

The background of the entire page is a photograph showing the silhouettes of a large crowd of people standing on a reflective surface, likely a beach at sunset. The figures are dark against a warm, orange-hued sky, and their reflections are clearly visible on the wet ground.

CARAM ASIA

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

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THE CARAM ASIA VISION

*All people have the right to settle or migrate,
and live and work in dignity, with equal rights,
in a society where their quality of life is
ensured.*



CARAM-ASIA





Task Force on Migration, Health HIV and Well-Being

Brief Introduction of the Task Force on Migration, Health, HIV and Well-Being

Throughout the migration cycle, governments of origin, as well as sending countries treat migrant workers as a commodity. Their well-being and health rights are largely ignored. Migrant workers suffer from discrimination as reflected in health issues such as mandatory health and HIV testing with deportation, lack of access to HIV services and treatment, no information on health, limited access to health services, and poor working and living conditions. Using various human rights and health rights frameworks, CARAM Asia developed the Migration, Health, and HIV (MHH) program by combining the previous Task Force of Empowering Migrants Living with HIV (TFEM) and the State of Health (SoH) Programme to focus on migrant workers' health rights. The objective of the MHH is to promote the health rights of migrants through reform of discriminatory policies and equity in provision and access of health services for migrant workers, including sexual and reproductive health and HIV. This program also pays special attention to the health and well-being of undocumented migrant workers, as well as documented migrants who are deported for health conditions, especially HIV. Empowerment of migrants living with HIV and their spouses to be meaningfully involved in the development, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of programs and policies is an integral part of the MHH Task Force.

Objectives

The objective of the Migration, Health, HIV, and Well-Being Task Force is to promote the health rights and well-being of migrants by advocating to reform discriminatory policies and include migrant workers under all targets of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG-3) on "Ensuring healthy lives and promoting Well-being for all at all stages".

Key Issues

- ❖ Mandatory HIV Testing and related deportation
- ❖ HIV Risks and Vulnerabilities (subgroups and intersecting communities)
- ❖ Access to Treatment
- ❖ Mental Health of Migrants
- ❖ Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
- ❖ Gender-Based Violence and its Impact on Health of Migrants (cross-cutting issue with above issues)

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS



CARAM Asia Progress under Migration, Health, HIV and Well-Being (MHH) Task Force in 2022:

Coordination of Action Research on AIDS and Mobility in Asia (CARAM Asia) is a dynamic regional network of 42 migrants, civil society and migrant support member organizations in 18 countries across Asia including Middle East which educates, promotes and protects migrants' labor and health rights with a focus on HIV/AIDS issues. CARAM Asia has accomplished numerous remarkable feats since 1997 to date, overcoming various challenges in pursuit of its mission and vision with invaluable support from various funding organizations on the way. The Robert Carr Fund has been supporting CARAM Asia in recent funding cycles. This support has greatly helped CARAM Asia in its work with member organizations in two sub-regions which are South East Asia and South Asia to ensure that migrant workers have access to HIV information, prevention, and health care services like counselling, HIV testing, nonbiased and quality treatment and medication, etc.

The CARAM Asia's project titled "Prevention & Advocacy on Migrant's HIV Issues, Enhancing Access to Health Services and Promoting HIV Positive Migrant's Rights in Asia" across Bangladesh, Pakistan, Philippines, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Lebanon and Malaysia took several forms. In Pakistan, the project helped CARAM Asia's partner organization, SPEAK Trust to sensitize the stakeholders on migrants' HIV issues. This was made possible by the implementation of 1st National Stakeholder Consultation. This was a milestone achievement because the stakeholders' consultation led to formulation of a Technical Working Group (TWG) to initiate efforts for the establishment of an HIV testing and referral mechanism at international airports and borders for returnee and deported migrant workers in order to help them in voluntary HIV testing and referral to relevant health services.

The key stakeholders pledged to work for migrant's community. The relevant stakeholders' sensitization has been crucial for initiation of establishment of the referral system. Once the referral system will be in place, the HIV screening of deportees/returnees and their access to health services will be ensured. This in turn will reduce the likelihood of further HIV transmission to their partners, spouses and children.

In Lebanon it was not an easy task to secure the entry into the prisons, under CARAM Asia project, Migration Services and Development (MSD) has saved lives and supported the health and well-being of migrants, prisoners, and detainees by providing medical assistance to 19 individuals, including 3 detainees, who were referred by local NGOs and embassies. For example, MSD assisted a Bangladeshi child and his mother who were being held in an emergency room due to their failure to pay hospitalization fees.

MSD also conducted 9 awareness sessions for 153 female prisoners and 2 sessions for 41 migrant leaders to educate them about HIV/AIDS. Moreover, some prisoners especially the male prisoners showed no interest in attending the sessions and refrain from participating. Despite the challenges, MSD pulled off a number of informative sessions with the female prisoners. This has increased awareness and diminished discrimination towards migrant workers, prisoners, and detainees, particularly those who are HIV positive in Lebanon.

While, in Sri Lanka, 213 potential female migrant workers got comprehensive HIV/AIDS education through a series of HIV awareness workshops. In these workshops more impact was created by bringing in a PLHIV returnee migrants as a resource person to share their experience, which helped in sensitizing participants to not to discriminate people with HIV &

AIDS. It also opened participants' eyes that a person with HIV can lead a normal life with proper treatment and medications.

In Malaysia, CARAM's partner organization, NSI is in process to come out with first-ever training module to train migrant worker's community leaders' on comprehensive understanding of risk behaviors for HIV infection, HIV prevention, and available HIV & STI related health services. This module would be critical in educating community leaders to further educate migrant's communities and help in preventing HIV among migrant workers in Malaysia.

In connection with CARAM Asia's work in the Philippines, after the passage of the HIV and AIDS Policy Act of 2018 or Republic Act (RA) 11166, CARAM's partner organization, ACHIEVE was once again appointed by the President of the Philippines to represent migrant workers to the Philippine National AIDS Council (PNAC). According to RA 11166, ACHIEVE will serve as a CSO delegate to PNAC for three years, from 2020 to 2023.

Not only this, ACHIEVE's consistent and active participation in the development of the 7th AIDS Medium Term Plan (AMTP 7) has ensured that migrant workers living with HIV, migrant organizations and government agencies working on migration are involving in the AIDS Medium Term Plan (AMTP) development processes. Because of these initiatives, Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) are highlighted in all the strategic pillars of the AMTP.

Similarly in order to implement CARAM Asia project activities in Nepal, POURAKHI has successfully formed a coalition to work together on HIV/AIDS and SRHR issues of migrants. The coalition members are The Blue Diamond Society (BDS), National Network for Safe Migration (NNSM), Women Forum for Women in Nepal (WOFOWON) and etc. The coalition members and migrant's leaders have gone through the capacity building on HIV/AIDS and SRHR related issues in order to enable community mobilization and advocate with governments in addressing their access to health services. It is noteworthy to highlight that, with the use of different interventions, now the political representatives and government officials have started inviting POURAKHI Nepal at national to local level in the various programs related to migrant issues and have also started recognizing the organization as the voice for Migrants and families living with HIV. POURAKHI earned through expertise, advocacy, partnerships (with National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), National Women Commission (NWC), Ministry of Health & Population (MoHP), Ministry Of Labour, Employment and Social Security (MOLESS), National AIDS and STI Control Center), and engagement in research, data and information sharing, awareness campaigns, policy advocacy, consultation meetings and media outreach.

Following that, CARAM's partner OKUP is at the pinnacle of its advocacy efforts by making good partnership with stakeholders like Community Forum Bangladesh and UNAIDS Bangladesh. As a result of this collaboration, they organized an event in which an 11– point action plan was declared in presence of government high-level officials, policy makers, stakeholders and other service providers. This was achievable by conducting a national advocacy meeting in Dhaka by OKUP and its collaborators on social safety nets and human rights issues for key affected and infected populations on HIV/AIDS.

Lastly, OKUP caused a stir in the public and media by organizing the Vespa Scooter Rally in Hatirjheel, Dhaka. This event raised mass awareness about HIV & AIDS and key population groups' social safety net issues. OKUP used this massive platform to demand for zero discrimination or stigma. They also urged the media and pertinent stakeholders to bring up the issues discussed during the rally in the social and mainstream media and on other platforms.

CARAM Asia Project on Prevention & Advocacy on Migrant's HIV Issues, Enhancing Access to Health Services and Promoting HIV Positive Migrant's Rights in Asia

CARAM Asia implements the regional project on “**Prevention & Advocacy on Migrant's HIV Issues, Enhancing Access to Health Services and Promoting HIV Positive Migrant's Rights in Asia**” in collaboration with member organizations such as Ovibashi Karimi Unnayan Program (OKUP) in Bangladesh, SPEAK Trust in Pakistan, Community Development Services (CDS) in Sri Lanka, Action for Health Initiatives (ACHIEVE) in the Philippines, POURAKHI in Nepal, Migrations Services and Development (MSD) in Lebanon and North South Initiative (NSI) in Malaysia. This project is funded by the Robert Carr Fund (RCF) for Civil Society Networks for the current funding cycle from 2022 to 2024.

As part of project implementation, CARAM Asia does advocacy and capacity building with various partners, stakeholders, and people living with HIV (PLHIV) networks. CARAM Asia lobbies for comprehensive legal protection for all migrant workers' health rights regardless of their immigration status.

CARAM addresses stigma and discrimination against migrant workers, and make efforts to enhance their access to health services through advocacy and awareness-raising on HIV prevention. Moreover, CARAM also provides essential services to migrant workers like counselling, psychosocial assistance, referral to health care services, HIV testing, establishment of self-support groups for Migrants Living with HIV (MLHIV), provides education on the importance of adherence to ARV medications and facilitating MWs at their door steps in rural areas from where it is difficult for them to reach health care. In addition, temporary shelter home services are also provided to returnee migrants who struggled with health issues, rights violations, cases of abuse, etc.



