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**International Labour Organization (ILO)****Integrated Programme on Fair Recruitment (FAIR)****Request for Proposal (RfP)****Design and implement programmes targeted at increasing media sensitization to labour recruitment and forced labour related issues in Nepal**

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### 1. Background

Under the Fair Recruitment Initiative<sup>1</sup>, the ILO Integrated Programme on Fair Recruitment (FAIR)<sup>2</sup> and project seeks to contribute to the promotion of fair recruitment across migration corridors. The corresponding project strategy is based on a three-pronged approach: 1) establishing fair recruitment corridors to prevent abuses and exploitation of migrant workers; 2) providing migrant workers with access to reliable information and improved services and 3) disseminating knowledge on ethical recruitment through various channels including the training of journalists and engagement with the media. These components will be implemented through several pilot initiatives at the global and country level. Target countries for the project include Tunisia, Jordan, Nepal, Qatar and the Philippines.

The media plays a major role in reporting on abusive and deceptive recruitment in the labour migration process and forced labour, sharing positive messages on migrant workers experiences, and contributing to shaping the debates around fair migration, the fight against forced labour and decent work. Numerous reports and articles have documented the recruitment channels used by migrant workers, the working and living conditions in countries of destination as well as stories of migrants before and after their migration experience. Abusive and deceptive recruitment practices, particularly in the labour migration process can lead to forced labour. Migrant workers who borrow money to cover the costs of recruitment are particularly vulnerable to situations of debt bondage linked to repayment of recruitment fees. A clear understanding of links between trafficking, forced labour, bonded labour, child labour, human trafficking and human smuggling is a key knowledgebase to all stakeholders in Nepal which is equally applicable to media persons. Treating forced labour and fair recruitment together will also expand the network of journalists working on these two issues.

The media has a critical role in presenting and explaining these situations. Inaccurate, biased media reporting can lead to misinformation, and at worst, may be an instigator for discrimination, xenophobia and unfair treatment. Similarly, prospective migrants might take decision based on lack of accurate information or based on misleading information produced by the media.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/fair-recruitment/lang--en/index.htm>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/fair-recruitment/phase2/lang--en/index.htm>

For these reasons, the FAIR phase II and [From Protocol to Practice: A Bridge to Global Action on Forced Labour \(Bridge Project\)](#) are conducting three types of activities:

- i. Under FAIR II - the Global Media Competition on Labour Migration and Fair Recruitment (see [https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/labour-migration/news-statements/WCMS\\_715534/lang--en/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/labour-migration/news-statements/WCMS_715534/lang--en/index.htm) ) which has a particular focus on recruitment of migrant workers, in collaboration with [Global Action to Improve the Recruitment Framework of Labour Migration \(REFRAME\)](#) project.
- ii. Global tools directed at the media to support quality media reporting on labour migration. In particular, the ILO Toolkit for Journalists for Reporting on Forced Labour and Fair Recruitment (preview available at: <https://readymag.com/ITC/LO/1292461/>) in collaboration with BRIDGE, FAIRWAY and REFRAME projects, and the Media-Friendly Glossary on Migration developed jointly with UNAOC (accessible at: [https://www.ilo.org/beirut/projects/fairway/WCMS\\_552778/lang--en/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/beirut/projects/fairway/WCMS_552778/lang--en/index.htm)). The toolkit has been developed in French, Spanish, English and Arabic (the latter with support from the ILO Qatar and FAIRWAY Projects). The interactive online toolkit was [launched](#) on 30 July 2020, on World Day against Trafficking in Persons. A one-week social media campaign preceded the launch and included video testimonies from media experts, government partners, workers and employer representatives, human rights activists, survivors of trafficking, including from Nepal. Country adaptations of the media toolkit have been developed for Sri Lanka and Pakistan (with support from REFRAME project), Mongolia (BRIDGE project), Viet Nam (FIRST project) and Nepal (with support from FAIR and BRIDGE projects).<sup>3</sup>
- iii. Implementation of an ILO integrated strategy to engage with the media in 17 countries in 2019 - 2020, including in the FAIR project countries. As part of this engagement strategy, national media training programmes are being rolled out to support journalists covering the issue of labour migration, and present ILO's perspective on sustainable and comprehensive solutions to ongoing migration issues. Those programmes make use of the global tools mentioned above, in particular the Toolkit for journalists on Reporting on Forced Labour and Fair Recruitment as well as the Media-Friendly Glossary on Labour Migration.

