

August 2010

INTRODUCTION



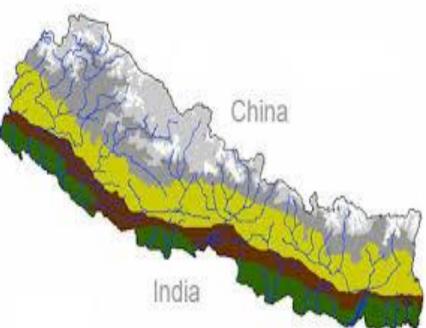
NEPAL CONTEXT

Rights of Migrants in Action

Geographical location: South Asia, Landlocked

Total Area: 147,181 sq.km population: 26 million Population growth: 1.35 per Annum Urban Population: 17% Rural Population: 83% literacy rate: 65.9%

Housing ownership: 85.26 Housing renters: 12.81 Fixed asset ownership: Female: 45% household size: 4.88 average Household heads: Female headed: 25.73%, Male headed: 74.27%



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Hazards

floods, landslides, earthquake, fire, windstorms, glacial outbursts.





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Rights of Migrants in Action

Earthquake 2015:

- Damage Statistics:
- Dead: 8891
- Injured: 22302
- Families affected: 886,456
- Families displaced: 649,815
- Houses fully destroyed: 605,000
- Houses partially destroyed:288,000
- Total affected districts: 31
- Most affected/under priority: 14
- Total estimated loss: USD 7 billion

Source: OCHA/World bank/NRCS/GoV





This project is funded by the European Union

Labour Market

- Limited employment opportunity in both rural and urban areas in Nepal.
- The unemployment rate in Nepal was 46% in 2008 (CIA ranking 200 in the world). It has increased by 2.69% in 2013, 2.71% in 2014, and 2.72 % in 2015 according to ILO.
- 521.878 labour permits have been issued in 2013/2014 and 2.226,152 labour permits in total were issued over the 6 year period by the Department of Foreign Employment (Status Report for Nepal: 2013/14).







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Migration Practice

- Source, transit and destination country:
- Push and pull factors motivate Nepalese to migrate.
- Remittances represent an important resource for the Nepalese government.
- Nepal is perceived as a source country for cheap labour across the world.
- Choosing legal and illegal channels to reach destination countries.
- Supporting family for livelihood and education for children.
- Systemized culture and with social status playing a key role.







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Rights of Migrants in Action

REGIONAL CONSULTATION



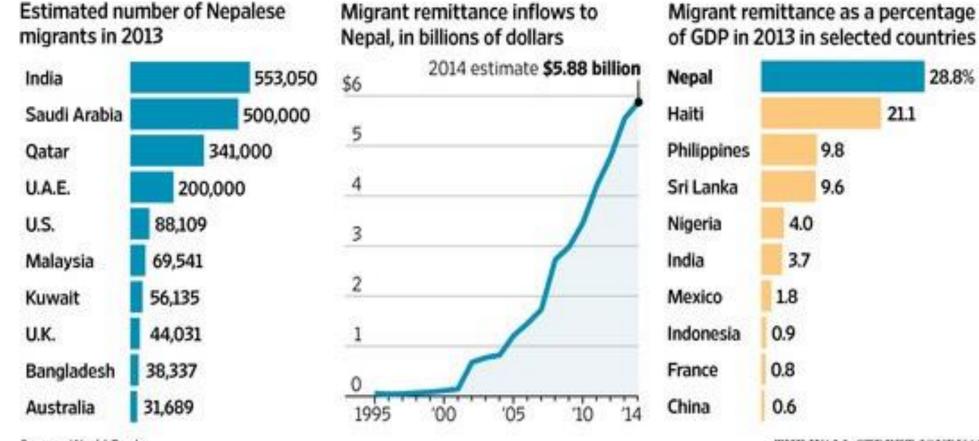
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INTRODUCTION

Over the past decade, the impoverished Himalayan nation has become increasingly dependent on the money sent home by its growing army of international migrant workers.



