

CSOs and NGOs working for the Rights of Migrant Workers¹

Name of Organisation: Ovibashi Karmi Unnayan Program (OKUP), Bangladesh, 2008

Website of Organisation: www.okup.org.bd

Facebook of Organisation: www.facebook.com/okupent



OKUP promotes and protects human rights, labour rights, justice and dignity of all migrant workers irrespective of genders across borders through putting migrants' perspectives in the centre of migration discourse at all levels through unity and empowerment of migrant workers themselves. One of their direct advocacy successes over the years is to incorporate Migrant Workers in the National Strategic Plan for HIV/AIDS. The National HIV Response to the Migrant Workers is now under process.

OKUP's Mission

- To reduce migration related risks and vulnerabilities with the focus of labour trafficking through pre-departure interventions
- To provide direct assistance for social reintegration of the vulnerable migrant through repatriation, family reunification, shelter, health (particularly Sexual and Reproductive Health), Legal and paralegal support and services
- To espouse sustainable livelihoods and economic reintegration of the returnees and the communities for sustainable development
- To organise migrant worker and the families for unit, empowerment and flag their voice and perspective into migration discourse
- To carry out Action Research and evidence based advocacy at all levels

OKUP has demand-driven interventions for the migrant workers especially women at different stages of migration. For instances, they carry out community based awareness campaigns, pre-decision orientations, pre-departure assistance including comprehensive residential and country specific pre-departure training for outbound women migrant workers and health education for outbound male migrant workers. OKUP provides remedial assistance to the migrant workers onsite through cooperation and partnership with local CSOs and Consular Offices in some destination countries. They have intensive case management activities for social reintegration of the vulnerable migrant workers. They have also established local market-driven economic reintegration and sustainable livelihoods. Over the years, OKUP conducted around 12 action oriented research and have been able to flag the migrants' perspectives in the whole discourse of migration. Currently, OKUP is engaged in national, regional (Colombo Process, Abu Dhabi Dialogue) and global campaigns and actions for the Global Compacts on the Economic Migrants and the Refugees. They are also engaged in UN reporting systems i.e. CEDAW, UPR, CMW etc.

Contact address: Shawdagor Garden, Flat #5/466, Donia Post Office Road, Jatrabari, Dhaka-1236, Bangladesh

Email: okup.ent@gmail.com

Website of Organisation: www.okup.org.bd

Facebook of Organisation: www.facebook.com/okupent

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 2800 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.

Profile written June 2017