



# MIGRATION AND MEDIA

## A Guide Book

For Journalists and Government Officials  
Bangladesh

November 2020

Asif Munier

Supported by



European Union



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Justice and Police FDJP  
State Secretariat for Migration SEM



Federal Foreign Office

Implemented by



ICMPD

International Centre for  
Migration Policy Development



# Table of Contents

<b>Acronyms</b>	1
<b>1. Why and Who is it for</b>	2
<b>2. Migration Reporting: Guide &amp; Tips</b>	3
2.1 Getting started – reading up	3
2.2 Not getting lost in the subject	3
2.3 Should and should not do in deciding about the story	4
2.4 Being a Migration Beat Journalist	4
2.5 In house support	5
2.6 Safety and security: Own and subject	5
2.7 Types of stories and reports	7
2.8 Sources	8
2.9 Medium of the story	9
2.10 A final checklist	9
<b>3. Legal and Policy Guidelines for Media</b>	10
3.1 Bangladesh Press Council (BPC) and Code of Conduct	10
3.2 National Broadcasting Policy 2014	12
3.3 National Online Mass Media Policy 2017 (Revised 2020)	12
3.4 Right to Information Act 2009	13
3.5 Digital Security Act 2018	14
<b>4. International Ethical Standards for Media: In Bangladesh Context</b>	14
4.1 The Ethical Journalism Network (EJN) and Five Point Guide on Migration Reporting	14
4.2 International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) and Global Charter of Ethics for Journalists	15
4.3 Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ) Code of Ethics	19
4.4 Moving Stories: EJN research recommendations for journalist	21
4.5 On the Move: IOM Blog recommendations for journalists	22
<b>5. Innovative Strategies and Good Practices</b>	23
5.1 The Journalist's Toolbox: Resource for Reporting	23
5.2 Migrationnewsbd23	23
5.3 Panos South Asia Blog on South Asian journalist blog on migrant labour	23
5.4 On the Move Blog23	23
<b>6. Coordination</b>	23
<b>7. Recognition and Awards</b>	24
<b>8. Resources</b>	27
1. 13 Steps of Safe Migration	28
2. Key Facts and Figures on Migration	29
3. Definitions of Key Migration Terms	30
4. Relevant Issues (included in the OEMA 2013)	32
5. Sources of Information on Migration	35



# Acronyms

<b>BMET</b>	Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training
<b>BPC</b>	Bangladesh Press Council
<b>BRAC</b>	Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee
<b>CoE</b>	Code of Ethics
<b>DCAB</b>	Diplomatic Correspondent of Bangladesh
<b>EJN</b>	Ethical Journalism Network
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>GCM</b>	Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration
<b>GMFF</b>	Global Migration Film Festival
<b>ICMPD</b>	International Centre for Migration Policy Development
<b>ICT</b>	Information Communication Technology
<b>IFJ</b>	International Federation of Journalists
<b>ILO</b>	International Labour Organisation
<b>IMD</b>	International Migrants' Day
<b>IOM</b>	International Organisation for Migration
<b>MFA</b>	Migrant Forum in Asia
<b>MoEWOE</b>	Ministry of Expatriate Welfare and Overseas Employment
<b>MRDI</b>	Management and Resources Development Initiative
<b>NGO</b>	Non-Government Organisation
<b>NIMC</b>	National Institute of Mass Communication
<b>PRO</b>	Public Relation Officer
<b>RBM</b>	Reporters of Bangladeshi Migrants
<b>SDG</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>SPJ</b>	Society of Professional Journalists
<b>UN</b>	United Nations



# Why and Who is it for

This Guide Book is developed for journalists in Bangladesh working with and within all types of media, both locally and nationally. Although journalists have their own guidelines that they follow professionally, this guide is meant to be a useful reference for constantly improving to report and develop stories on migration. The guiding principles and guidelines are just that – guides, and not mandatory rules – except the references to laws.

It is also meant as a reference for the government in working and interacting with media in the area of migration. Some of the approaches, guidance and coordination included in this Guide are examples to foster closer collaboration between the government and the media.

The Media Guide Book on Migration is expected to contribute in the achievement of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) and Objective 17.C which is provided below in its entirety for reference:

“Promote independent, objective and quality reporting of media outlets, including internet-based information, including sensitizing and educating media professional on migration related issues and terminology, investing in ethical reporting standards and advertising, and stopping allocation of public funding racism and other forms of discrimination towards migrants, in full respect for the freedom of the media”.

It is also contributing to Goal 16.10 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) – 'Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements'.

Finally, this Guide is also advancing the Global Media Compact to raise awareness about the Goals, strengthen action on the Goals, and help ensure accountability of governments in achieving Agenda 2030. It is an inclusive global platform of news and entertainment companies with more than 100 members to date and is an initiative of the United Nations in collaboration with the UN Foundation. The Global Media Compact is a powerful driver for advocacy, action and accountability on the Sustainable Development Goals – through the dissemination of facts, human stories and suggested solutions around the SDGs.





A graduate student of journalism or a working journalist already has knowledge and some practical experience in preparing news reports, investigate reports, follow-up stories, etc. They also learn from tips provided by or being mentors to experienced journalists. Periodic trainings and guidance organised by National Institute of Mass Communication (NIMC), Press Institute of Bangladesh and non-government initiatives like Management and Resources Development Initiative (MRDI) also assist in improving reporting and writing skills for journalists. Migration specific media trainings both for journalists working for the national media as well as local news outlets are periodically arranged by IOM, ICMPD and BRAC. Following is a brief guideline and tips for journalists who are specializing on migration beat.

## 2.1 Getting started – reading up

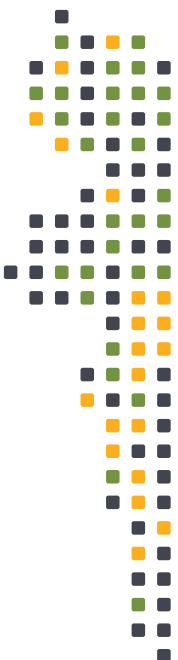
Apart from existing stories on print, broadcast, online and social media regarding migration, it will be important also to check out different situation reports, studies and policy briefs on migration by the government, international agencies, NGOs and associations of migrant workers in Bangladesh.