>> ADVOCACY

Activities falls under advocacy category involves programmatic policy and resource advocacy such as engagement between those in charge and those wanting changes, and those monitoring/watchdog activities

- ✚ Review the Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment (SLBFE) Pre-Departure Orientation (PDO) Training Curriculum on HIV
- ✚ Advocacy with Stakeholders for Maintaining Data and Streamlining the Deportation Process of HIV Positive Deported Migrants at Islamabad Airport, Pakistan
- ✚ Media Advocacy Workshop with Health Unit Journalists from the Electronic, Print and Online Media for the Promotion of Rights of Migrants and Migrants Living with HIV in Bangladesh
- ✚ Observe World AIDS Day and Migrants Day (WAD) in Bangladesh
- ✚ Meeting Sessions with Migrant Workers' Embassies in Order to Create Sops on Working Together for Migrants' Rights
- ✚ Advocacy Meetings in the Philippines
- ✚ Regional HIV Financing Advocacy for Budget Allocation for Migrant Workers HIV & AIDS Related Health Issues

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

CARAM Asia understands the significance of utilizing evidence-based data collected through research and other sources in order to effectively lobby and advocate with governments and other stakeholders. As a result, it has created a well-established advocacy plan as part of its overall strategy.

In order to do advocacy for migrant worker's health rights and addressing their issues related to HIV & AIDS following activities were conducted in the year 2022 in above mentioned seven South and Southeast Asian countries.

01- Review the Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment (SLBFE) Pre-Departure Orientation (PDO) Training Curriculum on HIV



National level stakeholders' consultation that held at Serena Hotel on 16th Dec 2022

CARAM's partner Community Development Service (CDS) in Sri Lanka has reviewed the existing Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment Pre-Departure Orientation training curriculum in order to identify information gaps related to HIV prevention and other sexually transmittable infections (STIs) and other topics of concern to empower women migrant workers with information and awareness. The review process and discussion were carried out through consultation with 06 Civil Society Organizations (CSO's) with the aim to well-tune the current curriculum specifically on HIV. As a result of the consultation, CDS has formulated a number of

recommendations for SLBFE which pertains to increasing comprehensive HIV education contents and information on other STIs, sexual and reproductive health as well as other relevant topics that could help domestic workers to be well-equipped with the knowledge necessary to survive and sustain good health in the destination countries.

02- Advocacy with Stakeholders for Maintaining Data and Streamlining the Deportation Process of HIV Positive Deported Migrants at Islamabad Airport, Pakistan

With the support of CARAM, SPEAK TRUST conducted multiple meetings with UNAIDS, United Nations Development Program (UNDP), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), International Organization for Migration (IOM), International Labor Organization (ILO), World Health Organization (WHO), Airport Health Department, Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (MOPHRD) and Border Health Services to sensitize them on migrants' HIV vulnerabilities and take them on board with the referral mechanism. NACP and ILO collaborated with SPEAK on conducting a first-ever national stakeholders' consultation.

As a result of the consultation, it was decided that a technical working group (TWG) will be formed which will deal with all migrant-related HIV interventions. Moreover, it was agreed by the stakeholders to initiate the pilot testing and referral mechanism at the Bacha Khan International Airport Peshawar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, under the supervision of the TWG. Successfully, all these initiatives made a way forward towards the establishment of a referral mechanism.

03- Media Advocacy Workshop with Health Unit Journalists from the Electronic, Print and Online Media for the Promotion of Rights of Migrants and Migrants Living with HIV in Bangladesh

In Bangladesh, media plays a critical role to change the behavior of the mass people. In light of this, CARAM's partner OKUP, carried out media advocacy with the aim to sensitize journalists on the stigma and discrimination including gender discrimination towards PLHIV and key populations. For this, the Community Forum of Bangladesh arranged a workshop on the 3rd of December 2022 in association with "Bangladesh Health Reporters Forum". This forum is a platform for the journalists from electronic and print media working on the health unit of their media house. A total of 25 journalists from print and electronic media as well as 20 representatives from various key community groups attended the roundtable meeting. This event has created mass awareness on the above-mentioned issue. In addition, the Chief Guest, Mr Monjurul Ahsan Bulbul assured his cooperation for any type of policy changes or policy formulation in regard to proper government initiatives for the KAP groups.



Advocacy Roundtable Meeting in Bishsho Shahitto Kendra, Bangla Motor, Dhaka

04- Observe World AIDS Day and Migrants Day (WAD) in Bangladesh



OKUP along with other civil society organizations and the Ministry of Health observed World AIDS Day. Around 50 participants from OKUP took part in the rally and joined the discussion meeting at the national level. Migrant workers under the migrant forum from different adjacent districts of Dhaka attended the program. OKUP also show up its various IEC and BCC materials through the stall which was set up in the premises of the venue.

05- Meeting Sessions with Migrant Workers' Embassies in Order to Create Sops on Working Together for Migrants' Rights

In Lebanon, in order to protect migrant worker's rights, CARAM's partner organization, Migration Service Development (MSD) has been actively engaging with the Embassy of Bangladesh and the Consulate of Burkina Faso to create Standard Operating Procedures

(SOPs) for providing efficient care and protection to migrant workers (MWs). As part of this initiative, 14 meetings were conducted with the embassies' representatives, and the latest 02 meetings were held in November 2022. These meetings served as a platform to update the embassies and consulates on the services provided by MSD to the MW's community and to discuss the drafting of the SOPs. This action will take its full form in the upcoming year by assigning a consultant to draft the official document and follow the approval of the 2023 budget.

06- Advocacy Meetings in the Philippines

CARAM's partner organisation, ACHIEVE is member of the Philippine National AIDS Council (PNAC) and the Philippine Migrant Health network (PMHN) which are involved in policy advocacy. Thus, ACHIEVE actively participated in various advocacy works. In the year 2022, ACHIEVE participated in the 2-day research symposium organized by PMHN by presenting its research study that conducted on the mental health situation of OFWs during the COVID-19 global pandemic. As a consequence, migrants' suffering was echoed at the national level event in the Philippines.

Furthermore, ACHIEVE also conducted 02 advocacy meetings with the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration - National Reintegration Cent for OFWs (OWWA-NRCO) for the initial discussion of the Stigma Free Reintegration program for OFWs and for Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Sex Characteristics (SOGIE), HIV and Migration Orientation. The OWWA-NRCO will be included in the newly created Department of Migrant Workers (DMW). Because of the department's 2-year transition plan, OWWA is still waiting for more instructions from the DMW management on how the administration will move forward. The agency expressed support for the creation of a stigma-free reintegration program for OFWs living with HIV.

Regional HIV Financing Advocacy for Budget Allocation for Migrant Workers HIV & AIDS Related Health Issues

07- Advocacy Meetings in Pakistan on Existing Research on "Budget Allocation for HIV and SRHR of Migrants (Including MSM Migrants) Interventions, Policies, and Outcomes" And Become Part of the Budget Review Process

To advocate on sustainable HIV financing for migrants and key groups, CARAM's partner in Pakistan, SPEAK Trust organized a CSO's coalition meeting on 6th December. The objectives of the meeting were to update the coalition members on progress regarding migration and HIV, to develop a joint action plan for sustainable HIV financing on migrants and key groups as well as to discuss and draft a joint statement for stigma eradication for PLHIV at health care settings. Representatives from 14 Civil Society Organizations have actively participated in the meeting. The meeting resulted in the formulation of a Joint Action Plan by all CSOs to conduct research on the "Intersectionality of Migrants with Key Groups" for sustainable HIV financing and a Joint Statement for stigma eradication for PLHIV in health care settings in Pakistan.



CSO Coalition Meeting that took place on 6th December 2022

In addition, SPEAK Trust also conducted a few meetings with several key stakeholders which are the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis, Ministry of Planning and Development (Health Wing), Association of People Living with HIV and Dareecha Male Health Society with an intention to acquire understanding about the government's budget allocation process. Another effort was taken by SPEAK Trust to understand the Global Fund budget allocation process on HIV. This was attained by organizing a meeting with the Country Coordinating Mechanism (CCM) and with the NACP secretariat.

»» AWARENESS RAISING ON HIV PREVENTION AMONG MIGRANT WORKERS

Activities falls under awareness raising category involves programmatic data, knowledge and information generation and dissemination related to HIV issues.

- ✚ Awareness Raising Workshops for Educating Female and Male Migrant Aspirants
- ✚ Awareness Raising Workshops for Male Sex Male (MSM) and Transgender Potential Migrants
- ✚ Awareness raising workshops for educating local level government
- ✚ Awareness Raising Workshop for Potential Women Migrants
- ✚ Narrative Reform (Formation of Information Tool/Glossary)
- ✚ Awareness and Empowerment on Human Rights, and HIV, Access to Treatment, and Nutrition
- ✚ Awareness and Empowerment among CSOs/NGOs and Stakeholders in Nepal
- ✚ Awareness for HIV Positive Deported Migrants at the Airport in Pakistan through IEC Material
- ✚ HIV Education for Oversea Filipino Workers (OFWs) and Their Families
- ✚ Provide Awareness Sessions on HIV for Migrant Workers, Prisoners and Detainees
- ✚ Distribution of IEC Materials to Spread Awareness

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Awareness-raising is an important aspect of promoting a better understanding and increased awareness of health issues experienced by migrant workers, particularly on HIV prevention, their right to equal protection under the law, and practical access to support and health services.

01- Awareness Raising Workshops for Educating Female and Male Migrant Aspirants in Technical Colleges/Youth Corps on HIV/STD Prevention in Sri Lanka



HIV Awareness Raising Workshops for youths in vocational training centers

Under the CARAM Asia project, Community Development Services (CDS) conducted numerous awareness raising workshops for diverse layers of the communities in Sri Lanka. Firstly, a total of 07 workshops were held for 289 youth in vocational training centers and drug rehabilitation centers. Each program had a PLHIV returnee migrant as a guest speaker to convey a strong impact on the life of PLHIV who explain more about the vulnerabilities and sufferings. This intensified the necessity of acquiring knowledge about HIV. As an outcome, youths begin to adopt more safety behaviors like considering using a condom and gain more

confidence to access hospitals for HIV testing.

