



Twenty-five million women, men and children are trapped in forced labour, performing work and services that generate annual illicit profits of US\$150 billion. Forced labour affects the most vulnerable and least protected people, perpetuating a vicious cycle in which poverty drives a continued lack of social and economic insecurity, which reinforces poverty and social injustice. Such a situation must not continue. Freedom from all forms of forced labour – as well as freedom from child labour, discrimination and freedom to organize and bargain collectively - are fundamental principles and rights at work and the keystones of social justice and peace. The global community has clearly acknowledged that the persistence of forced labour in the 21st century is unacceptable and renewed its commitment in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to eliminate all forms of forced labour by 2030.

Migrant workers are among some of the most vulnerable to situations of forced labour, and many are at risk during the recruitment stage as a consequence of how recruitment is organized, regulated and monitored. Lack of good labour recruitment laws and practices leads to inadequate protection for migrant workers which can translate into workers' exploitation, including in situations of forced labour, discrimination and inequalities at the workplace and decent work deficits as well as skills underutilisation and job mismatches. Fair and effective labour recruitment policies as well as monitoring and reporting systems in case of abuse are required to address these challenges, eliminate forced labour, protect men and women migrant workers, and ensure labour market efficiency.

Last but not least, as recognized within the post-2015 sustainable development framework, migration movements have the potential to greatly impact the social and economic well-being of their countries of origin, transit and destination. In destination countries, it can rejuvenate workforces, render economically viable many traditional sectors like agriculture and services, promote entrepreneurship, support social security and welfare schemes, and help meeting the demand for skills for emerging high technology industries. In the developing regions where most migrants come from, positive contributions of migration are reflected in high remittance flows, and transfer of investments, technology and critical skills through return migration and transnational communities (diasporas).

The media has a key role to play in supporting public awareness against all kinds of forced labour and promotion of fair recruitment. Media can be key influencers, affecting public perceptions about forced labour and labour migration. News coverage may help bring a cause into the mainstream by engaging people, creating the public mobilization and support to drive policy changes.



Objectives

In collaboration with the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ), the International Labour Organization (ILO) through its Fair Recruitment Initiative and The Bridge project, is organizing the first interregional media professional workshop with the following objectives:

- To validate, with international media experts, the toolkit on reporting on forced labour and fair recruitment developed under the Bridge Project and the Fair Recruitment Initiative, in collaboration with IFJ. The toolkit aims to equip professional journalists with tools of right-based reporting on forced labour and fair recruitment, and to support them in producing balanced reports that tell all sides of the story while at the same time following ethical standards.
- To familiarise journalist trainers from selected countries covered by ILO projects with the toolkit with a view to facilitate their work in organizing and facilitating training at national level;
- To develop/reinforce networking among international media specialists who have been involved and associated with ILO media engagement activities in the areas of forced labour and labour migration.

Target audience

The workshop will bring together media professionals from at least ten different countries that are either part of migration corridors or from target project countries. Professional journalists with prior training or teaching experience in their respective countries are the target audience for this workshop.

This workshop is organized jointly by the ILO and the IFJ with the support of ILO projects REFRAME, Bridge, FAIR, funded by the European Commission, the United States Department of Labor (under cooperative agreement number IL-27592-15-75-K) and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC.

Media Reporting on Forced Labour and Fair Recruitment

Dates:

Jordan

03-09-2018

05-09-2018

Monday 3 September	Tuesday 4 September	Wednesday 5 September
Registration and Welcome		Session 8
	Session 4	
Technical session Introducing forced labour and fair recruitment	Module 3 – Getting the Story	Support to national trainers for development and delivery of national training programmes
Break		
Session 1	Session 5	Session 9
Introduction to the Toolkit	Module 4 – Telling the Story	Support to national trainers for development and delivery of national training programmes
Warm up		
Lunch		
Session 2	Session 6	Session 10
Module 1 – Understanding the Story	Module 5 – Following up the Story Strategy for dissemination and use of modules to different geographic context: challenges and opportunities	Developing a national training workshop: review of objectives, target audience, methodologies, materials, case studies, etc.
Break		
Session 3	Session 7	Session 11
Module 2 – Finding the Story	Strategy for setting up/enhancing a network of journalists on forced labour and labour migration, including fair recruitment: the way forward	Developing a national training workshop: review of objectives, target audience, methodologies, materials, case studies, etc

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