Lessons learned from implementing media programmes in various countries including the Philippines, Tunisia and Malaysia have been as follows:

- The tools were effectively used by professional journalists who were trained and subsequent improvements were integrated in order to make them more robust.
- The format that worked best was a combination of face-to-face training with coaching sessions in between trainings in order to accompany journalists as they develop their stories.
- A large number of participants to the programmes underlined the fact that it would make sense to integrate such contents at initial training level within the curricula of journalism schools, both because it would allow future journalists to be sensitized at an early stage in their career, even those who may not end up specializing in labour issues, and because it would improve the contextualization and sustainability of the approach.

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<sup>3</sup> For more information see the ILO media engagement webpage on forced labour and fair recruitment <https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/fair-recruitment/media-engagement/lang--en/index.htm>

Taking stock of those lessons, the FAIR II would like to ensure the sustainable adoption of the tools developed for the media on fair recruitment by institutions at national level that are responsible for training journalists. To this end, ILO has adapted the Toolkit on Reporting on Forced Labour and Fair Recruitment to the Nepali context for wider dissemination amongst Nepali journalists. The Toolkit will not only act as one of the major tools for conducting trainings as a part of the project's engagement with professional journalists but will also serve as reference material for future work.

As a next step the FAIR project support capacity building initiative for journalists to strengthen their ability to report on issues of forced labour and fair recruitment.

## 2. Project methodology/Work plan/Key deliverables

The FAIR project would like to call on proposals from individuals or organizations for conducting 2-3 activities targeted at enhancing capacity of Nepali journalists to report on forced labour and fair recruitment. The proposed activities should be based on or heavily draw upon the tools developed by the ILO such as the Toolkit on Reporting on Forced Labour and Fair Recruitment (FAIR) and the Media-Friendly Glossary on Migration and should target the promotion of their use.

## 3. Timeline

The proposed activities have to be implemented between mid-October 2020 to August 2021 (tentatively).

## 4. Eligibility

Applicants must adhere to the following procedures when applying:

### 4.1 Eligibility

- Applicants/ organizations must be legally registered by relevant national, regional or local authority.
- The applicants must have valid bank account in the name of the organization.
- Familiar with labour migration and communication in the context of Nepal
- Proficiency in using virtual meeting platforms is mandatory
- Proficiency in use of Nepali and English language is mandatory

### 4.2 Technical Proposal

Applicants are requested to submit a technical proposal to outlining a project design along with strategy to execute the proposed activities. The proposal should include a logical framework providing an overview of the key activities, the outputs of each activity and the timeframe for completing each activity.

Application must be made in English and must be typed. The application must be dated and signed by a responsible official and bear the organization's stamp.

### 4.3 Financial Proposal

Based on the activities proposed, the applicant organization will be required to propose a detailed budget corresponding to all the listed activities outlining both technical and administrative costs. The proposed budget have to be justifiable and rational.

The ILO holds the right to negotiate the proposed budget.

#### 4.4 List of Documents to be submitted

Applicants will be required the following supporting documents along with their technical and financial proposals:

- Cover Letter
- Registration and renewed license (in the case of organization)
- Organization Profile (in the case of organization)
- Tax Office Registration and Tax Clearance Certificate (in the case of organization)
- CVs of key personnel who will be engaged in the proposed activity

#### Clarification

Clarification can be sought by e-mail to Ms. Neha Choudhary, [choudhary@ilo.org](mailto:choudhary@ilo.org), no later than 7 September 2020, 17:30hrs. Responses will be provided to all participants no later than 10 September 2020 by 12:00hrs (Nepal Standard Time)

#### Award Criteria

The proposals should include two separate documents/files: one with the technical proposal along with supporting documents and one with the financial proposal. Evaluations will follow a two stage processes whereby only proposal that have been found technically feasible will be financially evaluated. Proposals submitted will be assessed against the following criteria:

- i. Technical Proposal (60%)
  - a. 40% - Quality of proposal (understanding of context, problem analysis, implementation strategy. Feasibility )
  - b. 10% - Experience of proposed intervention lead
  - c. 10% - Experience in similar initiatives
- ii. Financial Proposal (40%)

#### Submission and Deadline for Proposals

The deadline for the receipt of the proposal is 18 September, 2020 by 17:30hrs (Nepal Standard Time). Proposals received after this will not be considered. The proposals must be submitted to [kathmandu@ilo.org](mailto:kathmandu@ilo.org) with subject line "FAIR\_Media Activities".