02- Awareness Raising Workshops for Male Sex Male (MSM) and Transgender Potential Migrants in Sri Lanka

Secondly, CDS has organised a total of 05 half-day workshops on HIV/STI prevention for 142 MSM and transgender potential migrants. The workshops educated the participants on HIV spreading mechanism, HIV testing, the prevention method and safe behaviors as well as the myths underlying HIV. As an outcome, the workshops relieved the participants from fear of getting tested for infectious diseases. Moreover, they also reported an increased and proper use of condoms after attending the workshops.



HIV Awareness Raising Workshops for MSM and transgender potential migrants

03- Awareness Raising Workshops for Educating Local Level Government Officers in Sri Lanka



HIV Awareness Raising Workshops for local government officers

Following that, CDS has carried out a total of 05 workshops for 200 local level government officers such as Foreign Employment Development officers, Child Rights officers, Youth services officers, Grama Niladari officers, Village Development officers, Counselling officers, Women Development officers and Child Rights Protection officers who work closely with migrant workers and their families. The aim of these workshops was to educate grassroots level government officers so that they would educate and refer prospective migrants, returnees and their families to available support

services, for HIV and STI testing and treatment. As anticipated, the workshops have benefitted the people that the government officers serve. Most remarkably, it has also changed the officer's attitudes towards PLHIV.

“Although I knew there were medicines, I did not know a PLHIV could lead such a normal life. Previously when a migrant worker came to get our services, I was scared when they came near me, I also did not give my pen for them to use as I was scared that I would get HIV or STI. After the program, my attitudes changed about these diseases and I no longer discriminate against migrant workers”

04- Awareness Raising Workshop for Potential Women Migrants in Sri Lanka

With CARAM's support, CDS conducted a total of 07 workshops for prospective low-skilled migrant women, especially for those who had already made their documents to migrate. These workshops were conducted at the Divisional Secretariats. As a result, a total of 213 participants acquired knowledge about HIV/STI prevention which may help them in the destination countries. From participants' feedback, it is crystal clear that shared information rarely reaches people in rural places. Therefore, the necessity of such a program is increased.



HIV Awareness Raising Workshops for potential women migrants

05- Narrative Reform (Formation of Information Tool/Glossary)

CARAM's partner organisation from Nepal, namely, POURAKHI has formed a glossary of the awareness messages of HIV/AIDS targeting migrant workers. This activity aims to raise awareness among migrants by sharing knowledge on the existing health services and prevention of HIV. The glossary was translated into the most common languages spoken in Nepal by the target communities which are Nepalese, Tamang, Dotali and English. Then, POURAKHI is planning and initiating to use these messages to raise awareness on HIV related issues through their platforms and networks. For this, POURAKHI has coordinated with the national network and other organizations to disseminate the awareness messages to target groups of populations. Furthermore, POURAKHI Nepal has also printed 4000 pieces of brochures to distribute for mass awareness.

Glossary that has been translated in English language



06- Awareness and Empowerment on Human Rights, and HIV, Access to Treatment, and Nutrition in Nepal

In order to make community people aware of HIV safety measures, safe migration, service centers and treatment providing agencies and nutrition awareness, POURAKHI has developed content on human rights of migrants and HIV, access to treatment, nutrition awareness. This awareness raising content was conveyed to relevant stakeholders through various initiatives by POURAKHI which are by:

- ✚ Networking to unite and mobilize media personnel for making migrants and community people aware about claiming and exercising their rights, building alliances with like-minded organizations and communities for lobby and advocacy and use of existing referral mechanisms to access social, health and livelihood opportunities.
- ✚ Working with remittance service providers by developing preventive messages
- ✚ Using social media to raise awareness and empower the vulnerable population and enhance access to information, ability to communicate, a sense of social and emotional support, establishing a virtual community, and geographical reach

- ✚ Developing an IEC brochures covering information on the national and international instruments on human rights, HIV migrant's rights, existing legal provisions for the protection and promotion of rights of migrant workers.

Besides this, with aid of CARAM, POURAKHI has supported a nutrition diet for 06 returnee migrants with HIV/AIDS who are found to be at greater risk of food insecurity and malnutrition, have higher food needs and live in financially precarious situations.

WORLD AIDS DAY CELEBRATION IN NEPAL

On the occasion of World Aids Day, 16-Days Activism, POURAKHI Nepal coordinated the 14th Human Rights National Magna Meet 2079 in Nepal which is an annual forum of Civil Society and Human Rights Defenders. It was organized in collaboration with National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) and other development partners and civil society organizations from 8th -14th December 2022. As an outcome, this event further strengthens the human rights situation in the country, makes the stakeholders accountable for the implementation of human rights commitment and ensures solidarity to this end.



14th National Mega Meet-74th
International Human Rights Day



A massive rally on 10th December 2022 was dedicated to raise awareness on HIV/AIDS. The event educated and made people aware of HIV/AIDS, its mode of transmission, risky practices, prevention, safety measures and treatment plans. This event encouraged people to implement their knowledge and education into practice, especially for safe sexual habit participation. This event created awareness about HIV stigma and taboos that are prevalent

in our society and highlighted the importance of a healthy and stigma-free society for HIV victims.

A rally program was organized by the National Centre for AIDS and STD Control (NCASC), Ministry of Health and Population, Government of Nepal in Kathmandu on the occasion of 35th World AIDS Day on 1st December 2022 with the slogan "*To keep Everyone Safe, To protect Everyone's Health, We need to Equalize*". During World Aids Day, POURAKHI Nepal discussed and shared the CARAM Asia statement among the migrants and district chapters with the aim to publicize the statement.

07- Awareness and Empowerment among CSOs/NGOs and Stakeholders in Nepal

POURAKHI Nepal organized an event with CSOs/NGOs and key stakeholders on 18th November 2022 at Nepal House, Hattisar, Kathmandu which intending to raise awareness on the prevention and advocacy of migrant's HIV issues, available health care services, systems, and infrastructure that targeting HIV migrant as well as about policy implementation issues and to identify the policy gaps. The program was attended by 21 participants representing from Department of Public Health, local Government representatives, CSOs, the private sector, Trade Unions (JTUCC) and others. At the end of this event, the key stakeholders understand the depth of the issues discussed and agreed on creating a communication group to share ideas and seek support among the network members.



With CARAM's support, POURAKHI has also carried out a training called "Capacity Building of Migrant Community Leaders on the Use of Technology" on 25th July 2022 at Kathmandu. The main objective of the program was to strengthen migrant community leaders' competency in using technology with the intention that trained migrant community leaders will be able to facilitate migrant workers' participation in online activities. Eventually, this will enhance the quality and quantity of online events and activities.

08- Awareness for HIV Positive Deported Migrants at the Airport in Pakistan through IEC Material

To spread awareness to HIV positive deported migrants, SPEAK has been working on the initiative to display IEC material at airports. For this, the IEC material which covered the basics of HIV along with methods of prevention and addressing the stigma surrounding it has been developed and reviewed by an independent health expert. While, in terms of approval from the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), an official letter has been sent out by progressively working together with National AIDS Control Program (NACP) through 05 meetings. All of these have contributed to the successful integration of IEC material distribution and a comprehensive HIV referral mechanism at airports and borders, for which the government has agreed to initiate at Peshawar international airport as a pilot testing.

09- HIV Education for Oversea Filipino Workers (OFWs) and Their Families

ACHIEVE conducted an orientation on migration, HIV vulnerabilities and the impact of HIV on OFWs on October 7, 2022. It was participated by 62 male seafarers of Bright Maritime Corporation (BMC) who ensure outbound seafarers are well-equipped with HIV prevention awareness and information on HIV related services. Besides sharing knowledge and inputs, the program also entails sharing of experiences of a seafarer living with HIV and his wife who also contracted HIV. The discussion opened the participants' eyes to the realities of working on a ship, being away from the family, the risk of HIV infection for seafarers and their wives or partners and families.

10- Provide Awareness Sessions on HIV for Migrant Workers, Prisoners and Detainees

Capacity Building Training to
Community Leaders on 'Digital
Technology'

In order to reduce and prevent further infection of HIV/AIDS among the vulnerable group like MWs, prisoners and detainees, MSD run a total of 09 awareness sessions with female prisoners at Baabda and Verdun prisons. A total of 153 female participants from various nationalities including Lebanese, Syrian, Ethiopian, Turkish, Kenyan, Ghanaian, Sri Lankan, and Palestinian took part. The sessions were adapted into multiple languages to accommodate language barriers and were conducted in small groups to facilitate effective communication and understanding. Pre and post-test assessments revealed that the female prisoners found the subject interesting, useful and applicable to their daily life.



Sessions Taking Place with Community Leaders

While, another 02 awareness sessions were also conducted with 41 migrant leaders from various nationalities including Bangladesh, Sudanese, Madagascar, and Ethiopian. The sessions were accompanied by brochures in multiple languages which entail information and resources on HIV/AIDS. These community leaders are very much instrumental in disseminating the brochures and inputs with MWs. As an outcome, they have reached more than 300 migrant workers in this effort.

11- Distribution of IEC Materials to Spread Awareness in Bangladesh



As a different approach, OKUP designed and printed a number of IEC materials such as wall calendar (220 pieces) and desk calendar (242 pieces). These materials were distributed to stakeholders and some of the beneficiaries of project activities like migrant community members and others with the intention to spread awareness about HIV in the form of messages that will be viewed everyday by the beneficiaries. These impactful messages on HIV-related problems and prevention were acquired from key stakeholders and HIV-positive migrants.

