

# NAVIGATOR



## SUPPORTING SAFER MIGRATION AND ANTI TRAFFICKING EFFORTS IN NEPAL

In Nepal, nearly 10% of the population works abroad. Migrants are often vulnerable to exploitation and abuse, in part because they lack accurate information about risks, resources, and the legal process. When they return home, survivors of trafficking and other crimes struggle to access justice or compensation because of rampant corruption and serious deficits in rule of law. Nepal's government has taken long-term steps to regulate labor migration and counter trafficking in persons in order to address these issues, but implementation remains patchy – especially at the local level. Through Navigator, IREX and our local partners are taking three key steps to improve implementation in communities throughout Nepal.



PROMOTING SAFER  
MIGRATION



SUPPORTING  
RESPONSIBLE  
RECRUITMENT



STRENGTHENING  
ENFORCEMENT &  
RESPONSE NETWORKS

### ABOUT NAVIGATOR

Navigator works in Nepal to increase awareness about human trafficking and safe migration, and to strengthen enforcement, criminal deterrence, and victim support. IREX implements the program in partnership with READ Nepal and People Forum for Human Rights in Nepal, with funding support from Walmart Foundation.

## WHAT WE DO

Navigator connects existing national-level safe migration and anti-trafficking initiatives with communities in need. Typically, central-level initiatives, policies, and frameworks exist on paper, but never reach the communities that need support the most.

### PROMOTING SAFER MIGRATION

Migrants and their families lack access to information to protect themselves from risky migration - or resources to pursue justice and compensation once they come home. We train librarians and civil society organization staff to reach out to their communities with pre-migration information, and to connect survivors to the services and support they need.

### STRENGTHENING ENFORCEMENT AND RESPONSE NETWORKS

Above all, Navigator connects people - from police officers and judges to local government officials, journalists, librarians, and civil society staff. Through these connections, core stakeholders gain access to new resources, ideas, and support. They coordinate on new initiatives, proactively refer community members to new services, and guide survivors of trafficking and related crimes to navigate the formal criminal justice system.

### SUPPORTING RESPONSIBLE RECRUITMENT

In 2023, Navigator will partner with local and international organizations to support and expand existing, effective responsible recruitment initiatives to reach more communities in Nepal.

# IMPACT

During its first two phases, Navigator reached over 200,000 people with vital information on safer migration and trafficking prevention.



## 140 JUSTICE ACTORS SHARED THEIR EXPERTISE IN NETWORKING WORKSHOPS

Navigator partners in Nepal convened criminal justice system actors (police, judiciary, paralegals) to increase their understanding of foreign employment and its treatment under the law.

After the workshops, program evaluations showed that participating communities have strengthened support networks for migrants, including better support from government officials and police.



## 150,000 PEOPLE HAVE BETTER INFORMATION ABOUT MIGRATING MORE SAFELY

Prospective migrants have better access to reliable information as they prepare for to work abroad. More migrants in program communities know that they have the right to keep their passports, and to ensure that family members or friends at home have copies of all the relevant documents. They are better able to evaluate recruiters, and more equipped to determine if job opportunities are through formal or informal migration channels.



## 98 JOURNALISTS JOINED WORKSHOPS TO BETTER REPORT ON LABOR MIGRATION.

Navigator partner People Forum brought together Nepali journalists for trainings on covering foreign employment law and labor abuses.

Participants in these trainings produced high-quality reporting in Nepali media to make visible the challenges faced by international labor migrants, returned migrants, and their families.

## ABOUT IREX

IREX is an international nonprofit organization dedicated to building a more just, prosperous, and inclusive world by empowering youth, cultivating leaders, strengthening institutions, and extending access to quality education and information. With an annual portfolio of \$80 million and 400 professional staff worldwide, IREX employs field-tested methods and innovative technologies to develop locally driven solutions in more than 100 countries. IREX has worked to reduce human trafficking by building the capacity of civil society organizations to increase awareness, working with media outlets to improve reporting on human trafficking, and assisting governments to enhance the effectiveness of anti-TIP laws and regulations. Walmart Foundation currently funds the Navigator program. To learn more, visit [www.walmart.org](http://www.walmart.org).