One quick technique is to check out the Executive Summary of large reports and policy briefs to be oriented about correct terminologies, appropriate language, key issues, latest data, key challenges and main progress in the migration sector.

A good source of migration related official data are Bureau of Manpower Employment and Training (BMET) and Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics. Some of these data and government reports are available online.

It will be good to know the commonly accepted terminologies and definitions related to migration provided by key UN agencies, UN Conventions and migration related laws in Bangladesh. Some of these definitions, terminologies and legal references are provided in the resource section. Some of them are a 'must use' and some might be 'good to use'. It will be also good to familiarize with the government approved migration process and key issues that are often discussed or commented on.

1. Adapted from Reporting on Forced Labour and Fair Recruitment ILO Toolkit



## 2.2 Not getting lost in the subject

It will be also important not to get too deep into the subject as a beginner and getting confused about the key issues, terms and priorities. As a journalist, the approach should be to report about a complex issue of different types of migration, human trafficking and their national-international perspectives to an audience or reader clearly and in simple terms. This could mean:

- Simplifying migration and development jargon into a language easy to understand for the general public
- Focusing on the main issue or the root cause by taking out the irrelevant detail
- Making the report precise and focused
- Explaining things with local examples and in local context that may not be clear to the audience otherwise
- Making the report or story relevant for the target audience and readers
- Moving beyond numbers and straightforward information to more interesting story angles
- Focus on a new angle or a new uncovered story

## 2.3 Should and should not do in deciding about the story

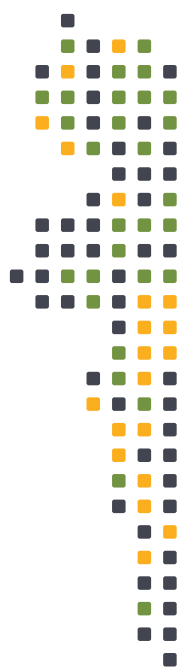
It is not easy to decide on a story, which needs good preparation, considering the consequences of the story and following a story or an issue for a period of time. In order to be thorough in the preparation of a report or a story, the following would be useful guidance:

### *Should do*

- Check out recent media reports on migration and find out the areas which are not much covered, or no follow-up was done
- Reach out to relevant experts on migration – researchers, activists, NGO representatives and media commentators on the topic
- Assess the time required and timing of the report, possible reporting format, risks and benefits (and for whom), and resources required and the availability of the resources
- Prepare background notes with context for news stories, broadcast discussions, editorials and op-eds
- Verify sources and authenticity of data, since reliable disaggregated data on migration is not readily available - many potential migrants do not register or report to authorities in Bangladesh or abroad as migrant workers
- Check the ethical considerations of the news or report
- Plan ahead, look for upcoming news events, and ensure that the newsroom is ready to cover them; example of events are 8 March Women's Day, 18 December International Migrants' Day, 30 July World Day Against Trafficking of Persons, 10 December Human Rights Day, publication of the IOM World Migration Report (which is released January or February every year) and the US Trafficking in Persons Report (which is released May or June every year)

### *Should not do*

- Look for a sensational story, looking for an angle that cannot be substantiated with facts (for example, focusing on an unverifiable comment on the media)
- Not considering the cause and effect of a story - overlooking the sensitivity of the issue, the risks and the pain of the story for the people involved or covered in the story (for example, insensitive report about a woman migrant who had faced abuse and trauma abroad)
- If the intention is to inform, not adding value judgments into the report
- Prepare a story without enough research and thorough investigation





## 2.4 Being a migration beat journalist

If a journalist intends to or has an interest on specialising on a particular issue like migration, it can bring positive results for the newsroom and the journalist himself/herself, such as:

- Offer different angles for story ideas to the news desk and to other reporters
- Greater freedom to choose and prioritise from the range of issues and also find new issues to cover
- Scope to move away from traditional ways to report on the area of migration
- Understand and explain complicated issues, such as the national and international nature of migration, the linkage between migration, smuggling and trafficking, the linkage between migration and development etc.
- Build self-confidence and the confidence of the supervisor/media establishment on the journalist
- Know and easily reach out to relevant experts and government officials who can be interviewed or provide information

## 2.5 In-house support

Preparing a good investigative report can take time and financial resources; for example, prolonged visits to particular geographic areas or even having to go abroad where migrant workers are in order to gather data or conduct interviews. The story may also be too sensitive because of strong political links or the issue is controversial, such as the involvement of influential people on malpractice in the migration process. In such situation, the senior management and supervisor may not be convinced to let the journalist take up the task. Some of the justification for the journalist could be:

- The news organization can create an image that it stands by the migrants and their rights, which will gain the confidence and respect from people in the sector and who will continue to come forward with news and story ideas
- Investigation is at the heart of responsible journalism
- Strong investigative reports raise the profile, viewership/readership and the revenue of the news organization
- The report/reports will be of a unique, high quality and will bring attention and praise
- The potential for the report/s to be acknowledged or recognised nationally or internationally

## 2.6 Safety and security: Own and subject

### *Personal safety*

Journalists reporting or developing a story on unfair recruitment, high migration cost, local subagents, human trafficking and smuggling groups and routes means sometimes exposing people linked to organised crimes and unlawful activities, more so if these are committed by highly influential people. Covering the story may also endanger the journalist to be in conflict with law or law enforcing agencies. The consequences might be that for covering the story, the journalist may be harassed, physically harmed, arrested, put on detention and more commonly – subjected to a court cases and prosecution. The journalist needs to be prepared and make contingency plans to address or face such risks. It might also mean changing the angle of the story or worse, dropping the story.