»» ENHANCING ACCESS TO SERVICES FOR MIGRANT WORKERS

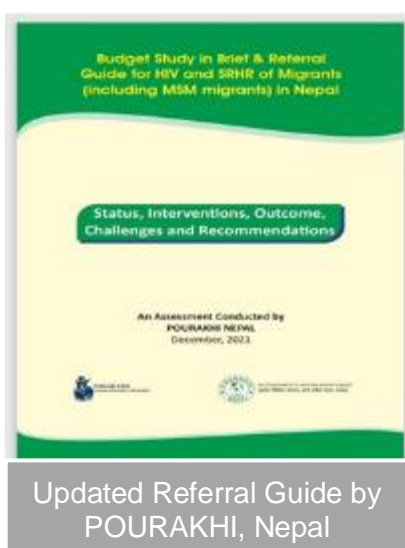
Activities falls under this category involves provision of counselling, referral and direct quality health services for inadequately served population (ISP) groups

- ✚ Review and Mapping of Existing Health Service Mechanisms and Accessibility of Targeted Beneficiaries
- ✚ Reconstruction of Service Mechanism in Nepal
- ✚ Counselling and Referral Services for PLHIV and Returnee/Deported Migrants
- ✚ Meetings of Self-Support Group of Migrants Living with HIV (MLHIV)
- ✚ Provision of Medical Assistance for HIV Positive Migrants, Other Migrant Workers, Prisoners and Detainees
- ✚ Provision of Online Psychosocial Support for HIV Positive OFWs and their Families

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Migrant workers, especially those without legal documentation, are often overlooked by national health programs, disregarding their significant requirements for healthcare services, disease prevention, treatment, social protection programs, and other forms of medical attention. CARAM Asia aims to improve migrants and their families' accessibility to medical and social services in areas formerly devoid of such facilities.

01- Review and Mapping of Existing Health Service Mechanisms and Accessibility of Targeted Beneficiaries in Nepal



POURAKHI Nepal has organized an event on 22nd December 2022 at Kathmandu with key stakeholders. The objective of this event was to review and mapping of services to be used to refer cases for HIV testing and health care through CSOs/NGOs interventions and establishment of an effective and sustainable referral mechanism for quality services and creates platforms for social action, structures, resources and regular communication. As a result, a number of changes have been made to the existing referral guide that was prepared in the year 2021 and the updated information made the referral directory to be more effective and authentic. To ensure proper and effective use of the guide, POURAKHI oriented its service providers and focal person on the objective the guide and how to use it. Most importantly, the event witnessed the encouraging participation of different rights holders.

02- Reconstruction of Service Mechanism in Nepal

Another initiative by POURAKHI Nepal to augment the existing service mechanism, POURAKHI has conducted an event for enhancing CBO's role in mapping resources in three tier government of Nepal on 27th December 2022 at Kathmandu with the following objectives:

- ✚ Enhancing CBO's monitoring, documentation and reporting of interventions
- ✚ How to access on the information of funding opportunities on HIV responses of ISP's programs
- ✚ Identify specific gaps and solution of existing resource mobilization and resource mapping
- ✚ How to link the existing services to the other peripheral and complementing services

The event was participated by the representatives from ministries like Department of Public Health, local government representatives, urban health center, CSOs, private sector and others. In total, 21 participants attended the event. As an outcome, this event has sensitized the concerned stakeholders on the existing service mechanism and the gap in the implementation and mapping of existing services.

In addition, POURAKHI Nepal has organized a follow-up event with district chapters' focal points on the "Capacity Building of Migrant Community Leaders on the Use of Technology" on 6th August 2022 in Kathmandu with the support of CARAM Asia. The participants were taught information clustering and classification, information analysis, tabulation, verification (reporting) and existing Information & Communication Technology (ICT). Thus, the interactive sessions brought an in-depth knowledge to participants on the gathering of the information, classification, verification and dissemination of information along with the special concern on gender responsiveness as well as access to justice and campaigns.

03- Counselling and Referral Services For PLHIV and Returnee/Deported Migrants

With CARAM's continuous support, SPEAK has expanded its services in the year 2022 with the inclusion of pre and post-test counselling to returnee/deported migrants. This activity benefitted around 455 returnee migrants and members of their families who were successfully mobilized and convinced by SPEAK for voluntary HIV testing. Not only this, all of them were provided with comprehensive pre-test counseling. Out of 455, 09 returnee migrants and 03 of their wives tested positive for HIV. All of the infected individuals were provided with post-test counseling including family counseling for serodiscordant couples. This effort ensured the continuous adherence to treatment of the infected people.

With the aim of elevating HIV testing among returnee/ deported migrants, SPEAK has formulated multi-approach strategies ranging from grassroots influencers to social and print media. As part of the strategies, SPEAK has carried out a social media campaign targeting the local people of the three districts which reached more than 250,000 people. With an increased number of testings, SPEAK developed 'Testing Guidelines' for its staff to ensure the health and safety of the people being tested and its staff.

04- Meetings of Self-Support Group of Migrants Living with HIV (MLHIV) in Pakistan

To empower migrants living with HIV, CARAM's partner, SPEAK Trust arranged 04 meetings of self-support group in the year 2022. These meetings produce fruitful effects on member of the self-support group by levelling up their self-confidence. This was reflected in their actions where the members came forward to share their own stories and some came in front of the camera to spread awareness among potential migrants regarding risky behaviours which lead to HIV contraction. Eventually, this contributed to the development of two testimonial videos.

05- Provision of Medical Assistance for HIV Positive Migrants, Other Migrant Workers, Prisoners and Detainees

In Lebanon, with the help of CARAM, MSD initiated a medical assistance program for vulnerable populations like migrants, prisoners, and detainees. For this, MSD approached relevant stakeholders to inform them about emergence of the new medical assistance program designed to support migrants in accessing health care services. This program helped 19

beneficiaries including 3 detainees. Most amazingly, this initiative allowed a 3-year-old Bangladeshi child to be discharged from the hospital who was previously held along with his mother in the emergency room due to their inability to cover the hospitalization fees. Adding on, the assistance given saved a Bangladeshi man's life. This was possible by covering the fees of his medical tests. The tests revealed that the beneficiary must remain on his medical regimen which he had stopped, and saved him from experiencing seizures and medical complications, likely to have been fatal.

06- Provision of Online Psychosocial Support for HIV Positive OFWs and their Families

ACHIEVE conducted a total of 05 psychosocial support sessions for Overseas Filipino Workers living with HIV including female domestic workers. These sessions were led by a certified psychologist. All of the sessions were held in person, which ensured the participants' comfort and allowed them to freely discuss their personal issues. This also minimized communication issues. Throughout the sessions, participants were requested to keep a letter with them. The goal of this letter is to see if the writer's concerns and problems have been addressed five years later. These sessions improved the mental health and emotional distress of 51 participants.

➤➤ CAPACITY BUILDING OF PARTNERS, STAKEHOLDERS & COMMUNITIES

Activities falls under this category involves in provision of programmatic training, technical assistance, capacity building, and mentorship for partners, stakeholders and communities

- ✚ Developing a Training Tool for CSOs and PLHIV Networks Exclusively For MW Communities with New Trends and Developments in Sri Lanka
- ✚ Capacity Building and Networking of Service Providers
- ✚ Pre-Departure Orientation Sessions for Final Stage Outbound Migrant Workers on HIV/ AIDS
- ✚ Meetings with Migrant Forum members and Community Forum Members on Leadership, Network Management, and Community Mobilization
- ✚ Life Skills Training for Newly Affected/ Infected PLHIV
- ✚ Training of Trainers (TOT) on Pre-Departure Orientation for Outgoing Migrants
- ✚ HIV Financing Advocacy Training for CSO members of the Philippine National AIDS Council (PNAC)
- ✚ Training of Trainers for Migrant Community Leaders & Development of HIV/AIDS Module

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

It is crucial for CARAM Asia's members to develop their skills and capabilities to achieve the organization's strategic goals. Given the diverse range of skills and backgrounds in its network, this is an unavoidable priority area.

01- Developing a Training Tool for CSOs and PLHIV Networks Exclusively for MW Communities with New Trends and Developments in Sri Lanka

Taking into consideration the new developments at a later stage of the COVID-19 pandemic and the economic crisis in migration sector, CARAM's partner organization in Sri Lanka, namely, CDS has updated existing training tool on HIV/AIDS to include new areas related to migrant workers which especially put them at risk of contracting HIV/AIDS. The new updated training tool also includes information on how to access HIV rapid testing kits, Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PREP) and Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) which were acquired from National STD/AIDS control program for those who need to be tested. The distribution of free testing kits was part of the government of Sri Lanka's new initiatives. Now, the developed training tool is readily available to be translated into the local languages and distributed to the CSOs and PLHIV networks so, that they can incorporate this in their respective training for prospective migrant workers.

02- Capacity Building and Networking of Service Providers



Capacity building of service providers in Nepal

POURAKHI organized a capacity building event which took part by local government representatives, government health centers, CSOs, private sectors, Trade Unions and forth. The ultimate goal of the event is to share the reflection of work and planning meetings together as well as to exchange learning and good practices. Moreover, a discussion about the advantage of new technologies was done for better integration of knowledge into their organizational routines. As expected, the event capacitated the participants on HIV financing and

advocacy for the health rights of migrant workers, strengthened network and collaboration among the coalition members and commitment to share the progress made in the different interventions with regards to the Prevention & Advocacy on Migrant's HIV Issues, Enhancing Access to Health Services and Promoting HIV Positive Migrant's Rights in Nepal.

03- Pre-Departure Orientation Sessions for Final Stage Outbound Migrant Workers on HIV/ AIDS in Bangladesh

In order to ensure a stay safe from HIV/AIDS for those works in abroad, CARAM's partner organization, OKUP arranged 12 pre-departure training at Bangladesh-Korea Technical Training Center (BKTTTC) in Dhaka for 301 final staged outbound. These pre-departure orientation sessions provided knowledge including:

- ✚ Introduction to HIV/AIDS
- ✚ The risk factor of being affected by HIV/AIDS
- ✚ The ways of transmission, prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS
- ✚ The rights of the migrant workers according to the law of Bangladesh
- ✚ Safe migration, cultural adaptation and stress management
- ✚ The ways to minimize workplace injury



Pre-departure orientation at BKTTTC in Dhaka

After realizing and understanding the importance of the acquired knowledge, the participants committed to take necessary steps to stay safe from HIV/AIDS. The participants also committed that they will disseminate the knowledge to people in their circle.

