

Research findings sharing on

Empowering Women Migrant Workers Challenges in Service Delivery System



83% of new migrants did not incur any cost for migration

93% of women migrants sent most of their income to their home

54% of the returnee women migrants did not invest for future

25% of the women migrated due to one or more climate related issues

89% of women decide to migrate as their family income was insufficient

58% of the women migrants were denied to move freely while working abroad

Bangladesh is one of the major labour sending country in the world. Although labour migration is very important source of remittance for Bangladesh, it comes at a great cost.

Female migrants, especially domestic workers, frequently remain vulnerable to various kinds of exploitation and abuse in the home country and in the destination country at every stage of migration. Every year many Bangladeshi women are coming back from abroad with horrifying experiences of abuse, ill treatment and discrimination. Since 2015, Bangladesh has sent 5,23,47 women workers in different parts of the world. Among 2,93,588 women who went to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, 8507 came back to

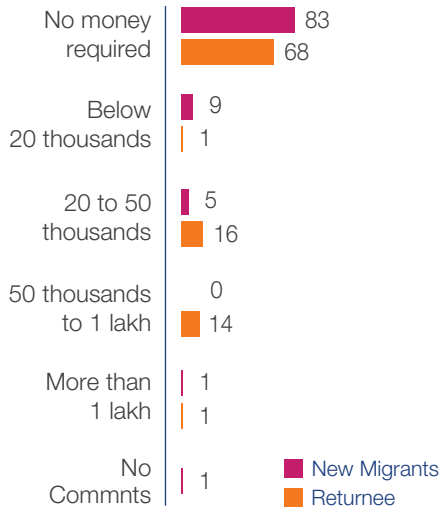
Bangladesh through the safe homes which shelter distressed women migrant workers. It has become critical to ensure a safe and fair migration for women workers of Bangladesh.

Bangladesh Nari Sromic Kendra (BNSK) has conducted the study titled 'Empowering Women Migrants: Challenges in Service Delivery' with an aim to investigate service delivery gap for returnee women migrants in Bangladesh and protection mechanism for women migrant workers in the country of origin and country of destination. The study was funded by PROKAS, a project of British Council.

This policy brief highlights major findings of the research.

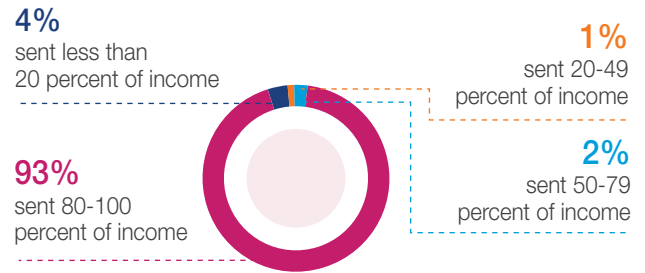
Most of the female migrants do not incur any cost for migration

Payment for migration process made new and returnee women migrants



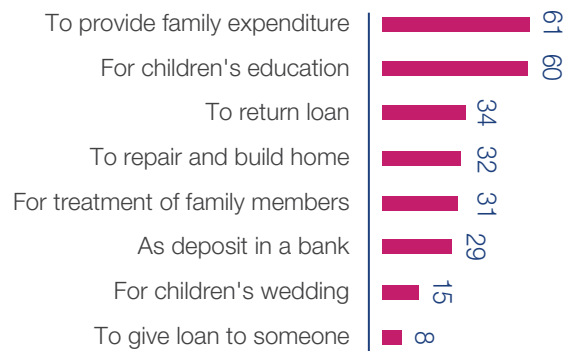
Women migrants send almost all of their income as remittance

Percentage of income sent home by returnee women migrants



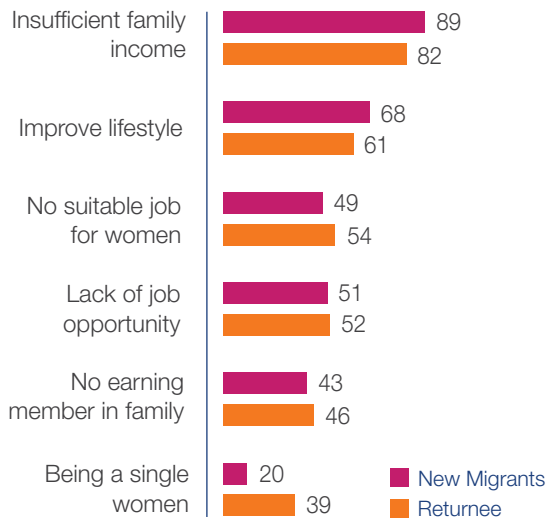
Earnings of women migrants are used mostly on family expenditures, children's education, loan repayment and building or repair of house