### *Physical and mental health*

Covering a migration story may sometimes be challenging physically and mentally for the journalist such as going to a very remote area, talking to a survivor of irregular migration or a returnee migrant who faced severe abuse and trauma, working long hours for days in preparing the report, and non-cooperation from an individual or organization. The journalist need to be physically and mentally



strong to deal with the multiple layers of challenging situations. It might be good to share the progress and the emotional/physical stress with a fellow journalist, supervisor or even a friend. It might also be good to take breaks and free the mind off the story, in order to recharge and dive into the story with a refreshed body and mind.

## **Digital security**

In an era of the internet and advancement in information and communications technology, news reports are possible to publish in various platforms and instantly reach millions in the country and abroad. Access to internet has reached remote rural areas in Bangladesh. Many migrant workers and their families communicate with each other across countries using smart phones and communication apps as well as social media which are cheap and convenient. Remittances are sent through online banking and telephone transfer apps. However, organised crime groups involved in the migration sector and unregulated sub-agents also use digital platforms to communicate and run their trade. Most importantly for journalists, the Government of Bangladesh has introduced the Digital Security Act 2018 and it will be essential to consider regulations on digital security of a report. According to the Digital Security Act 2018<sup>2</sup>:

'Digital Device' means any electronic, digital, magnetic, optical or information processing device or system which by using electronic, digital, magnetic, optical or information processing device or system, will perform logical, mathematical and memory programming, and any digital or computer device system or computer network connected with it or all kinds of input, output, processing, accumulating digital software device or communication facilities will be included.

'Digital Security' means the security of any digital device or digital system.

Journalists can also take safeguards to protect their story, data, sources and confidential information, such as the following:

- Being mindful on what to post, share, comment on, and subscribe to through social media
- Not keeping handwritten and electronic record of confidential and sensitive sources, such as in notebooks, mobile phones, laptops and tablets
- If sensitive contacts have to be recorded, using codes and assumed names
- Protecting mobile phone with a strong PIN code
- Deleting records of sensitive calls and text messages
- Using higher level of security for your web browsing
- Using encrypted emails and app messages
- Avoiding using Wi-Fi and shared server for sensitive information
- Keeping backups of all relevant data, information and reports
- Giving credit for or referencing of shared posts on social media
- Using official email for all official correspondence as a journalist

## **Going undercover**

Generally, journalists should be transparent about their identity. But if it is difficult to collect information, evidence and comment on something that is of public interest or unlawful, it might be acceptable to take assumed identity or record conversation with hidden devices but only in extreme or critical circumstances and as the last resort. For example, a journalist may need to act as a less-skilled worker in order to talk to a dalal/sub-agent. It needs to be emphasised that assuming a false identity or using hidden recording devices may put the journalist at physical risk or legal action. As a precaution, it will be important for the journalist to consider the following before making a decision:

- How will you go in and come out of the premises?
- What is your undercover identity and explanation if asked?

---

2. <https://www.cirt.gov.bd/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Digital-Security-Act-2018-English-version.pdf>





- How will you make sure that you are safe?
- What would be your physical precaution in case you are threatened with bodily harm?
- Will you go and cover the story alone or have back up?
- How will you avoid asking too much and raising suspicion?
- How will you get the information out?
- What is your plan B if things go wrong?
- Do you need to alert or seek assistance from law enforcing agencies? When is the right timing to inform law enforcing agencies?

## 2.7 Type of stories and reports

Like any other topic, there are number of ways that a journalist can approach migration. Positive stories on migration create a constructive image about migration, presents its advantages and benefits, and help create ways to make migration a progressive experience.

### *Human interest stories*

People always like hearing from a person directly his or her story. It is much more lively, empathetic and trustworthy than someone else only describing the situation. Mainstream media reports often take quick comments from migrant workers but seldom hear and spread substantive or personal stories of struggle, survival, and resilience of migrant workers.

### *Business and Economics*

Bangladesh is one of the highest remittance earning country mainly through the remittance transfer of migrant workers. Bangladesh is also a country with one of the highest migration costs, much of it are hidden and unaccounted for. There could be different stories looking at the recruitment business and the political and social implications of remittance, at the micro, macro and meso levels.

### *Positive Stories*

There are successful migrant workers who have built a good reput while abroad for their skills and hard work. There are also immigrant Bangladeshis/diaspora even within Asia who can inspire others and also make Bangladeshis proud. Bangladeshi immigrants have also made a name in the public life, in the fields of arts, science, technology and social service. International media or the local media in those countries sometimes cover such stories, so this can also be done through collaboration with journalists in other countries. Back home, positive stories could be around the successful use of remittance in community development by a former migrant, or a migrant turned local entrepreneur (diaspora investment). It could also include diaspora's contribution to local development such as assistance during calamities or scholarship for the needy (diaspora philanthropy). There could also be stories about families of migrant workers who may have found pragmatic ways to best utilise the skills and the earnings of the migrant workers to improving the conditions of their family and neighbourhood. Last but not the least, migration is also about human empowerment – building confidence to be independent and be in-charge of their own lives and livelihood.

### *Discrimination*

One of the most prominent issue of discrimination in the migration sector is around gender discrimination. Starting from the reasons to migrate to return as a survivor or as a successful, empowered person, there is a big range of topics to prepare reports on gender discrimination as well as positive examples of winning over that discrimination.

### *Law, enforcement, crime*

Stories could be around implementation of existing laws, role of law enforcement agencies, organised crime, fraudulent documents, etc. There could be reports to look at gaps in the legal and judicial system



in ensuring the rights of migrant workers and the prosecution of criminals in irregular migration, human smuggling and human trafficking. It could present the legal remedies that migrant workers can avail of such as wage or insurance compensation, access to justice, and welfare and protection.

### ***Information and awareness***

Stories and reports could also be about how and where accurate, comprehensive and timely information is available for safe and decent work abroad, such as the Migrant Resource Centres run in collaboration with government, at the government training centres and from the NGOs working with migrant workers. Media establishments, communication agencies and audio visual entertainment industry can prepare short public service announcements, commercials, audio visual drama, broadcast media panel discussions, etc. based on background document prepared by the migration beat journalist.

If there are multiple ideas worth pursuing and if there are enough sources and information on different areas, the journalist may organize the stories for a series of reports.