04- Meetings with Migrant Forum members and Community Forum Members on Leadership, Network Management, and Community Mobilization



Meeting with Forum Members at BACE Training Center in Bangladesh

In order to increase the capacity of the forum members on leadership, network management and community mobilization, OKUP organized a meeting which was participated by 50 migrant forum members from four districts. After attending the meeting, the forum members have been more confident about their leadership. They are now able to mobilize their community on different social issues, like safe migration, HIV/AIDS awareness and forth.

Another meeting was organized called the 'Annual Congress of Migrant Forum Members'. It

is the annual conference of all the migrant forum members. More than five hundred migrant forum members attended the meeting along with the Honorable Member of Parliament Mr Nazrul Islam Babu, Narayangonj-2 was the chief guest while Director General of Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training (BMET). This event offered an opportunity for the leaders of different networks and migrant forums to raise their voices to the chief guest. Therefore, they demanded social justice for the migrants.

05- Life Skills Training for Newly Affected/ Infected PLHIV

To reduce the mental health vulnerability of the HIV-infected people, OKUP has arranged life skill training for the newly affected/infected PLHIV. In the training, various knowledge was imparted to participants with the aim of making them realize the necessity of mental health care. The main contents of this training are as follow:

- ✚ Understanding the context of PLHIV Bangladesh
- ✚ Short orientation on counseling like individual, family, group and tele counseling
- ✚ Providing training on counseling so that the PLHIV can develop their counseling skills on micro basis
- ✚ Providing orientation on quality of a counselor
- ✚ Orientation on peer counseling and practice session
- ✚ Training on Self-evaluation

This fruitful event injected hope in 32 PLHIV as they could lead normal life as others with the help our healthy life style and medication. Moreover, the knowledge given empowered them to counsel and guide other PLHIV they know. The dissemination of knowledge by PLHIV will bring a positive change in our society.



Life skill training on at Bishwo Shahittyo Kendro, Banglamotor on 19 November 2022.

06- Training of Trainers (TOT) on Pre-Departure Orientation for Outgoing Migrants

In Bangladesh, OKUP formed around 2,400 returnee migrant workers in 41 unions as a 'Migrant Forum' under five Upazilas. This forum function as a community-based platform for the promotion of safe migration and the protection of workers. For this reason, OKUP conducted 2-day of TOT sessions for migrant forum members to orient them on migrant's health related to HIV/AIDS infection and prevention issues which specifically entails:

- Day-1:**
1. Migration and health
 2. Basic knowledge on sexual reproductive health
 3. STD infection and protection
 4. Global situation of HIV/AIDS and Bangladesh situation
 5. What is HIV/AIDS, infection, prevention?

- Day-2:**
1. Superstition of HIV/AIDS and social demurrage
 2. Basic information on HIV/AIDS testing and treatment in Bangladesh
 3. Role of family and society in the elimination of social discrimination of PLHIV
 4. Basic counseling for PLHIV

All these inputs elevated the respective forum members' awareness level about HIV/AIDS. Upon obtaining the knowledge, the participants have decided to disseminate this crucial knowledge that will help to reduce the chances of getting HIV/AIDS infection to people around them.

07- HIV Financing Advocacy Training for CSO members of the Philippine National AIDS Council (PNAC)

The PNAC is a national advisory body which reviews and recommends policies on HIV/AIDS to the President and directs national approaches against HIV/AIDS domestically. The PNAC focused on the development of the council's 2023 budget and the development of the 7th AIDS Medium Term Plan (AMTP 7). In relation to this, ACHIEVE conducted a meeting with PNAC CSO Caucus on 12th Dec 2012 at B Hotel, Quezon City. The objective of the meeting was to assess the capacity of the PNAC members and the secretariat on HIV Financing, HIV and Human Rights, Gender and Sexuality. The discussion carried out spotlighted that the secretariat needs to build capacity on basic information and skills that are needed for them to provide technical support to the council as stated in the law. Representatives from various groups, including PAFPI, ASP, PSFI, ACHIEVE, and ALAGADD MINDANAO, who engaged online, sit in PNAC as representatives and represent the Key Population communities to PNAC.

08- Training of Trainers for Migrant Community Leaders & Development of HIV/AIDS Module



Before running the training session, NSI assigned a consultant to develop a module serving as a guideline to train the migrant worker community leaders on a comprehensive understanding of risk behaviors, HIV prevention, and available HIV & STI related health services. This module would prove vital in educating the community leaders, as a module like this has not yet been developed for the migrant communities in Malaysia. To develop the module, a Training of Trainers programme was conducted to gather feedback, listen to key sharing from community leaders, as well as to conduct HIV and mental health sessions that would prepare the leaders for their community roll-outs.

Therefore, a 2-day TOT Training was held in Kuala Terengganu, and a total of 23 participants attended the sessions. In these 2 days of training, diverse topic related to HIV was covered including the presentation of the module, an introduction to HIV/AIDS, stigmatization and culture as well as HIV 101. The HIV 101 session demonstrated the difference between HIV and AIDS, methods of transmission and condition, the HIV Lifecycle, prevention, testing, and demonstration of the test kit and an explanation of STI, STD and HPV. There were number of discussions also carried out on basic migrant rights and access to healthcare in Malaysia, SOGIE, counseling and treatment for mental health issues and others. This comprehensive training capacitated the migrant community leaders and prepared them for their upcoming roles as a trainer.

REDUCING STIGMA & DISCRIMINATION AGAINST HIV POSITIVE MIGRANTS



This category is a subfield of enhancing access to service delivery. In where, activities under this subfield aimed to reduce stigma and discrimination against HIV positive migrants

-  Reducing Stigma and Discrimination via Awareness Raising among Hospital Staff in Pakistan
-  Reducing Stigma and Discrimination via Awareness Raising among Nursing Students and Hospital Staff in Lebanon

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Migrant workers frequently encounter stigmatization, discrimination, and mistreatment, which is exacerbated by their positive HIV status. This additional burden worsens the challenges faced by these already vulnerable, exploited, and marginalized individuals. Thus, CARAM Asia aimed to reduce these destructive thoughts and actions among people.

01- Reducing Stigma and Discrimination via Awareness Raising among Hospital Staff in Pakistan

In an effort to reduce the obstacles in accessing healthcare services as well as to provide social protection to migrant workers, SPEAK has printed and disseminated HIV related IEC materials (1600 brochures and 40 posters) which include information on HIV transmission and prevention along with the ethical treatment of PLHIV by medical and non-medical hospital staff to Hayatabad Medical Complex (HMC) Peshawar, Lady Reading Hospital (LRH), Peshawar, and DHQ Hospital, Butkhela.

Besides, SPEAK also has designed a chapter titled, "HIV de-stigmatization and preventive measure in healthcare settings" based on research-based evidence regarding stigma faced by PLHIV from medical staff. The chapter also included the levels of stigma faced by PLHIV and guidelines for ethical treatment of PLHIV. The chapter was reviewed by a public health expert consultant and was finalized to be included in the educational curricula taught to nurses. For this, SPEAK conducted 02 meetings with nursing schools and 02 with Pakistan Nursing Council (PNC). Now, SPEAK is waiting for the response from PNC for further progress.

02- Reducing Stigma and Discrimination via Awareness Raising among Nursing Students and Hospital Staff in Lebanon



Awareness Raising Sessions is taking Place at St. Famille School, Lebanon

Similar initiative was carried out in Lebanon by MSD. In detail, MSD organised 05 awareness raising group sessions with 73 students and health care staff (42 of which were women, and 31 were men) at Antonine University and 08 sessions for 110 secondary school students of St. Famille School. MSD targeted secondary school students as they are likely to choose health-related fields in the future, making it crucial to educate them on HIV/AIDS including the importance of testing and follow-up with

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

doctors, and ensuring that no one is left without treatment. In consequence, the data and feedback collected revealed that the subject was attractive and gained the attention of many, especially with regard to the importance of testing and follow-up with doctors, and ensuring that no one is left without treatment.



Activities falls under this category involves Participatory Action Research (PAR), assessment and other research related activities

- ✚ Dissemination of Research Findings
- ✚ Research Study to Identify the Risk Factors that Make Migrants More Vulnerable to Contracting HIV in Host Countries and What Interventions could be taken to reduce this Risk
- ✚ A National Level Research Study in Collaboration with the Association of People Living with HIV (APLHIV)

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

The objective is to use research to include the opinions and viewpoints of migrants regarding HIV vulnerabilities, the health status of migrants, and potential policy recommendations for effective national and regional advocacy.

01- Dissemination on Research Findings

A research project on 'Universal Health Coverage for Labour Migrants in Sri Lanka' was undertaken as part of CARAM Asia's regional research and advocacy project. The research aims to understand and address the health needs from a UHC perspective for migrant workers. Due to the many vulnerabilities faced by migrant workers in destination countries and origin countries, special emphasis is given to HIV & AIDS and the sexual and reproductive health rights of the migrant worker's community. Thus, the research report with a cover letter requesting feedback on the study was sent to key stakeholders including the National STD/AIDS Control Programme (NSACP), Ministry of Foreign Employment, Ministry of Labour and SLBFE as well as to the 13 key stakeholders interviewed from multisectoral institutions such as the Ministry of Health, the World Bank, Department of National Planning, Colombo University, Sir John Kotelawala Defence Academy. This information benefits the stakeholders working on attaining Universal Health Coverage for all.