Trend in spending income of women migrants



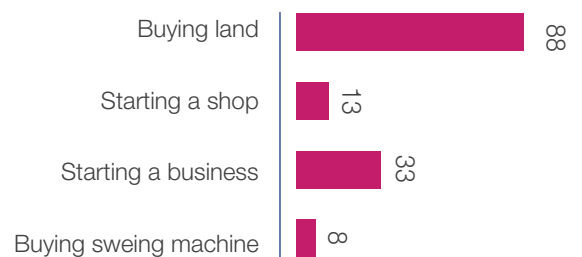
Insufficient income and lack of income opportunities are the major reasons for women migration

Reasons for going abroad



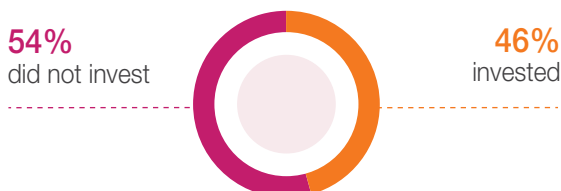
Buying land and starting a business are most popular kinds of investment among returnee women migrants

Investment by returnee female migrants



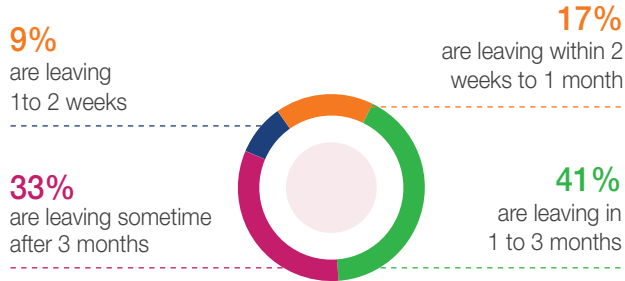
More than half of the returnee migrants did not invest any part of their income for future

Percentage of returnee migrants invested



Almost one fourth of the migrants to Saudi Arabia who are leaving in one month said that they did not receive contract

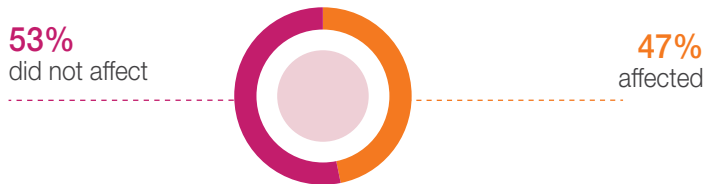
Among the Saudi Arabia bond women migrants who said that they did not receive contract



MUSANED system requires the prospectus worker to sign a digital contract before taking part in the training. However, this study has found, that most of the workers were not aware that the papers they are signing before training were the 'contracts'

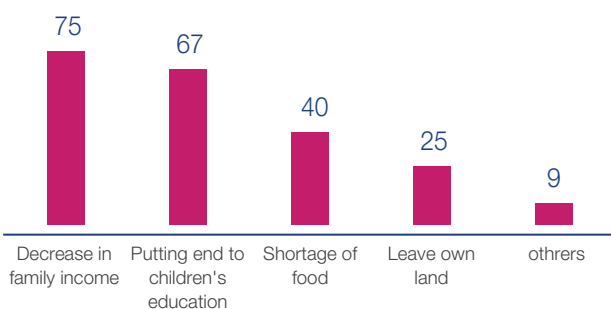
Climate change affected half of the migrant's family

Climate change affecting migrants family



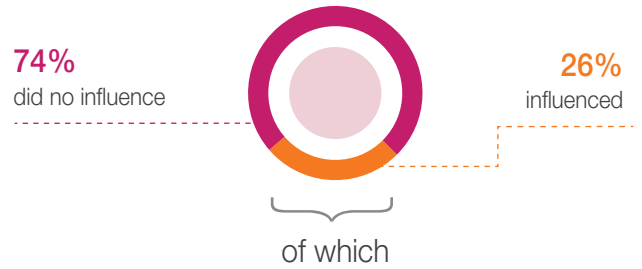
Major effects of climate change are reduction in family income and ending children's education.