### ***Untold stories, unpacked stories***

Try to discover untold stories and the real scenario of both successes and challenges in migration. A journalist can explore the main reasons why migrants go abroad, come back, go again and again even if it is challenging, what problems they are facing while staying abroad, and what does their experience say about migration. For identifying different and new angles of a story – e.g. the root causes of circular or repeat migration, continuing high migration cost, new migration trends and modus operandi, varying catalysts behind positive and challenging experiences of migration – it would be important to get information and perspective from various sources such as government officials, bureaucrats, policy makers, politicians, recruiting agencies, sub agents, think tanks, technical experts, legal experts, development partners, international and UN agencies, national and international NGOs, migrant associations, public and private training institutes, trade union bodies, and business leaders. It is also important to always include the views and perspectives from the migrants themselves to support inclusivity and empowerment, especially those that involve women migrants.

## **2.8 Sources**

Migrant workers themselves, from the time they are initiating the process of migration to the time of their return and reintegration, are always good source of their own stories as well as ideas for other stories or beat.

Migrant who are survivors of abuse or trafficking can describe first hand their ordeal. Of course, the journalist has to be sensitive about what and how to ask, what information to use and how much the responder needs to be protected.

Migrant associations are comprised of former migrant workers themselves. As such, they are a good source of stories and can provide contacts of both returned migrant workers and those who are still abroad.

NGOs and research organisations with specific programmes and researches related to migration. The researches and studies are good source of information because they are evidence-based, whether qualitative or quantitative, and have used various other sources of information.

Recruiting agents, including sub-agents, are always at the centre of controversy and blame. It is important to listen to their views on the migration structure, processes and regulations, on their conversations with the migrant workers, and their views about their counterparts abroad.

Last but not the least, sources should be authentic and reliable, and the information that they provide should be verifiable.



## 2.9 Medium of the story

- **Radio** – news, views, talk shows, public or private service announcements, etc. through national radio, FM and AM stations, and community radios.
- **Video** – lightweight short videos that can be edited over a laptop or smartphone, and uploaded in social media, especially YouTube, is the most common trend. However, video productions could also be for news, talk show programmes, and other online platforms. Facebook and YouTube live engage a wide audience for video reports and online discussions on migration.
- **Photo story** – whether through an exhibition with prints, photo stories on Instagram, video with still images and running commentary or a single image can be a powerful story on migrants and their dreams and struggles. Consent for photography and ensuring anonymity of those in the photograph (if in the best interest of the person) will have to be considered. Borrowed photos should not be used, since that may result in copyright breach. But photos from free online sources can be used with due credit on source.
- **Online** – blogs, vlogs and other related webpages on migration are great ways to share views and stories about migrants. Personal website is another way of spreading news.
- **Social media** – is also becoming popular to share news stories and investigative reports, not only as individual reporting but also endorsed by media houses. Sharing links of reports and references using Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and Twitter all at the same time will result to a wider outreach and readership.

## 2.10 A final checklist

Before finishing the editing and getting the report ready for publishing, broadcast or upload, a journalist and his/her team/colleagues could review the following set of questions as a final checklist before you publish it:

- What is it that you are you trying to say?
- Do you have enough information and evidence?
- What are the implications of the report?
- Are you confident about your sources and in your analysis of documents?
- How far have you verified and cross-checked your information?
- Has everyone under criticism been given the opportunity to give their views?
- Is there any quote or reference in the report that was said off the record? If you use such material, are you able to protect the anonymity of the source?
- Is the story structured well with a start and end that flows well?
- Does the structure allow the story to be broken into manageable parts?
- Does the report need photos, video clips, graphs and illustrations?
- Has the editor checked the entire story including the headlines?
- Will you get support from key policy makers, law enforcement officials, academics, experts, NGO leaders?
- Will it have a positive/negative impact on society?
- Will it have positive/negative impact on the migrant and their family?



# Legal and Policy Guidelines for Media

First and foremost, the media would need to consider what are the directives and guidelines by the government that can be considered for reporting on migration. Key legal and policy instruments already have guidelines for reporting and on conduct as a journalist, which is applicable for reporting on migration as well.

## 3.1 Bangladesh Press Council (BPC)<sup>3</sup> and Code of Conduct

BPC had been established by the Government of Bangladesh in 1979 to maintain the standards of newspapers and news agencies and also to protect the freedom of the press. It is a quasi-judicial body of the government related to the media. The BPC also is in charge of resolving disputes of allegations against the press under the Press Council Act. The Council is led by a Chairperson and 14 members who are appointed for a term of two years. A draft Press Council Act 2019 is still under review.

Under the Press Council Act 1974, objective 11 would be relevant for the media reporting on migration, which describes some of the functions of the Bangladesh Press Council:

**Article 11. 2** *The Council may, in furtherance of its object, perform the following functions:*

- *To help newspapers and news agencies to maintain their freedom.*
- *To build up a code of conduct for newspapers and news agencies and journalists in accordance with high professional standard.*
- *To ensure on the part of newspapers and news agencies and journalists the maintenance of a high standard of public taste and to foster a due sense of both the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.*
- *To encourage the growth of a sense of responsibility and public service among all those engaged in the profession of journalism.*

The Bangladesh Press Council had issued a set of 25 guidelines under the Code of Conduct 1993 for newspapers and news agencies, with the latest update in 2002. Some of the codes of conduct that can also be relevant to reporting on migration are:

- **Article 3:** *It is the responsibility of a journalist to keep people informed of issues which influence or attract them. News and commentaries are to be prepared and published showing full respect to the sensitivity and individual rights of newspaper readers as well as the people.*
- **Article 4:** *Truth and accuracy of information available are to be ensured as far as possible.*
- **Article 5:** *Information received from reliable sources may be published in the public interest induced by honest intention and if facts presented therein are considered trustworthy by logical consideration, then a journalist is to be absolved from any adverse consequence for publication of such news.*
- **Article 6:** *Unconfirmed reports or reports based on rumours shall be verified before publication and if found unreasonable on verification, be withheld from publication.*