02- Research Study to Identify the Risk Factors that Make Migrants More Vulnerable to Contracting HIV in Host Countries and What Interventions could be taken to reduce this Risk (Sri Lanka)

With the guidance of CARAM Asia, CDS conducted a research study to "Identify the Risk Factors That Make Migrant Workers More Vulnerable to Contracting HIV and What Interventions Could Be Taken to Reduce This Risk". The objective of this study was to clearly define the risk factors that make immigrants susceptible to HIV infection in their host countries and to advocate with policymakers for the areas where interventions would be most helpful. The participants of this study were 09 PLHIV returnee migrants, 09 Sri Lankan overseas students and 26 returnee migrants from different job types such as housemaids, garment factory workers, drivers, hotel workers, shop assistants and forth. Moreover, an In-Depth Interview (IDI) with a migrant worker who is currently in employment was also carried out to obtain quality and relevant input on the research area. The research's key findings contributed to insights that:

- 🌐 Housemaids received initial training on HIV and health. However, they do not receive any training on their consecutive visits as housemaids

- ✚ There was no pre-departure training given to female garment factory workers before pre-departure.
- ✚ The majority of the low-skilled male migrant workers had not attended a pre-departure training program except for the seaman.
- ✚ Many migrant returnees were not aware of the factors that put them at risk of contracting HIV.
- ✚ The major risk factor that MWs more vulnerable to HIV is due to the engagement of MWs in personal relationships
- ✚ Access to medical care has been good for the majority of the migrant workers. The housemaids stated that the employer bought them medicines or took them to the hospital when sick and the migrants working in companies or factories stated that their respective workplaces took care of their health issues. Most of the employers had spent on the migrant's health care.

03- A National Level Research Study in Collaboration with the Association of People Living with HIV (APLHIV)




In Pakistan, SPEAK Trust is initiating a national level research study to identify the percentage of migrants among registered People Living with HIV (PLHIV). To acquire data about migrants living with HIV, SPEAK Trust approached many sources. First and foremost, SPEAK Trust has conducted 07 meetings with the National AIDS Control Program (NACP) requesting access to data from HIV Treatment Centers. In consequence, a request letter, research manuscript, and data request form were filled and shared with NACP and Common Management Unit to gain their trust to get access to data that was filled with sensitivity and confidentiality issues.

Following that, SPEAK Trust also conducted 06 meetings with Health Services Academy (HSA), a government academic institute that specializes in Public Health to jointly conduct research on migration and health. As a result, SPEAK signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with HSA to collaborate in research studies. Adding on the initiative taken for data collection, SPEAK has conducted 01 meeting with Provincial AIDS Control Program (PACP), Punjab and 01 meeting with PACP, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) to take them on board for the research process. As an outcome, both programs are on-board and have promised their full support. Not forgetting that NACP has also agreed to share their data on the percentage of migrants among PLHIV ever-registered

OTHER ACTIVITIES



Activities falls under this category involves organisational strengthening, participating in related programs, meetings and other activities that focus on migrant worker's health related aspects

-  AIDS 2022 Affiliated Independent Event
-  A Project on Universal Health Coverage
-  CARAM Asia's Seventh General Assembly 2022

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

We conduct a diverse range of activities, participate in meetings, and programs to enhance our organization's performance, improve the quality of our services, and provide exceptional benefits to migrants' communities through our network of members and partner organizations.

01- AIDS 2022 Affiliated Independent Event

In collaboration with the International AIDS Society, CARAM Asia conducted an AIDS 2022 Affiliated Independent Event on 2nd August 2022. For this, CARAM Asia conducted an online dissemination workshop. The main objective of this workshop is to disseminate information about migrants' vulnerabilities and the challenges face by them in accessing health care services in both sending and receiving countries as well as to share the research findings of a study called 'A Review of Government Budget Allocation for HIV and SRHR Interventions, Policies and Outcomes for Migrant Workers' which was carried out in the year 2022. More than 30 stakeholders from various organizations were took part and get benefitted from the information shared with them.



02- A Project on Universal Health Coverage for Migrant Workers

CARAM Asia undertook the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Research project in collaboration with its partners, aimed to explore the implementation progress of UHC in four South Asian countries which are Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, and Nepal, specifically focusing on migrants. This project was made possible through the support of the Global Health Council, a prominent organization that brings together advocates, implementers, policymakers, and stakeholders to advance global health priorities. This Advocacy in Motion (AIM) Grant Program lasted for a duration of six months, encompassing the period from May 25th, 2022, to November 10th, 2022.

Global Health
Council

Through this grant opportunity, the Global Health Council has successfully supported CARAM Asia in achieving the following:

- ✚ Enhanced expertise in the field of Universal Health Coverage, got an opportunity to expand and engage in the health for all thematic area, with a specific focus on Universal Health Coverage (UHC)
- ✚ Established connections with crucial stakeholders in the health sector through this project, particularly in conducting research in the four countries, titled "Universal Health Coverage for Migrant Workers," which aimed to assess the current status of UHC in South Asian countries while investigating specific health gaps related to migrant workers



- ✚ Initiated discussions with key stakeholders to integrate migrants' health rights and address HIV vulnerabilities within the implementation of UHC in the four South Asian countries.

- ✚ Conducted research on the broader health policies and systems of the four countries, gaining a better understanding of the position and challenges faced by migrant workers within the overall health landscape.

03- CARAM Asia's Seventh General Assembly 2022

On 15th November, CARAM Asia organized seventh General Assembly (GA). The GA is the highest decision-making body of the CARAM Asia network. There were around 40 participants joined the meeting. The meeting held to share the overall progress and achievements accomplished by CARAM Asia in last few years. Therefore, the event constitutes of opening remarks by the chairperson, report from the regional coordinator about the program and achievements followed by, reports from each Task Force (TF) Conveners about the activities done under three task forces. Lastly, review of CARAM Asia Constitution followed by the election of new board members were took place.

7th General Assembly (virtual)



Task Force on Migrant Workers' Rights (MWR)

Brief Introduction of the Task force on Migrant Workers' Rights

The Migrant Workers Rights Programme seeks to address the absence of legal protection, rights to redress, and access to justice for migrant workers. The abuse, exploitation, and discrimination faced by migrant workers are compounded by the fact that migrant workers are often viewed as a temporary cheap commodity to meet the destination countries' production and domestic needs.

The situation is made worse with the rising costs of migration that force many poor workers to migrate through unofficial channels resulting in them becoming undocumented migrant workers. Some exploitative employers refuse to renew work permits and pay wages, the majority of employers keep passports and/or travel documents of workers in their custody, which force migrant workers to become undocumented.

However, CARAM Asia views the lack of documentation as an administrative issue that should not deny undocumented migrant worker's human rights. Through advocacy with various stakeholders, CARAM Asia has been consistently lobbying for comprehensive legal protection measures to be made available for all migrant workers regardless of their immigration status.

The Foreign Domestic Workers (FDW) program of CARAM Asia area focuses on the recognition of domestic work as an economic activity and to have it included under national employment act or labor laws in both origin and destination countries. Key activities include advocacy, utilizing appropriate international instruments (SDG, Domestic Workers Convention 189, Core labor standards of ILO, CEDAW Convention Recommendation NO. 26, and Migrant Workers Convention) public campaigns, and awareness programs. Activities also include building regional cooperation with other networks, trade unions, and organizations to strengthen the response towards protecting and promoting the labor and health rights of foreign domestic workers.

CARAM Asia has initiated the formation of the United for Foreign Domestic Workers Rights (UFDWRs), a coalition of regional and international groups that advocate for foreign domestic

Key Priorities



workers' rights. Due to a lack of recognition and protection under labor laws, among other factors foreign domestic workers experience rights violations as well as violence, abuse, and exploitation by employers, recruiting agents. The FDWs stay at employer's houses in isolation without any social protection and freedom to mobility puts them at risk of sexual and physical violence. CARAM Asia addresses these issues and provides legal services to the survivors of violence under this task force.

- ❖ Women Migrant Workers with a focus on Foreign Domestic Workers
- ❖ Access to justice/ legal framework
- ❖ Undocumented migrant workers (addressing modern day slavery)

The Network for the Protection of Women Migrant Workers' Rights was established in 2022. Basically, this is a network of supporters who advocate for the women migrant workers' rights. CARAM Asia is part of this new establishment along with Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD), Global Alliance against Traffic in Women (GAATW), International Women's Association (IWA), Asia Pacific Mission for Migrants (APMM) and Migrante International.

The network has pulled off a clemency appeal and doing campaign for Mary Jane case. In detail, this network had launched a petition letter campaign to renew the appeal and call for clemency for Mary Jane Veloso who is a Filipina human trafficking victim currently detained on death row in Indonesia. As an effort, a formal appeal for clemency by the Philippine Government, through its Department of Foreign Affairs, was submitted to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia on September 2022.

Moreover, the letter campaign was circulated for solidarity and support by the Network amongst organizations, networks, human rights defenders, and activists all over the world with recent updates on the case. The letter has been endorsed by more than 100 organizations around the world. The letter is in process for submission to the H.E. President of the Republic of Indonesia Joko Widodo to request for mercy to grant clemency and pardon for Mary Jane Veloso.

On the other hand, the organisation has also planned and working on a number of projects and programme to meet the vision and mission of the organisation which are including lobbying and implementing advocacy works like organizing sharing session, public forum, media briefings and etc. They are also working on campaign related activities with a special focus on women victims of human trafficking. There are many more activities to be kick start in the future with the aim to reduce and eliminate violence against women migrant workers.



Task Force on Migration, Development and Globalization (MDG)

Brief Introduction of the Task force on MDG

Migration is globular in nature and is heavily affected by neoliberal policies and structures which impact migrant workers' health outcomes and well-being.

This program aims at linking and filling the gaps in the current migration and development discourses by adequately addressing the impact of migrant workers' health in the context of globalization.

Activities include strengthening the analysis, perspectives, and awareness on globalization/ World Trade Organisation (WTO) / International Financial Institutions (IFIs) policies on migration and health; the impact and implication of migrant workers' health through the privatization of healthcare and developing global action on debt and poverty to reduce all vulnerabilities in migration. Its objective is also to address the issues related to violation of rights of migrant workers, including domestic workers.

"CARAM Asia contributed globally and strengthened its potential by participating in events and programs organized by International Organizations, UN agencies and other actors in the field such as United Nations Regional Network, Clean Clothes Campaign, Asia Pacific Mission for Migrants (APMM) and ESAP who working on enhancement of migrants life as CARAM Asia.

