Bangladesh's Journey as a GCM Champion
Launch of the Bangladesh Migration Compact Taskforce (Taskforce) on 5 July 2022. The Government of Bangladesh launched the Migration Compact Taskforce (Taskforce) to facilitate the implementation, follow-up, and review of the GCM.

Timeline of the GCM Inception and Implementation
Initiatives to Support GCM Implementation in Bangladesh: Best Practices

Bangladesh's Journey Towards GCM & IMRF

The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) – an intergovernmental negotiated agreement covering “all dimensions of international migration in a holistic and comprehensive manner” - was formally endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly on 19 December 2018 in Marrakesh, Morocco. 163 countries, including Bangladesh, approved this Compact.

The Prime Minister of Bangladesh Sheikh Hasina articulated the idea of a Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in her address to the UN General Assembly in 2016. Since then, Bangladesh’s commitment to, and involvement in, the process of developing the Global Compact has remained steadfast. In 2018, the Members States of the United Nations agreed to review the progress made at the local, national, regional and global levels in implementing the GCM in the framework of the United Nations through a State-led approach and with the participation of all relevant stakeholders.

Bangladesh has been a member state of the “Champion Countries Initiative” for GCM implementation since 28 October 2020.

When the GCM was adopted in 2018, it stipulated that a high-level meeting take place every four years to discuss progress made, new challenges, and the road ahead. Since then Government of Bangladesh played a significant role in promoting and safeguarding the fundamental human rights of all migrants by championing the idea of a global compact that would establish a comprehensive framework for safe, orderly, and regular migration (GCM). Bangladesh was the first to make such a proposal to the United Nations. Bangladesh was also a co-facilitator of the intergovernmental consultations to agree on the Protection Declaration to be adopted at the first International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) on 17-20 May 2022 in New York.

The Government of Bangladesh follows the whole of government and whole of society approaches in implementing the GCM, while the Migration Compact Taskforce coordinates the initiative. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Expatriates’ Welfare and Overseas Employment have primarily led the negotiations and initiatives to ensure the safe, orderly, and regular migration for all Bangladeshi migrants.

Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh

The United Nations established a Network on Migration at the global level to ensure effective, timely, coordinated UN system-wide support to the Member States in their implementation, follow-up and review of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM). In line with the global efforts, to supplement the initiatives of the Government of Bangladesh, a Bangladesh UN Network on Migration (BDUNN) has been formed.

Bangladesh Network on Migration

Working Better Together

In line with SDG 17.18, digitized systems have been introduced: Migrant Workers Information Management System (MrWinMS), Recruiting Agents’ Information Management System (RAIMS), Complaint Mechanism System, Performance Management System for Labour Attaches and Returning Migrants Management Information System.

The 8th Five-year Plan includes an Overseas Employment and Well-being of Migrant Workers: A 10 Point Agenda for BFYP as well as interventions related to climate-induced migration; irregular migration; labor migration and urbanization/international migration.

Bangladesh Migration Governance Framework was developed in 2020 to set out a coherent, comprehensive and balanced vision for migration governance for Bangladesh, integrating development with due regard for social, economic and environmental dimensions and respecting human rights.

National Plan of Action (NPA) to combat human trafficking focusing on capacity building, ensuring a strong economic and social safety net developed to support the implementation of the Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act, 2012.

The development of a National Reintegration Policy for Migrants has been initiated.

The government identified 6,886 potential trafficking victims in 2021, a significant increase from 566 in the previous year.

In 2021, MoCIWDC penalized 35 recruitment agencies for violating the 2013 Overseas Employment and Migrants Act (OEMA) and approached INTERPOL for the first time to place six individuals on their red notice watchlist, leading to two arrests.

In 2019, compulsory insurance was introduced for all aspirant migrant workers.

In line with Sustainable Development Goal target 10.C, in 2022, a 2.5 percent incentive was introduced for remittances sent through regular channels.

Aiming to achieve Sustainable Development Goal target 10.7, the Wage Earners Welfare Board Act 2018 ensures the welfare and social security of migrant workers and their families.

The Government has initiated the development of a diaspora policy/strategy contributing to GCM objective 19.

The Government of Bangladesh submitted a report in 2017 on its implementation of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families to the CMW.

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