3. <http://www.presscouncil.gov.bd/> accessed on 5 November 2020



- **Article 7:** News items whose contents are distorted and baseless or whose publication hinges on breach of trust not to be published.
- **Article 11:** If a newspaper publishes any news which prejudices the interest and good name of an individual, agency, institution or group of people or any special category of people, then the newspaper concerned should provide opportunity to the aggrieved persons or institutions to publish their protest or state their point of view on the matter within a reasonable period of time.
- **Article 12:** If the published news is damaging or improper, then withdrawal, corrigendum or explanation be made and in special cases, apology should be tendered.
- **Article 15:** As extent and durability of the influence of newspapers is greater than that of other media, a journalist writing for newspaper shall particularly be cautious about the credibility and truthfulness of sources and shall also preserve his source material in order to avoid risks.
- **Article 21:** A reporter while reporting a case of financial or other kind of irregularity shall, to the best of his ability, verify the facts in his report and shall incorporate adequate material to prove the truth of the matter reported.
- **Article 22:** Any irresponsible publication to which no objection was taken cannot be source of news but a journalist cannot shirk his responsibility on the ground of reprinting the same.
- **Article 23:** It is a responsibility of a journalist to highlight any news which projects degeneration of moral values in the society but it is also the moral responsibility of a journalist to maintain strict precaution in publishing news/photo involving man-woman relationship or any report relating to woman.
- **Article 24:** Any person who will join in a service of newspaper or new agency or any media of news shall be bound to take oath and sign in presence of the editor as per the form “Ka” as attached with this Code of Conduct.
- **Article 25:** Any publisher of a newspaper shall take oath and sign under section 11(2)(b) of the Press Council Act, as per the form “Kha” as attached with this Code of Conduct.

## 3.2 National Broadcasting Policy 2014<sup>4</sup>

In the preamble of the Policy, it is mentioned that this policy had been developed in line with the Article 39 of the Constitution of Bangladesh, which stipulates the freedom of thought, conscience, speech and the media. It also says that the broadcast media will uphold the history, spirit and ideals of the liberation war, traditions of Bangladesh and also fulfil its social responsibility. There are several articles in the policy that can also be applicable regarding migration and broadcast media:

- **Article 3.5.3** mentions that there should be efforts to aware the public regarding the value and importance of labour.
- **Article 3.7.5** directs that the broadcast media should have educational programmes that are relevant to people's life and livelihood.
- **Article 5.1.3** prohibits broadcasting anything that is someone's personal or confidential issue or anything that is disrespectful about a person.
- **Article 5.1.7** prohibits the broadcast of any statement or visual for or against a foreign country that has negative consequence regarding the relationship between Bangladesh and that foreign country.

4. <https://moi.gov.bd/site/files/fcb6c7ec-1de7-40aa-bc06-d6cd45af9a50/%E0%A6%9C%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%80%E0%A7%9F-%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%AE%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%AA%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%9A%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B0-%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%80%E0%A6%A4%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B2%E0%A6%BE->



### 3.3 National Online Mass Media Policy 2017 (Revised 2020)

Only the draft version of the Policy (2015)<sup>5</sup> is publicly available. The preamble acknowledges the fast expansion of the internet globally and how it has also become part of everyday life for many in Bangladesh. It conforms to the Article 39 of the Constitution of Bangladesh, which stipulates the freedom of thought, conscience, speech and the media. The intention of the Policy is to recognize, register, regulate and ensure quality as well as ethical practice in the use of internet and interactive media. This includes online newspapers, social media, news portal, news blogs, IP TV and internet radio. Some of the articles relevant also for reporting on migration are:

- **Article 3.1.1** mentions that the main goal of online mass media should be educative, recreational and inspiring people to be involved in development efforts and become more patriotic.
- **Article 3.4.1** encourages the online media publish news, information and data on development activities with the use of visual images to the extent possible. The article also encourages the online media to promote the dignity of labour and in particular physical labour, that all types of work is honourable.
- **Articles 3.6.1 and 3.6.3** mention the need to publish and broadcast educational programmes using information and data that promote education for women, marginal communities, disadvantaged groups and those who are illiterate.
- **Article 5.6.1** prohibits the online publication and broadcast of any personal or confidential information that is damaging to the reputation of an individual. But if the activities of an individual is detrimental to public interest, in that case, such individual and personal information can be made public.
- **Article 5.1.8** prohibits the dissemination of any information and data that is detrimental to the bilateral and multilateral relationship of Bangladesh.

The Policy also includes the provision of a Commission that would develop a Code of Guidance in consultation with relevant stakeholders. This Code of Guidance will include:

- Monitor for any online broadcast that is unjust and unfair
- Ensuring the withdrawal of any content that can be considered as unwarranted infringement of privacy
- Ensuring that all institutions and parties involved in online content broadcast have a Charter of Duties, Disclosure Policy and an Editorial Policy

**Article 7.2** also mentions that all online mass media organization must have a Charter of Duties in line with the Online Mass Media Policy

### 3.4 Right to Information Act 2009<sup>6</sup>

The Preamble says that the Act is based on the Article 39 of the Constitution of Bangladesh, which stipulates the freedom of thought, conscience, speech and the media. The Act makes provisions for ensuring free flow of information and people's right to information. It also explains that since all powers of the Republic belong to the people, it is necessary to ensure right to information for their empowerment as well. It also highlights in the preamble that right to information shall ensure and increase transparency and accountability in all public, autonomous and statutory organisations and in private organisations run on government or foreign funding, while corruption shall decrease and good governance shall be established.

