

NAVIGATOR



SUPPORTING SAFER MIGRATION AND ANTI-TRAFFICKING EFFORTS IN MYANMAR AND NEPAL

In Myanmar and 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. Both countries' governments have 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 make migration safer in communities throughout Myanmar and Nepal.



PROMOTING SAFER MIGRATION



STRENGTHENING ENFORCEMENT & RESPONSE NETWORKS



SUPPORTING QUALITY JOURNALISM

ABOUT NAVIGATOR

Navigator works in Nepal and Myanmar 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 MBAPF in Myanmar and READ Global in Nepal, with funding support from the Walmart Foundation.

WHAT WE DO

Safe migration and anti-trafficking laws and policies often exist on paper, but have little impact on the communities that need support the most. Navigator narrows the gap between policy and practice by supporting effective community-based approaches to prevent and counter trafficking and other migration-related crimes.

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 return home. We train librarians and civil society organizations to reach out to their communities with pre-migration information, and to connect victims of exploitation and abuse to the services and support they need.

STRENGTHENING ENFORCEMENT AND RESPONSE NETWORKS

In Nepal, Navigator is establishing a paralegal network in partnership with People Forum for Human Rights. In Myanmar, Navigator convened workshops with two township level anti-trafficking bodies. After the workshops, members - including police, judges, and prosecutors - began to coordinate on safe migration activities in their communities.

SUPPORTING QUALITY JOURNALISM

Media actors shape perceptions and guide the public conversation about human trafficking. They influence policy and their stories can spur the criminal justice system to action. Navigator has trained 86 journalists on responsibly reporting about trafficking to broaden the reach of education and awareness initiatives and make accurate information available to everyone.



IMPACT

In its first 10 months, Navigator has reached **52,000 people** with vital safe migration and trafficking prevention information.



100 JUSTICE ACTORS SHARED THEIR EXPERTISE IN NETWORKING WORKSHOPS

After workshops in Myanmar, police and librarians began to coordinate to deliver safe migration and trafficking in persons prevention outreach programs to their communities. In Nepal, local governments have made verbal commitments to support safe migration initiatives in partnership with Navigator libraries.



52,000 PEOPLE HAVE BETTER INFORMATION ABOUT MIGRATING SAFELY

“I have two sons who are employed out of the country. They did not leave any documents behind. We did not know it was important to have a copy of all the documents back home. Now, I have contacted my sons to send me a copy of all of their documents for safe keeping and future use.”

66-YEAR-OLD, BARDIYA DISTRICT, NEPAL



86 JOURNALISTS PRODUCED STORIES ABOUT MIGRATION AND TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

In Nepal, IREX’s local partner Antenna Foundation supported 8 community radio stations to produce a new program about labor migration that broadcast 40 episodes.

A parallel program in Myanmar, implemented in partnership with Yangon Journalism School, reached 39 journalists.

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.

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