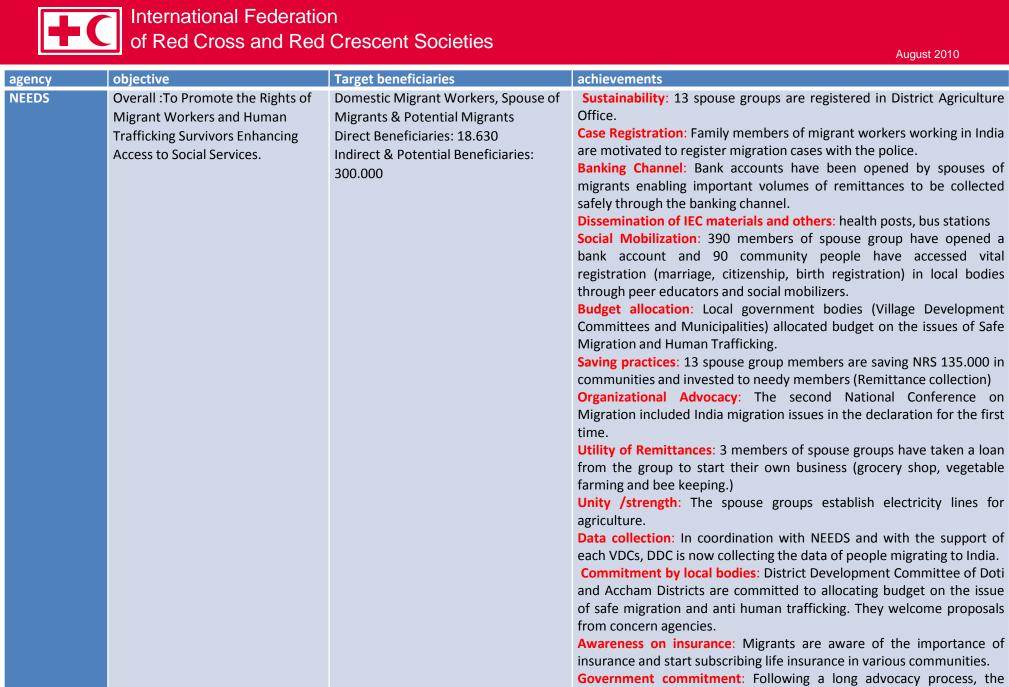
Source: World Bank

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

| Agency | objective | Target Beneficiaries | achievements |
|-------------|--|---|--|
| Maiti Nepal | Minimizing trafficking of persons and unsafe migration through access to proper information and protection services; thereby promoting and preserving the rights of migrant domestic workers and victims of human trafficking. | Potential female migrant workers Survivors of human trafficking Migrant domestic workers Local network and community people Government agencies and civil society organizations Direct beneficiaries: 4625 | 11644 potential female migrant workers sensitized on safe migration Information disseminated to 6450 female migrant workers on safe migration and human trafficking Rescued 17 girls from transit point in Sri Lanka Sensitized and trained 223 individuals through training sessions on safe migration and foreign employment act and para-legal training. |



Nepalese government now recognizes migration to India as foreign



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

| Agency | objective | Target beneficiaries | achievements |
|--------|--|--|---|
| VDSEF | Strengthening Civil Society Capacity for Protecting and Promoting the Rights of Migrant Workers / Domestic Migrant Workers and Victims of Human Trafficking. | 23.821 women, children, migrant domestic workers, their families, and potential migrants Including 8.105 Dalit population (directly) living in 6 VDCs of Kalikot district of Nepal. | First Psychosocial counseling center established in the district. Interest generated by wider mass at the community level in seeking information. Govt taking initiative to provide information to potential migrant workers. Trainings on mobile phone repairs successfully conducted as livelihood activity Radio Malika addressing the issues of migrant workers for 7 districts. Returning migrant workers taking initiative to discourage migration for labor work. |



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

| agency | objective | target | achievements |
|--------|---|--|--|
| | In collaboration with key stakeholders to develop and implement the comprehensive and gender sensitivity legislative framework on safe migration, anti trafficking and to assist the victims of trafficking. | potential migrants Existing migrants and their families | Shelter Home Service Supporting on emergency shelter, food, communication, re-integration with family, physical checkup, psychosocial counseling, medicating and refer to safe abortion of unwanted pregnancy and delivery by law of Nepal govt. Paralegal Service Supporting on rescue cases, compensation cases, passport confiscation, dead body repatriation, paralegal counseling etc. Assisted in foreign employment act 2007 and human trafficking act. Assisted services on free visa and free tickets for migrant workers. Actual 1.578 (Male 772 and Female 806) Indirect recipients 4.734 Total people reached 6.312 Total CSO: 76 |

of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

International Federation

Key Challenges

- lengthy government procedures/policy/guidelines
- Drastic rise in migration making it difficult to monitor
- Labour migration to India not considered / no records
- Political instability / weak government mechanism
- Geographical terrain / VDC too far out
- Recruitment agencies owned or functioning under high profile political leaders / businessmen / govt employees / source of income for political parties
- Insurance for all migrant workers before departure
- Absence of proper data management system within govt / non govt agencies





Lessons learned



- Coordination amongst govt, security forces and stakeholders requires strengthening
- Education/ awareness raising to civil society at all levels is required
- Open border between Nepal and india
- Lack of strong mechanism in rescue /repatriation of undocumented migrant works
- Absence of bi- or multilateral agreements between sending, receiving and transit countries
- Strengthen NNSM for safer migration



Next steps



- Wider geographical coverage
- Stronger advocacy messages for the government, business house, corporate sectors, civil society
- Stricter laws ensuring safety of departing migrant workers/ punishing recruiting agencies for non compliance of govt regulations
- Provide longer term sustainable livelihood approaches: Right based approach, Sustainable livelihood approach, Social research for migrant workers (including missing), victims of human trafficking
- Appropriate, safe and dignified settlement for victims of human trafficking and appropriate data management system