While the other legal provisions related to the media focuses on the accountability of the journalists and their institutions, the RTI focuses on the accountability of the government institutions in relation to

5. [https://moi.gov.bd/sites/default/files/files/moi.portal.gov.bd/files/71569157\\_3294\\_42e4\\_8c87\\_dddb7e192ac7/Online\\_Mass\\_Media\\_Policy\\_draft.pdf](https://moi.gov.bd/sites/default/files/files/moi.portal.gov.bd/files/71569157_3294_42e4_8c87_dddb7e192ac7/Online_Mass_Media_Policy_draft.pdf)

6. [http://old.moi.gov.bd/RTI/RTI\\_English.pdf](http://old.moi.gov.bd/RTI/RTI_English.pdf)





sharing information, including the ministries, line agencies and government officials related to migration. It is worth noting how the Act defines information –

*'includes any memo, book, design, map, contract, data, log book, order, notification, document, sample, letter, report, accounts, project proposal, photograph, audio, video, drawing, painting, film, any instrument done through electronic process, machine readable record, and any other documentary material regardless of its physical form or characteristics, and any copy thereof in relation to the constitution, structure and official activities of any authority'*.

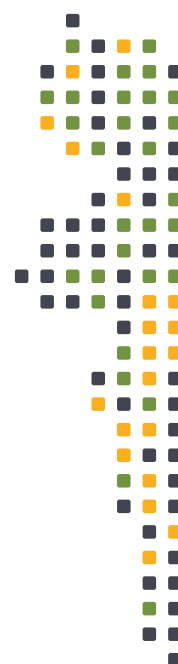
This, however, does not include 'note sheets' or copies of such notes. The different articles of the RTI has implications in building trust, coordination and collaboration between the media and the government officials around sharing of official information. Some of the articles worth highlighting are:

- **Article 5.1** which stipulates that every authority has to prepare catalogue and index of all information and preserve it in an appropriate manner.
- **Article 5.2** highlights that within a reasonable time-limit, every authority has to preserve all such information electronically and have a country-wide network to facilitate access to information from off site and electronically.
- **Article 6.1** says that every authority shall publish and publicise all information about their decision making, proceedings and activities in a manner that is easily accessible to the citizens. This may very well include the media, migrants themselves and the recruiting agencies.
- **Article 6.2** indicates that no authority shall conceal any information or limit its easy access.
- **Under article 7**, it is not mandatory to publish such information that relates to foreign policy or that can affect the existing relationship with any foreign country, international organization, regional alliance or an organization.

### 3.5 Digital Security Act 2018

In the digital era, it is important to know the legal obligations of collecting, storing, using and publishing electronic data and information. The Act had been adopted during the last quarter of 2019. The law has the jurisdiction of Extra Territorial Application, which means that if a journalist commits any offence under this Act while abroad, he/she is punishable under this Act. The provisions of this Act shall be applicable as if the offense has been committed in Bangladesh.

- **Article 21.1** might be of relevance for journalists – *If any person, by means of digital medium, makes or instigates to make any propaganda or campaign against the liberation war of Bangladesh, the father of the nation, national anthem or national flag, then such act of the person shall be a serious offence.*
- **Article 25.1** stipulates that *if a person intentionally or knowingly transmits, publishes or propagates any data or information through website or any online platform, which can be deemed to be offensive, false, threatening or a propaganda, is a punishable offense.*



# International Ethical Standards for Media: In Bangladesh Context

Networks of journalists and international agencies working on migration have developed different guidelines, codes of conduct and ethical codes for the media working on migration-related issues. Some of it are applicable as good practice in Bangladesh. This section provides a selection of such guidelines.

## 4.1 The Ethical Journalism Network (EJN)<sup>7</sup> and Five Point Guide on Migration Reporting

The EJN is a UK based global coalition of journalists, editors, owners of media establishments and media support groups. They have a shared value of about that the principles of ethical journalism is universal and a precious resource for ensuring respect for democracy and human rights. It regularly publishes guidelines for journalists, including a five-point Guide for Migration Reporting. This guideline is widely used by both journalists across the world covering 'migration news' and also promoted by agencies who are working in support of migrants and refugees. The five-point guideline is:

1. Facts not bias
2. Know the Law
3. Show humanity
4. Speak for all
5. Challenge hate

The full one pager Five Point Guide on Migration Reporting is also added in the following pages for ready reference.

## 4.2 International Federation of Journalists (IFJ)<sup>8</sup> and Global Charter of Ethics for Journalists

The IFJ is the largest global organization of journalists representing 600,000 media professionals from 187 trade unions and associations in more than 140 countries. It was established in 1926. It speaks on behalf of journalists within the United Nations system and within the international trade union movement. The IFJ developed a Global Charter of Ethics and updates this periodically, the latest version being adopted at the 30th IFJ World Congress in Tunis on 12 June 2019. This charter completes the IFJ Declaration of Principles on the Conduct of Journalists (1954), also known as the “Bordeaux

7. <https://ethicaljournalismnetwork.org/>

8. <https://www.ifj.org/>



Declaration". The Charter is based on major international laws including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It has 16 articles that defines duties of journalists and their rights regarding ethics. Key duties and rights:

- **#1** - Respect for facts and for the right of the public to truth.
- **#2** - Defend the principles of freedom in the honest collection of information and publication.
- **#3** - Report only in accordance with facts of which he/she knows the origin.
- **#4** - Use only fair methods to obtain information, images, documents and data and always report his/her status as a journalist and will refrain from using hidden recordings of images and sounds, except where it is impossible for him/her to collect information that is overwhelmingly in the public interest. He/she will demand free access to all sources of information and the right to freely investigate all facts of public interest.
- **#5** - The notion of urgency or immediacy in the dissemination of information shall not take precedence over the verification of facts, sources and/or the offer of a reply.
- **#7** - Observe professional secrecy regarding the source of information obtained in confidence.
- **#8** - The journalist will respect privacy. He/she shall respect the dignity of the persons named and/or represented and inform the interviewee whether the conversation and other material is intended for publication.
- **#14** - The journalist will not undertake any activity or engagement likely to put his/her independence in danger. He/she will respect the methods of collection/dissemination of information that he/she has freely accepted, such as "off the record", anonymity, or embargo, provided that these commitments are clear and unquestionable.

The full one pager IFJ Charter of Ethics for Journalists is also added in the following pages for ready reference.





