CSOs and NGOs working for the Rights of Migrant Workers

Name of Organisation: Bomsa (Bangladeshi Ovibashi Mohila Sramik Association), Bangladesh, 1998
Website of Organisation: http://bomsa.net/
Organisation of DTP Alumni Y/N: Yes

Bangladeshi Ovibashi Mohila Sramik Association (BOMSA) is a Bangladeshi NGO that aims to unite and protect the welfare of the migrant women workers of Bangladesh. BOMSA was founded in 1998 by Bangladeshi returnee migrant women from Philippines, Malaysia, and other countries. All of these women experienced various problems throughout their migration process including jobs search and living abroad. These conditions inspired and motivated this group of women to form an organization that will give them a platform to work for the rights of migrant women workers of Bangladesh.

Mission: To give a voice to the women’s migrant community and ensure they and their families are aware of their rights.
Vision: Ensure safe migration for women migrants and establish them as valued members of Bangladesh society.
Goal: Protect the rights of the women migrant workers.

Objectives
- Organize women migrant workers, discuss and identify their problems, issues and provide support to solve those.
- Organize potential women migrants and make them aware of the migratory process and on trafficking by involving the community and family members.
- Create awareness amongst unskilled and semi-skilled women workers on the rules, regulations and procedures of international migration.
- Create awareness amongst women migrant workers about their legal rights and benefits, and lobby for the rights of migrant workers and their families.
- Create awareness amongst women migrant workers regarding their work conditions and wages, working hours, cultural orientation and legal aspects of recipient countries.
- Create awareness regarding health and health risks associated with migration, especially on HIV/AIDS.
- Assist returnees to find employment or help find them a suitable and profitable income generating work.

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1 The Diplomacy Training Program (DTP) is an NGO affiliated with the Faculty of Law at UNSW in Sydney. Since 1990, it has provided training to over 2600 human rights defenders and community advocates. These individuals work for a wide range of organisations working to promote shared values of human rights — in different ways. This profile is part of a series developed by DTP (www.dtp.unsw.edu.au) to illustrate the richness and diversity of the organisations working to promote the rights of migrant workers more broadly.