

CSOs and NGOs working for the Rights of Migrant Workers¹

Name of Organisation: Welfare Association for the Rights of Bangladeshi Emigrants, Bangladesh, 1997

Website of Organisation: www.warbe.org (under construction)

Facebook of Organisation: <https://www.facebook.com/WARBE-Development-Foundation-142020609277/>

Organisation of DTP Alumni Y/N: Yes



DTP collaborates with WARBE Development Foundation on its Migrant Workers Programs in Bangladesh. WARBE (The Welfare Association for the Rights of Bangladeshi Emigrants) Development Foundation is a non-profit Community Based Organization (CBO) working in the field of migration and development in Bangladesh since 1997. WARBE DF is integral to the migrant community, as they are committed to carrying out programs for the development and betterment of the migrants, especially the returnee migrant workers. WARBE DF's promotes and protects the rights of Bangladeshi migrants through providing safe, gender sensitised and rights-based migration approach.

WARBE DF has undertaken many development activities at a grassroot, national and international level. At the grassroot level, WARBE DF holds meetings – Awareness Raising Meetings, Pre-decision Meeting, Workshop on Best Uses of Remittances, Reintegration Programme of Migrant Workers, Forum Theatre, Network Development, Capacity Building Workshop with Local Government, Press Conference, Day Observations (Rally & Human Chain), Collecting Cases for Legal Support, and Counselling and Dissemination of IEC Materials. At the national level, WARBE DF has led national campaigns on Proper Implementation of Overseas Employment and Migrant Workers Act 2013, Ratification of ILO Conventions related to migration, Adoption of the ILO Multilateral Framework on Labour Migration, Migrants' Voting Rights, Wage Earners' Welfare Fund, Regulation and Control of Recruiting Agencies, Reintegration of Returnee Migrants. At the international level, WARBE DF has facilitated and participated in activities such as Global Media Forum, Colombo Process, World Social Forum on Migration (WSFM), Peoples SAARC, United Nations Human Rights Counsel (UNHRC)-2002, International Labor Conference (ILC)-2004, International NGO Hearings on High Level Dialogue - 2006 & 2013, PGA, UNHLD - 2006 & 2013, and Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD).

WARBE DF collaborates with other organisations and NGOS to address the issues on labour migration on both micro and macro level with the purpose to empower and mobilise migrants in building a stronger platform for their own advocacy and community development. Some of the projects include: promoting Migrants Rights and Livelihood of Potential and Returnee Migrants and Their Families (supported by AWO International), Safe Migration for Potential Migrants and Re-integration for Returnees (supported by Manusher Jonno Foundation), Migrants Rights by

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.

Enhancing Awareness on Safe Migration, Reintegration & Livelihood Options (supported by Dan Church Aid), and Combating Trafficking in Persons for Labor Exploitation Among Vulnerable Workers Activities (supported by Solidarity Centre Bangladesh).

WARBE DF took the pioneer role in Bangladesh as a migrant workers' association and its tenacity helped improve the rights of migrant workers. It has paved the way for several policies and legislations to be enacted in Bangladesh. WARBE DF has also been appointed the Project Steering Committee Member to oversee the implementation of the government project "Promoting Decent Work through Improved Migration Policy and its Application in Bangladesh. And it is also the core member of Inter-Ministerial Committee of Ministry of Foreign Affairs "Migration, Integration on National Development Strategy". WARBE DF is also members of Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA), The International NGO Platform on the Migrant Workers' Convention (IPMWC), and UN NGO Committee on Migration, La-Liga Global. In July 2015, UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSCO) granted Special Consultative Status to WARBE.

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