Effect of climate change on migrant's family.



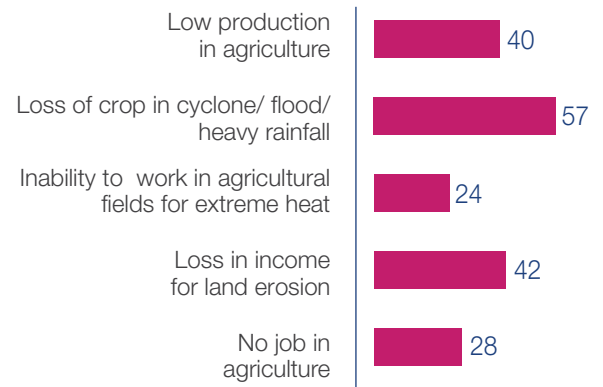
Around one-fourth of the respondents are migrating due to climate change related reasons

Influence of climate change on decision to migrate



Loss of crop and low production in agriculture due to climate change are major reasons for women migration

Decision of migration influenced by changes in agriculture



Problem faced by returnee migrants

- 58%** Denied to move freely
- 49%** Denied to communicate with family
- 26%** Did not receive salary as promised
- 26%** Were abused verbally
- 25%** Had mobile phone confiscated
- 21%** Did not get rest time
- 19%** Felt like a slave
- 16%** Did not receive salary regularly
- 14%** Did not get clean and sound place for living

Methodology:

Extensive desk research was conducted exploring government policy documents and scholarly literature on women migrants.

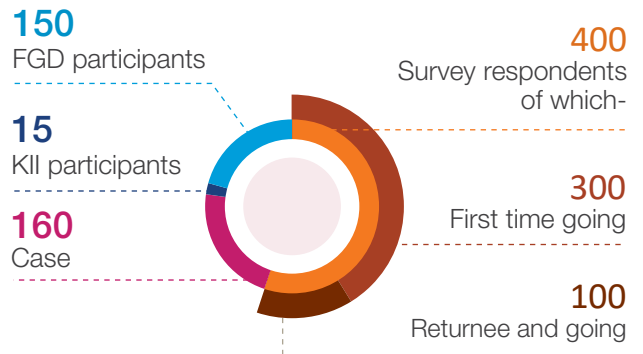
Surveys were administered with two different question sets to collect experiences of a large group of women migrants -both returnee and first time migrants.

Several case studies on aspirant and returnee women migrant workers were prepared.

Consultation through key informant interviews with policy makers, experts and activists provided critical insights about policies and practices.

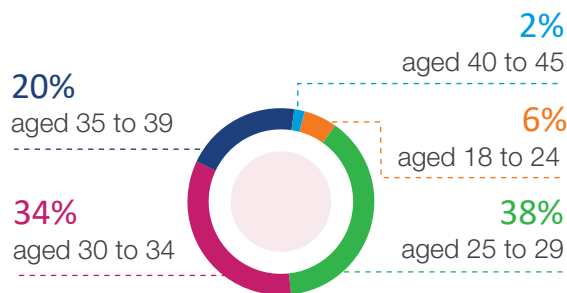
Several FGDs were conducted to understand the views and experience of women migrants.

Respondents of the study

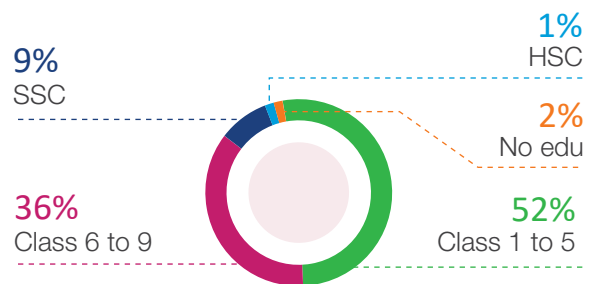


Demographic information of the survey

Age of surveyed respondents



Education Qualification of surveyed respondents



About BNSK

BNSK is working to promote and protect rights of the migrant workers especially for women migrant workers. BNKS was founded in 2010 and got registration in 2012 from the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs.

BNSK's programs are – (i) Mass awareness campaigns for safe orderly and regular migration; (ii) Capacity building for potential migrants and socioeconomic reintegration of returnee migrants; and (iii) advocacy to promote and protect rights of the migrants and victims of trafficking.

see more at www.bnsk.org.bd

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