assistance. Hence, it should be in the interest of both origin and destination countries to enhance the human rights of migrants.

Migrant workers account for 150.3 million of the world's approximately 232 million international migrants, according to a new study by the International Labor Organization (ILO). These migrants are domestic workers, construction and agricultural workers, manufacturing, factory and service sector workers, teachers and professionals. They often travel long distances to support their families and build a better life. Some migrant workers are successful in finding decent work; others, however, face discrimination, abuse and exploitation in the workplace, and other violations of their rights. Migrants often work in dangerous or harmful conditions, receiving salaries below the minimum wage or not receiving wages at all, and may be subject to forced labor, excessive hours and/or forced overtime and physical and sexual violence.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has shifted the paradigm. Migration is no longer perceived as a failure of development, but rather a factor for development. For the first time, the Sustainable Development Goals provide governments and multilateral organizations with globally accepted nationally applicable targets on migration and development. The world's 250 million international migrants are no longer overlooked but are now part of the global agenda, not only as beneficiaries of but also as actors for sustainable development. SD Goal 8.8 explicitly refers to importance of ensuring decent work for migrants. The challenge now is to develop concrete measures to enact this promise, including expanding job opportunities, protecting core labor rights, providing access to social protection, and creating avenues for participation in social dialogue.

Objective of the Workshop

Building on the respective work on global labor migration policy by KNOMAD, USAID and the Solidarity Center, the workshop will examine select case studies, identify gaps in research and policy analysis and develop recommendations for additional research and policy analysis to better protect the rights of migrant workers and their families. The event will bring together academics, experts on labor migration, NGO and migrant rights organization representatives, government officials, and other stakeholders.



The workshop will focus on evidence-based research from the Solidarity Center and KNOMAD on the issue of migrant labor rights. The output of the workshop will be a summary focusing on policy implications, methodological issues related to research, and primary research gaps.

The Workshop's Organizers

USAID, KNOMAD, and the Solidarity Center are all working to strengthen the rights of migrant workers, and hence are contributing to achieve the SDG 8.8 by 2030.

USAID's broad goals are the promotion of good governance with respect for human rights, a robust civil society ensuring democratic accountability, and sustainable and inclusive economic growth. One of the most significant issues affecting achievement of these goals is addressing the conditions under which migrants travel and work. Because the economies of many countries have come to rely on the remittances of migrant workers, even as destination countries depend upon their cheap labor, governments and business interests seek to “manage” the movement of migrants. Migrant workers may be ‘left out’ of the development equation, and may especially be targets of human trafficking and forced labor. USAID therefore seeks to create new linkages and associations of migrant workers in targeted sectors and along focused geographic corridors; address issues of regulation of labor recruitment processes and the elimination of recruitment fees; and promote multilateral policy initiatives through international frameworks.

The Thematic Working Group (TWG) “Migrant Rights and Social Aspects of Migration” from the Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development, or *KNOMAD*, is chaired by the Migrant Forum Asia, UNICEF and OHCHR. KNOMAD’s Secretariat is with the World Bank. The TWG’s goal is to foster innovative discussion and thinking to advance and inform the dialogue at national, regional and global levels on migrants’ rights. KNOMAD has focused on the elaboration of human rights indicators for migrants and their families, since such indicators can monitor progress and compliance, promote policies based on evidence, and strengthen objective policy planning and evaluation. KNOMAD has then been piloting these indicators in Mexico and in Tunisia.

The *Solidarity Center* is an international non-profit organization that works with unions, civil society organizations and community groups worldwide to advance worker rights and achieve equitable and sustainable economic development. In nearly 60 countries, the Solidarity Center supports programs that help workers organize and build independent trade unions, exercise their rights, access justice, and improve their working and living conditions. With support from USAID over the past five years, the Solidarity Center published a series of research reports on global labor migration. These publications are part of the Center's Transformation of Work research series, which is designed to expand scholarship on and understanding of issues facing workers in an increasingly globalized world, and supports the efforts of the Solidarity Center and its partners to document challenges to decent work and the strategies workers and their organizations engage to overcome those challenges.



AGENDA

9:00-9:45 am Welcome & Overview

Speakers: Rosarie Tucci, Deputy Director, Center of Excellence on Democracy, Human Rights and Governance, USAID

Shawna Bader-Blau, Executive Director, Solidarity Center

William Gois, Chair KNOMAD's Thematic Working Group "Migrant Rights and Social Aspects of Migration; Executive Director, Migrant Forum in Asia

Moderator: Dilip Ratha, Head of KNOMAD; Lead Economist - Migration and Remittances, Global Indicators Group, World Bank

9:45 – 10:00 am Coffee/Tea Break

10:00 –12:00 pm **Session 1: The Governance of Worker Rights in the Migration and Development Framework**

Discussants: Michelle Leighton, Chief, Labor Migration Branch, ILO

Sabina Dewan, Executive Director, JustJobs Network

Respondent: Daniel Costa, Director Immigration Law & Policy Research, Economic Policy Institute

Moderator: Neha Misra, Senior Specialist, Migration and Human Trafficking, Solidarity Center

12:30 – 2:00 pm **Brown Bag Lunch / KNOMAD Public Seminar: *Understanding Women and Migration: A Literature Review***

Speaker: Anjali Fleury, Consultant, World Bank

Discussants: Lisa McGowan, Senior Specialist for Gender Equality, Solidarity Center

Rosemary Vargas-Lundius, Chair of the KNOMAD Cross-Cutting Theme Gender

Chairs: David W. Yang, Deputy Assistant Administrator, USAID

Benedicte de la Briere, Lead Economist, Gender Cross-Cutting Solutions Area, World Bank