Contributed

In

15th ASEAN Forum on Migrant Labour (AFML)



CARAM Asia has contributed and given inputs for the Civil Society Statement for 15th ASEAN Forum on Migrant Labour (AFML). Cambodia, as the ASEAN Chair in 2022, hosted the 15th ASEAN Forum on Migrant Labour (AFML) in Phnom Penh, Cambodia and virtually on 19-20 October 2022. In accordance with the ASEAN Chairmanship's theme "Addressing Challenges Together" and taking into account the recovering of ASEAN economies from the COVID-19 pandemic, the 15th AFML adopted the theme "Resumption of Labour Migration and Regional Cooperation". Participants shared information and exchanged views under two sub-themes of "Economic Recovery and Labour Migration" and "Rights Protection to Maximise Development Impacts of Labour Migration".

Representatives from all ASEAN Member States' governments, employers' organisations, and civil society organisations, as well as the ASEAN Confederation of Employers (ACE), Task Force on ASEAN Migrant Workers (TFAMW), International Labour Organization (ILO), International Organization for Migration (IOM), and the ASEAN Secretariat participated in the Forum. Representatives from Australia, Canada and Switzerland participated as observers. CARAM Asia contributed meaningfully by providing comprehensive input for the CSO statement and recommendations for each of the sub-theme that were discussed during the breakout session. Below is the input given according to the sub-themes:

Sub- Theme 1: Economic Recovery and Labour Migration

- As governments open borders and resume recruitment and employment of migrant workers, it will be important to consider the situation of undocumented migrants currently in the country. Amnesty programs should be offered to allow undocumented workers in the country to find jobs with the cost of regularization borne by the employer.

- ✚ Migration cost should be zero on migrant workers. Employers should be responsible to pay all the related costs, transportation and tickets.
- ✚ Employment Insurance Schemes should be extended to migrant workers regardless of their status and must be paid by their employers.
- ✚ Access social protection and healthcare for all migrants regardless of their status should be central to any policy or program for economic recovery. Access to health care should include access to mental health services and other related services to address communicable diseases including HIV & AIDS and COVID-19. This includes providing migrants with access to treatment, testing, vaccination, quarantine, etc.
- ✚ Countries of Origin and destination should promote digitalization of information regarding social protection to reduce isolated interventions. This initiative can support more data that will result in an efficient and effective way to provide convenient, faster, and more secure service for all migrant workers. Information can be disseminated during pre-departure and post-arrival training and be available in different languages.
- ✚ Occupational Safety and Health standards should be implemented in the workplace and housing provided by employers for migrant workers including in terms of hygiene, housing sanitation, and personal protective equipment as preventive measures to reduce migrant workers' exposure to COVID-19 infection. It is necessary to ensure that there are minimum standards of decent living conditions for domestic workers living in the employer's home, i.e., respecting their safety and privacy.
- ✚ Economic recovery programs should ensure access to justice for migrant workers who are victims of wage theft and other work place abuse during the pandemic. Migrants in countries of destination including undocumented migrant workers should be allowed to file complaints about non-payment of wages, non-payment of end of service benefits and other labour disputes before they go home.

Sub-Theme 2: Rights Protection to Maximize Development Impacts of Labour Migration

- ✚ The COVID-19 pandemic has shown the world that no one is safe until everyone is safe. Rights protection and access to social protection including access to health care for all is the only way that the world can recover from the health crisis brought about by COVID-19. Governments need to ensure that migrant workers and members of their families have access to social protection and health care regardless of their status. Hence, bilateral agreements must be strengthened and should include provisions to achieve portability of social protection for migrant workers.
- ✚ Prevent Labor Trafficking and Protect Labor Trafficking victims: A good number of aspirant migrants are becoming the victim of labor trafficking. Most of them are arranging their migration cost by selling their last resorts and borrowing on high interest. COVID 19 context put these victims' families in a dire situation and many of them are bound to flee away from their roots.
- ✚ Ensure proper screening mechanisms and investigations are implemented in order to identify possible victims of trafficking in persons among the detainees and treat them as victims and not offenders

- ✚ Provide immigration officials and police with proper trainings to identify victims of trafficking in persons
- ✚ Immigration needs to focus on root causes of irregular migration rather than conducting enforcement crackdowns on poor migrants who are victims of circumstances.
- ✚ Make easy the complaint and redressal mechanism for labor trafficking victims. Instead of deporting them, set up mechanisms to accommodate them (provide skill training and employment).
- ✚ Black list the recruiters, make it public and penalize the recruitment cost to redress the victims' family.
- ✚ Make welfare services more easily accessible for migrant workers
- ✚ Strengthen labor inspection services to monitor working conditions, ensure compliance with employment contracts, and detect incidences of forced labor practices. These should apply to all migrant workers regardless of immigration status.
- ✚ Provisions for comprehensive reintegration programs should be made available for all migrant workers. Reintegration programs should be accessible to migrant workers while they are still in countries of destination in order to help them prepare for their return to their home countries.
- ✚ Governments of countries of origin should provide emergency assistance and repatriation assistance for migrant workers in times of crisis including the onset of a pandemic.
- ✚ Collaboration between countries of origin and destination should be ensured for the safe and dignified return of the migrant workers in times of crisis.
- ✚ Migrant workers and migrant leaders should be consulted in drafting MOUs, bilateral agreements and other government policies related to migration.



Task Force on Migration, Climate Change and Humanitarian Crisis (MCCHC)

Brief Introduction of the Task force on MCCHC

This task force is a new addition in CARAM Asia's thematic areas due to the increasing number of Climate Migrants. Climate Migrants who have been defined as persons or groups of people who for compelling reasons of sudden or progressive changes in the environment, as a result of climate change that adversely affects their lives or living conditions, are obliged to leave their habitual homes, or choose to do so either temporarily or permanently and who move either within their country or abroad (IOM 2008).

Variations in the world's climate have been happening for all of human history. However, with the passage of time, rising temperature, decreasing rainfall, rising sea levels, and increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather conditions are leading to massive flooding, earthquake, landslides, and droughts, causing extensive damage to property, assets, and human life.

According to the United Nations Between 2008 and 2015, an average of 26.4 million people per year was displaced by climate or weather-related disasters. The science of climate change indicates that these trends are likely to get worse.

Asia is most at risk as it continues to be exposed to climate change impacts. Home to the majority of the world's poor, the population of this region is particularly vulnerable to dangerous climate impacts that push people to migrate. Hence Climate Change is currently also one of the drivers of migration. This task force was formed to understand and provide input from the perspective of migration, climate change, and humanitarian crisis and to advocate for the rights of Climate Migrants.

Objective

To understand and provide input from the perspective of migration, climate change and humanitarian crisis.

Migration, Climate Change, and Humanitarian Crisis Plan

The strategy of the MCCHC task force was to collate clear evidence that climate change is one of the driving forces in migration, collaborate with like-minded partners, and link up with the COFP.

Ongoing activities on climate change issues are the collection of policies and adaption strategies, lobbying and strategizing, capacity building workshops, and the publication and dissemination of information through various digital and physical mediums.

Solid preparation of TORs for task force members ensured that they were equipped with information, best practices, and case studies. The task force also worked to collect secondary information, for example, obtaining information from COP-23 (Germany) on migration and climate change. The collection of clear evidence of migration due to climate change, and the impact of these reports to COPF 24 is to be presented in COP-24, Fiji by CARAM Asia.

On the humanitarian crisis front, the strategic-planned activities were in lobbying, advocating, and calling on governments and other stakeholders to address crises as well as to amend policies/acts in respective countries. Consultation workshops were held in response to regional crises, and an information dissemination strategy was planned in order to effectively bring awareness of these issues to a public front. In order to better prepare for the advent of crises, pre-planned statements for every humanitarian crisis that happened within the region were prepared.

Special Rapporteur's Call for input on Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in the Context of Migration, Adaptation and Financial Actions to Address Climate Change with Particular Emphasis on Loss and Damage

The Special Rapporteur is exploring actions to address the human rights aspects of loss and damage that are experienced by individuals and communities in vulnerable situations, namely: women, children, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, local communities, peasants and other people working in rural areas, people living in conditions of water scarcity, drought and desertification, persons belonging to minority groups, homeless persons, persons living

in poverty, older persons, migrants, refugees and internally displaced persons, those living in conflict areas and those already in vulnerable situations, and the importance of recognizing their agency in contributing to climate action.

Therefore, the Special Rapporteur sought input from States, business enterprises, civil society organisations and intergovernmental organisations on what actions are necessary with respect to financial support, remedies and redress for particularly individuals and communities in vulnerable situations suffering loss and damage as a consequence of climate change. Below are the input given to the questionnaire shared by the Rapporteur.

1. What experiences and examples are you aware of that are being faced by particularly individuals and communities in vulnerable situations (as identified above) that have suffered loss and damage due to the adverse impacts of climate change?

According to the Climate Change and Migration Analysis in Nepal, climate change has caused fluctuations in the ecosystem and biodiversity in South Asia. Due to the Himalayas being the “water towers” of the region, rain pattern and water drainage systems are also affected. The result of climate change includes the change in temperatures, rising water levels, increased dry seasons in the winter, water scarcity, higher occurrences of natural disasters such as flood, typhoons, droughts and storms and increased risk of pests and diseases, that displaces natives from their land. These extreme climate conditions will cause an economic strain that affects agricultural production and food security.

Approximately 60% of South Asia's 1.8 billion citizens are dependent on agriculture as a major source of livelihood. Therefore, populations in the region that depend most on agriculture, forestry, fishing, and use of natural resources as a main source of livelihood will be adversely affected due to climate change. This will directly impact the rise in migration out of Nepal, as people search for other ways to provide and protect their livelihood.

Evidence of migration, displacement and economic strain is statistically clear in South Asia. The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) estimated that the number of natural disasters doubled over the last two decades. An IDMC study has shown that more than 42 million people were displaced between 2010-2011 and one of the contributing factors is natural disasters such as typhoons, storms, floods, heat and cold waves, drought and sea-level rise, which are all caused by climate change. A 2011 census estimates about 2.6 million Nepalese travelled outside the country for work. The United Nation's World Migration Report 2020 indicates that more than 40% (115 million) of all international migrants worldwide in 2020 were born in Asia, primarily originating from India, China, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, the Philippines and Afghanistan.