# FIVE POINT GUIDE FOR MIGRATION REPORTING



## 1 FACTS NOT BIAS

Are we **accurate** and have we been **impartial, inclusive** and **fact-based** in our reporting?

Are we **acting independently** from narratives that stem from politics and emotion rather than facts?

Are we **fairly** and **transparently** reporting the impact of migration on communities?"



## 2 KNOW THE LAW

Asylum seeker? Refugee? Victim of trafficking? Migrant worker? Do we use **irregular migrant**? Do we understand and use migrant definitions correctly and do we articulate to our audience the rights migrants are due under **international, regional** and **national law**?



## 3 SHOW HUMANITY

Humanity is **the essence of ethical journalism**. But we must **keep our emotions in check**, avoid victimization, over-simplification and the framing of coverage in a narrow humanitarian context that takes no account of the bigger picture.



## 4 SPEAK FOR ALL

Do we have **migrant voices**? Are we **listening to the communities** they are passing through or joining? Question how representative self-appointed community and migrant spokespersons really are.




## 5 CHALLENGE HATE

Have we **avoided extremism**? Have we taken the time to judge whether **inflammatory content** about migrants or those who seek to limit migration can lead to hatred? Words like "swarms", "floods" and "waves" should be treated with caution, as should indiscriminate use of "racism" and "xenophobia."



Ethical Journalism Network

[www.ethicaljournalismnetwork.org](http://www.ethicaljournalismnetwork.org)

Connect with us   



# GLOBAL CHARTER OF ETHICS FOR JOURNALISTS

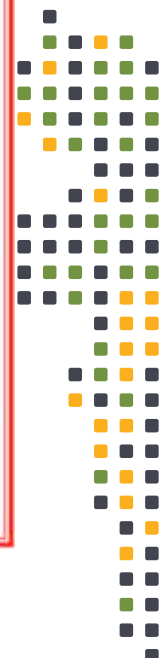
The IFJ Global Charter of Ethics for Journalists was adopted at the 30th IFJ World Congress in Tunis on 12 June 2019. It completes the IFJ Declaration of Principles on the Conduct of Journalists (1954), known as the "Bordeaux Declaration"

The right of everyone to have access to information and ideas, reiterated in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, underpins the journalist's mission. The journalist's responsibility towards the public takes precedence over any other responsibility, in particular towards their employers and the public authorities. Journalism is a profession, which requires time, resources and the means to practise – all of which are essential to its independence. This international declaration specifies the guidelines of conduct for journalists in the research, editing, transmission, dissemination and commentary of news and information, and in the description of events, in any media whatsoever.

1. Respect for the facts and for the right of the public to truth is the first duty of the journalist.
2. In pursuance of this duty, the journalist shall at all times defend the principles of freedom in the honest collection and publication of news, and of the right of fair comment and criticism. He/she will make sure to clearly distinguish factual information from commentary and criticism.
3. The journalist shall report only in accordance with facts of which he/ she knows the origin. The journalist shall not suppress essential information or falsify any document. He/she will be careful to reproduce faithfully statements and other material that non-public persons publish in social media
4. The journalist shall use only fair methods to obtain information, images, documents and data and he/she will always report his/her status as a journalist and will refrain from using hidden recordings of images and sounds, except where it is impossible for him/her to collect information that is overwhelmingly in the public interest. He/she will demand free access to all sources of information and the right to freely investigate all facts of public interest.
5. The notion of urgency or immediacy in the dissemination of information shall not take precedence over the verification of facts, sources and/or the offer of a reply.
6. The journalist shall do the utmost to rectify any errors or published information which is found to be inaccurate in a timely, explicit, complete and transparent manner.
7. The journalist shall observe professional secrecy regarding the source of information obtained in confidence.
8. The journalist will respect privacy. He/she shall respect the dignity of the persons named and/or represented and inform the interviewee whether the conversation and other material is intended for publication. He/she shall show particular consideration to inexperienced and vulnerable interviewees.
9. Journalists shall ensure that the dissemination of information or opinion does not contribute to hatred or prejudice and shall do their utmost to avoid facilitating the spread of discrimination on grounds such as geographical, social or ethnic origin, race, gender, sexual orientation, language, religion, disability, political and other opinions.
10. The journalist will consider serious professional misconduct to be
  - plagiarism
  - distortion of facts
  - slander, libel, defamation, unfounded accusations
11. The journalist shall refrain from acting as an auxiliary of the police or other security services. He/she will only be required to provide information already published in a media outlet.
12. The journalist will show solidarity with his/her colleagues, without renouncing his/her freedom of investigation, duty to inform, and right to engage in criticism, commentary, satire and editorial choice.
13. The journalist shall not use the freedom of the press to serve any other interest and shall refrain from receiving any unfair advantage or personal gain because of the dissemination or non-dissemination of information. He/she will avoid - or put an end to - any situation that could lead him/her to a conflict of interest in the exercise of his/her profession. He/she will avoid any confusion between his activity and that of advertising or propaganda. He/she will refrain from any form of insider trading and market manipulation.
14. The journalist will not undertake any activity or engagement likely to put his/her independence in danger. He/she will, however, respect the methods of collection/dissemination of information that he / she has freely accepted, such as "off the record", anonymity, or embargo, provided that these commitments are clear and unquestionable.
15. Journalists worthy of the name shall deem it their duty to observe faithfully the principles stated above. They may not be compelled to perform a professional act or to express an opinion that is contrary to his/her professional conviction or conscience.
16. Within the general law of each country the journalist shall recognize in matters of professional honour, the jurisdiction of independent self-regulatory bodies open to the public, to the exclusion of every kind of interference by governments or others.



**International Federation of Journalists**





### 4.3 Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ)<sup>9</sup> Code of Ethics

The Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ) is an organization of journalists in the US that encourages freedom of journalism within high ethical behaviour. It is one of the largest and oldest journalist organization in the US, dating back to 1909. It has 6,000 members and 250 local chapters. The *SPJ Code of Ethics* is an excellent guide that promotes professional journalism and strives to ensure free exchange of information that is accurate, fair and comprehensive. Most importantly, the guidance under the set of the four principles are a good guide for any journalist anywhere in the world and on any theme, including on migration. The summary of the four principles are given below, with the full CoE is provided in the following pages.