2:00 – 4:00 pm Session 2: Protection of Migrant Rights through Monitoring

Human Rights Indicators of Migrants and Their Families in Mexico

Rodolfo Cordova Alcaraz, Project Coordinator, Fundar

Human Rights Indicators of Migrants and Their Families in Tunisia

Sarra Hanafi

How to Evaluate Structural Protection of Human Rights of Migrants

Justin Gest, Assistant Professor of Public Policy, George Mason University; Co-Chair of the International Migrants Bill of Rights - IMBR Initiative

Roles for Workers and Unions in Regulating Labor Recruitment in Mexico

Jennifer Gordon, Professor, Fordham Law School

Respondent: Kerry Neal, UNICEF, Vice-Chair KNOMAD' s Thematic Working Group "Migrant Rights and Social Aspects of Migration"

Moderator: Hanspeter Wyss, Senior Program Officer, Migration and Remittances, Global Indicators Group, World Bank

4:00 – 4:15 pm Coffee/Tea Break

4:15 – 5:15 pm Session 3: Methodological Issues and Research Gaps

Moderator: Bama Athreya, Specialist, Labor and Employment Rights, USAID, Center of Excellence on Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance

What has been the progress so far and what are the gaps in existing governance frameworks that address labor migration and migrant rights?

What further indicators are needed to adequately measure migrant rights?

What kind of success stories do we have on monitoring and reporting migrant rights?

Who is monitoring migrant rights indicators and reporting on them?

What is needed to be more successful in monitoring and reporting on migrant rights indicators?

What additional monitoring strategies and tools are needed on migrant labor?



What new research is needed for a better qualitative and quantitative understanding of labor migration and migrant labor rights?

What are the major institutions currently supporting research on migrant labor?

SDGs: How can we contribute to the evolving discussion on indicators for SDGs 8.7, 8.8, 10.7, 10.c (+16?)

5:15 – 5:30 pm Wrap-Up



PARTICIPANTS:

World Bank/KNOMAD:

1. Dilip Ratha, Head of KNOMAD, Lead Economist, Migration and Remittances, Global Indicators Group, World Bank
2. Hanspeter Wyss, Senior Program Officer, Migration and Remittances, Global Indicators Group, World Bank
3. William Gois, Migrant Forum in Asia, Chair KNOMAD's Thematic Working Group "Migrant Rights and Social Aspects of Migration"
4. Kerry Neal, UNICEF, Vice-Chair KNOMAD's Thematic Working Group "Migrant Rights and Social Aspects of Migration"
5. Kirsten Schuettler, Senior Program Officer, Migration and Remittances, Global Indicators Group, World Bank
6. Sonia Plaza, Senior Program Officer, Migration and Remittances, Global Indicators Group, World Bank
7. Anjali Fleury, Consultant, Global Practice Governance & Inclusive Institutions ; World Bank
8. Supriyo De, Consultant, Migration and Remittances, Global Indicators Group, World Bank
9. Rosemary Vargas Lundius, Chair of KNOMAD's Cross-Cutting Theme Gender
10. Via VC: Rodolfo Cordova Alcaraz, Secretary of Organization for the International Network of Migration and Development; Author of KNOMAD's Case Study on Human Rights of Migrants and Their Families in Mexico
11. Via VC: Sarra Hanafi, Author of KNOMAD's Case Study on Human Rights of Migrants and Their Families in Tunisia

USAID:

12. Bama Athreya, USAID, Center of Excellence on Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance
13. Morgan Holmes, USAID Center of Excellence on Democracy, Human Rights and Governance
14. Rosarie Tucci, Deputy Director, USAID Center of Excellence on Democracy, Human Rights and Governance



15. Eric Bergthold, USAID, Asia Bureau
16. Gavin Helf, USAID, Asia Bureau
17. Marina Colby, Center of Excellence on Democracy, Human Rights and Governance, USAID
18. Julie Lelek, Bureau of Policy, Planning and Learning, USAID

Other U.S. Government:

19. Joan Barrett, Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB), US Department of Labor
20. Fred Boll, US Department of State, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration
21. Sarah Fox, Special Representative for International Labor Affairs, US Department of State
22. Amy McGann, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor, US Department of State
23. Ethel Moreno, US Department of Labor, Bureau of International Labor Affairs
24. Julia Smith-Aman, US Department of State, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration

Solidarity Center:

25. Shawna Bader-Blau, Executive Director, Solidarity Center
26. Neha Misra, Senior Specialist, Migration and Human Trafficking, Solidarity Center
27. Lisa McGowan, Gender Specialist, Solidarity Center
28. Imani Countess, RPD-Africa, Solidarity Center
29. Sonia Mistry, Senior Program Officer- Asia, Solidarity Center
30. Fay Lyle, Senior Program Officer, Solidarity Center
31. Tula Connell, Senior Program Officer – Communications, Solidarity Center

Academics:

32. Jennifer Gordon, Professor, Fordham Law School
33. Janice Fine, Professor, Rutgers University



34. Daniel Costa, Director of Immigration Law and Policy Research, Economic Policy Institute

35. Justin Gest, Assistant Professor of Public Policy, George Mason University; Co-Chair of the International Migrants Bill of Rights (IMBR) Initiative

International Organizations / NGOs:

36. Michelle Leighton, Chief, Labor Migration Branch, International Labor Organization (ILO)

37. Erick Zeballos, Deputy Director, ILO-Washington Office

38. Sabina Dewan, Executive Director, JustJobs Network

39. Noah Tucker, Management Systems International