Additionally, the trickle-down effect that climate change has on migration will further affect women, children and the elderly. Womenfolk will have to step up and manage village life activities such as farming and fetching water, and develop practices to adapt to this new lifestyle in the absence of male members of their family who migrated to earn a living. The increased workload on women will have negative effects on them and their dependants with regards to their health and welfare. Illiteracy will increase, as children will be removed from schools to help financially or to take care of livestock and younger and elderly family members. The number of single women will increase as there will be a shortage of men, the risk of sexual assault on women and children will rise in the absence of a family members and women of lower castes are at higher risk as they are more vulnerable to domestic violence, rape and harassment due to the risks of their new perceived social role.

2. What legislation, policies and practices do you think are necessary to provide redress for particularly individuals and communities in vulnerable situations that have suffered and will continue to suffer loss and damage due to the adverse impacts of climate change?

To combat the adverse effects of climate change, governments and policy makers around the world need to create sustainable and multi-faceted, international framework across regions and countries as the effects of migration spans across countries. Moreover, these laws, policies and framework need to aid vulnerable communities even in the most remote villages in the world. This can only be achieved by educating vulnerable communities what these laws and policies are, how it can benefit them, where they can receive more information and aid, and who they can approach to find a solution. These laws and policies should be preventive and reformative in nature, not only to reduce migration caused by climate change but also to help those who are affected by it.

Policies are needed to help vulnerable communities cope with the damage and loss, as well as strengthen social, financial, natural, human and political assets that will create a sustainable livelihood and provide security. These policies should also help migrants who need assistance in terms of adapting to living and working in a new country as many of them face prejudice, lack of knowledge on local laws, rules and customs, communication issues due to language barriers and fall victim to crimes such as slavery, human trafficking, fraud and assault.

Regional projects should also be available to provide training and awareness on safe migration practices and to prevent trafficking in persons. Safe migration process should be taught to all individuals at a community level to ensure that there is more awareness on the dangers of undocumented/irregular migration, and to educate the masses on their rights and how they can protect it.

In addition, there should be laws and policies to address the issues these vulnerable community face locally, in order to reduce migration due to climate change and prevent trafficking in persons. These laws and policies should teach vulnerable communities' eco-friendly practices, ecosystem management, reducing their carbon footprint, energy efficiency and establishing a green economy. Education is a key factor in enabling illiterate and impoverished communities to be more conscious about climate change and its effects. Laws should be made to protect defenceless communities against the main causes of migration such as lack of job opportunities, lack of education and poverty.

Moreover, monetary compensations should be available for vulnerable communities, victims of climate change and migrants who lack finance to improve their livelihood. Financial aid should also be offered to organisations that help to educate, counsel and provide aid to victims in an effort to protect these vulnerable communities.

3. Please provide examples of policies and practices (including legal remedies) and concepts of how States, business enterprises, civil society and intergovernmental organisations can provide redress and remedies for individual and communities in vulnerable situations who have suffered loss and damage to the adverse impacts of climate change. What can be done?

Redress and remedies can be provided through raising awareness on safe migration practices and trafficking in person; increased funding to provide training and counselling to victims to help them live a secure livelihood; free legal resources, and enhance access to justice and compensation to individuals and communities who have fallen victim to the adverse effects of climate change and consequently experienced exploitation, forced labour, trafficking in persons and irregular migration.

Business enterprises and local governments should provide job opportunities and training to the affected community to help them learn new trade skills and entrepreneurship. This in turn will help create a more secure livelihood for individual victims and communities to earn a living wage and not resort to returning to migration as an only option to earn an income. People have right to mobility and look for opportunities around the globe. Those who wish to migrate for work need to be given basic education on their rights as migrants, entry level English language training and basic knowledge on the laws and customs of the country they are going to work in. The trainings must include information on prevention of HIV & AIDS, Sexually Transmittable Infections, Reproductive Health, Coronavirus etc. This training should be fully subsidised and conducted by the government to ensure full participation of all migrants and a standardised framework that is followed by all. The training curriculums must be developed in consultation with NGOs who are working on climate change and migration issues.

4. Please provide examples of ways in which States, the business enterprises, civil society and intergovernmental organisations have provided redress and remedies for individuals and communities in vulnerable situations who have suffered loss and damage due to the adverse effects of climate change.

An example of said policy is the United Nations Compensation Commission (UNCC) that awarded approximately \$5 billion in remunerations to 109 claims of damages to pure (non-marketable) environmental resources as a result of the Iraq invasion. Moreover, a civil court in Netherlands ruled that SHELL must cut its CO2 emissions by 45%, which will force a change in the long run and set a precedent for other legal claims for damages caused by climate change.

Organisations like CARAM Asia, work to raise awareness on safe migration with its regional partners across Asia and Middle East. The organisation works at a community level by providing talks, training, legal resources, frameworks and toolkits to educate and raise awareness with a limited resource. Their work may be enhanced with additional resources and aid via international funds from donor organizations and government initiatives.

5. What international, regional and national policies and legal approaches are necessary to protect current and future generations and achieve intergenerational justice for particularly for individuals and communities, from the adverse impacts of climate change?

There needs to be an improvement in energy efficiency, more usage of 'Green' energy, such as wind and solar power and biofuels from recycled organic waste, decreased usage of plastic, innovative solutions for recyclable wastes and overall mindfulness of the environment; which can only be achieved through educating the population.

Additionally, laws should be implemented with harsh penalties to deter civilians and large organisations from contributing to climate change. As an example, laws should be brought forth to increase the price on carbon, banning deforestation, illegal waste management practices and even littering. Sanctions should be handed down to countries that still allow large corporations to engage in deforestation, oil spills and cause significant damage to the environment by a neutral international governing body. Said corporations should be punished by the law and forced to pay remunerations to the affected parties and engage in efforts that will aid in reversing climate change.

Furthermore, research and development should be funded and undertaken by countries and organisations with the single objective of creating a renewable energy source, zero-emission fuel, and eco-friendly and biodegradable products, for both commercial and industrial use. On

a more basic level, every country should plant more trees in an effort to reduce the Greenhouse effect and reduce the carbon emission in the world.

6. In 2021, at 26th session of the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26), some Parties and civil society organisations proposed a new financial facility to support loss and damage.

a. Please provide ideas and concepts on how a new facility would operate and how the funds needed to underwrite this fund would be established and maintained.

A new financial will need to be free of all political influence, and still be an international body, governed by a committee with representatives from all countries. All legal, financial, administrative documentation and transactions must be available to the public. The amount of funds allocated by each country should be fair and proportionate, whereby richer first world countries need to pay a higher amount and extremely poor and smaller countries can pay a smaller percentage. Individuals and organisations may also privately donate funds. Division of funds should be based on the most critical issues and must be submitted to a majority vote by members of the financial facility committee. As an example, the largest victims of climate change suffer from hunger that has affected over 42 million people around world, therefore funds should be allocated to provide clean food and water as well as medical aid to those affected.

b. Please provide ideas and concepts on how a new financial facility for loss and damage could provide redress and remedies for individuals and communities in vulnerable situations who have suffered loss and damage due to the adverse impacts of climate change.

The new financial facility needs to have allocated funds to heal the communities that have loss and damages due to climate change. There needs to be a guideline for the amounts of remunerations that will be provided to the affected communities. The amount provided will need to be standard, regardless of race, gender and economic class. Though loss cannot be quantified, there should be a sustainable amount provided to the community to help them continue a sustainable and secure livelihood.

7. What actions are necessary to enhance actions by States, business enterprises, civil society and intergovernmental organisations to dramatically increase efforts to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, including through support to developing countries, in particular small island developing States, least developed countries and landlocked developing States, to limit the human rights impacts on particularly individuals and communities in vulnerable situations to the adverse impacts of climate change?

Due the need for equity, developing countries must be allowed to emit more carbon until they have developed enough that they no longer need to rely on carbon intensive industries. To encourage this, more job opportunities, education, training, and investments must be conducted in developing countries to drastically see a change in the near future. Moreover, developing countries should look into harvesting solar and wind energy to reduce carbon emissions while working towards becoming a developed country, right from the start thus adapting and creating a developed nation, without having to waste resources in the future trying to become more 'Green', as seen in developed countries. This can also be achieved by creating policies that will shift their economy away from carbon-intensive industries.

8. What actions are necessary to enhance actions by States, business enterprises, civil society and intergovernmental organisation to increase efforts to ensure that actions to adapt to the impacts of climate change contribute to reducing, and not exacerbating,

the vulnerabilities of individuals and communities in vulnerable situations to the adverse impacts of climate change?

States, business enterprises, civil society and intergovernmental organisations should focus on educating vulnerable communities as it is the most important factor in the success of any program, policy, framework, law and organisation. People from communities that are poor, illiterate, unable to access basic needs and live in remote locations need to understand that they have rights and those rights are protected by the law; that justice and aid is provided to victims of climate change and that can be their last option.

To ensure the actions taken are enforced and adapted, there needs to be continuous funding and educating to ensure the sustainability of actions taken by the state, business enterprises, civil society and intergovernmental organisation. The public needs to be reminded constantly of the negative effect of climate change. Fines and penalties need to be imposed by local governing bodies to ensure negative behaviour that cause climate change does not reoccur. Education on the effects of climate change and various ways to combat it needs to be taught to children in schools and all educational institutions to ensure people understand the impacts of climate change, therefore empowering them with skills, knowledge, attitudes and values that will act as proxies of change in the long run.

Moreover, the above bodies should invest in regional research to enable migrants and their communities. As migrant issue is an international problem, countries from all regions should work together to create an international framework that works directly with the affected communities. This regional research should empower migrants and their communities to create a better livelihood; and collect data and information that can be used by governments and private organisations to aid and understand the issues that affect migrants.

An example of this research is the Participatory Action Research (PAR) by CARAM Asia which has collected data in the span of 15 years and used it to create many programs, toolkits, reports and manuals on how to better aid and educate migrants and impoverished communities in Asia, with a focus on migrant's health and HIV related rights.

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