

CSOs and NGOs working for the Rights of Migrant Workers¹



Name of Organisation: The Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit (RMMRU), Bangladesh, 1996

Website of Organisation: <http://www.rmmru.org/newsite/>

Facebook of Organisation: <https://www.facebook.com/RMMRU/>

Organisation of DTP Alumni Y/N: Yes

The Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit (RMMRU), an affiliate of the University of Dhaka, has been functioning as a research, training, and policy advocacy institution since 1996. RMMRU was established to study population movements both within and across national borders. Its primary focus has been on migration, refugee, displacement, and governance issues.

RMMRU has worked diligently to illuminate the potential of migration to initiate pro-poor growth and poverty reduction in South Asia. By cooperating with regional and global organizations, RMMRU continues to facilitate collaborative research that effectively integrates and links global migration discourse with regional grassroots programs in order to identify and eradicate the key issues affecting Bangladeshi migrants. RMMRU's strong tie to local migration programs and role as an academic leader in migration discourse continues bridging the gap between scholars and grassroots trailblazers. RMMRU plays a key part in the development of effective and relevant training programs and workshops for potential migrants and migration-centered grassroots NGOs in Bangladesh. Additionally, RMMRU has engaged in over fifty primary research studies on refugees, internally displaced persons, stateless people, labour migrants and diaspora communities. These studies have not only contributed to the development of more effective programs, but have also significantly shaped migration policy in Bangladesh. Over the years, advocacy, awareness campaign, and training also became part of core activities of RMMRU. Through ongoing programs, media campaigns, and research projects, RMMRU hopes to promote a well-governed and informed migration system that will reduce poverty and benefit both receiving and sending regions.

DTP collaborated with RMMRU on its Migrant Workers Programs in Bangladesh. In its thirty years of existence Bangladesh has experienced varied kinds of migratory patterns. These include: refugee flow to and out of the country, long-term migration to the West, and short-term contract migration to the Gulf and South East Asia. Movements of population have major policy ramifications for Bangladesh. The country's economy is very much dependent on the remittances of the migrants. Some movements have impinged upon the national integration process of the country and others have affected bilateral relations. Therefore, research and information on all such kinds of population movements are essential for formulating effective policies.

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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.

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