



Recommendations from Lao PDR National Tripartite Preparatory Workshop

15th ASEAN Forum on Migrant Labour

“Resumption of Labour Migration and Regional Cooperation”

22 September 2022

Sub theme 1 “Economic Recovery and Labour Migration”

1. Encourage and promote sustainable economic growth to create more jobs in the country and for workers to receive income and equality. The aim is to reduce migration of workers to foreign countries through irregular channel.
2. Revise Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) or Bilateral Labour Agreements (BLAs) with countries of destination to create favorable work conditions for migrant workers and all groups of workers, including maternity protections, workers with disabilities, LGBTQIA+ so they do not fail to receive a minimum wage in countries of destination and they are able to access to services and social protection according to the laws and regulations of the countries of destination.
3. Streamline migration processes to make regular migration channels convenient, quick and easy to access to attract more workers to go abroad through regular channel.
4. Repeal all gender-based restrictions on labour migration. Ensure equal opportunities for women, LGBTQIA+, and migrant workers with disabilities.
5. Negotiate with countries of destination to open recruitment of migrant workers for semi- skilled jobs and include skills matching and tasks allocation in the recruitment process.
6. Give migrant workers access to skills training and skills recognition before migration and upon return, including recognition of their skill levels.
7. Expand services provided to migrant workers to assist with return and reintegration, including skills recognition and job matching, including to women, LGBTQIA+ and returnees with disabilities.
8. Facilitate migrant workers to access to funding sources and banking systems to send money back to the country before moving to work abroad. After returning to the country, provide financial training to them so that they can renew the balance received from abroad.



9. Link social security systems between origin countries and countries of destination to support workers whose contracts have ended and that they are able to renew and receive subsidies from the social security system when return.

Sub theme 2 “Rights protection to maximize development impacts of labour migration”

10. Collection of service fees to work abroad is to be collected with the employers to reduce the expenses of migrant workers and to prevent indebtedness.
11. Regulate recruitment agencies, conduct regular monitoring and inspections, and duly apply sanctions for violations by recruitment agencies.
12. Expand access to justice for migrant workers with wage claims, labour rights violations, recruitment violations, and gender or disability discrimination, including cross-border claims upon return.
13. Set up a social protection scheme or a migrant welfare fund to protect migrant workers against risks such as delayed deployment, repatriation, and the need for subsistence and legal aid in the destination.
14. Strengthen labour attaché and consular support services to migrant workers through representative offices in countries of destination. Establish contacts with organizations providing legal support and shelter for migrant workers.
15. Organize migrant workers as trade union membership before departure or organize a labour representative in labour management in destination countries.