**Seek truth and report it** - Ethical journalism should be accurate and fair. Journalists should be honest and courageous in gathering, reporting and interpreting information.

**Minimise harm** - Ethical journalism treats sources, subjects, colleagues and members of the public as human beings deserving of respect.

**Act independently** - The highest and primary obligation of ethical journalism is to serve the public.

**Be accountable and transparent** - Ethical journalism means taking responsibility for one's work and explaining one's decisions to the public.

### 4.4 *Moving Stories*<sup>10</sup>: EJN research recommendations for journalists

In response to major events of people on the move, in 2015 Ethical Journalism Network commissioned *Moving Stories* – a review of how media in selected countries have reported on refugees and migrants during that year. The research examined the quality of media coverage and provided a set of recommendations that are helpful for journalists covering migration related issues:

Recommended core principles for journalists covering migration issues include:

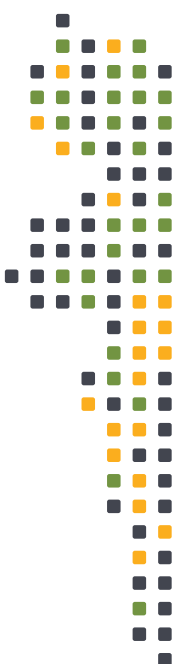
- **Accountability:** media transparency and commitment to correct errors
- **Humanity:** sensitive and careful journalism that avoids doing undue harm
- **Impartiality:** fair reporting that tells all sides of the story
- **Independence:** journalism free from self-censorship and political pressure
- **Accuracy:** fact-based reporting, analysis and commentary

Recommended newsroom practices include:

- Prepare in-house good practice guides and tips for reporting on migration
- Constantly review internal mechanisms if the migration stories are told in the most effective way
- Specialist reporters with good knowledge of the subject to the migration beat
- Provide detailed information on the background of migrants and the consequences of migration, balancing between both benefits and challenges of migration
- Avoid political bias and challenge deceptive handling of the facts by political, religious or other community leaders and public figures
- Respect sources of information and ensure anonymity of those who might be at risk
- Establish transparent and accessible internal systems for dealing with complaints from the audience over coverage of migrant related reports
- Provide training for journalists and editors covering everything from international conventions and law to migrant rights and related terminologies
- Monitor coverage on migration regularly and review how to improve and diversify
- Encourage media associations and journalist unions to promote self-regulation, responsible journalism and follow commonly agreed codes of conduct in reporting on migration, including that of the national press council
- Request and ensure access to reliable information from all official sources

9. <https://www.spj.org/>

10. <https://cdn.ethicaljournalismnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/moving-stories-ejn.pdf>





Society of Professional Journalists

# CODE of ETHICS

## PREAMBLE

Members of the Society of Professional Journalists believe that public enlightenment is the forerunner of justice and the foundation of democracy. Ethical journalism strives to ensure the free exchange of information that is accurate, fair and thorough. An ethical journalist acts with integrity. The Society declares these four principles as the foundation of ethical journalism and encourages their use in its practice by all people in all media.

## SEEK TRUTH AND REPORT IT

Ethical journalism should be accurate and fair. Journalists should be honest and courageous in gathering, reporting and interpreting information.

Journalists should:

- ▶ Take responsibility for the accuracy of their work. Verify information before releasing it. Use original sources whenever possible.
- ▶ Remember that neither speed nor format excuses inaccuracy.
- ▶ Provide context. Take special care not to misrepresent or oversimplify in promoting, previewing or summarizing a story.
- ▶ Gather, update and correct information throughout the life of a news story.
- ▶ Be cautious when making promises, but keep the promises they make.
- ▶ Identify sources clearly. The public is entitled to as much information as possible to judge the reliability and motivations of sources.
- ▶ Consider sources' motives before promising anonymity. Reserve anonymity for sources who may face danger, retribution or other harm, and have information that cannot be obtained elsewhere. Explain why anonymity was granted.
- ▶ Diligently seek subjects of news coverage to allow them to respond to criticism or allegations of wrongdoing.
- ▶ Avoid undercover or other surreptitious methods of gathering information unless traditional, open methods will not yield information vital to the public.
- ▶ Be vigilant and courageous about holding those with power accountable. Give voice to the voiceless.
- ▶ Support the open and civil exchange of views, even views they find repugnant.
- ▶ Recognize a special obligation to serve as watchdogs over public affairs and government. Seek to ensure that the public's business is conducted in the open, and that public records are open to all.
- ▶ Provide access to source material when it is relevant and appropriate.
- ▶ Boldly tell the story of the diversity and magnitude of the human experience. Seek sources whose voices we seldom hear.
- ▶ Avoid stereotyping. Journalists should examine the ways their values and experiences may shape their reporting.
- ▶ Label advocacy and commentary.
- ▶ Never deliberately distort facts or context, including visual information. Clearly label illustrations and re-enactments.
- ▶ Never plagiarize. Always attribute.

## MINIMIZE HARM

Ethical journalism treats sources, subjects, colleagues and members of the public as human beings deserving of respect.

Journalists should:

- ▶ Balance the public's need for information against potential harm or discomfort. Pursuit of the news is not a license for arrogance or undue intrusiveness.

The SPJ Code of Ethics is a statement of abiding principles supported by additional explanations and position papers ([at spj.org](http://spj.org)) that address changing journalistic practices. It is not a set of rules, rather a guide that encourages all who engage in journalism to take responsibility for the information they provide, regardless of medium. The code should be read as a whole; individual principles should not be taken out of context. It is not, nor can it be under the First Amendment, legally enforceable.

- ▶ Show compassion for those who may be affected by news coverage. Use heightened sensitivity when dealing with juveniles, victims of sex crimes, and sources or subjects who are inexperienced or unable to give consent. Consider cultural differences in approach and treatment.
- ▶ Recognize that legal access to information differs from an ethical justification to publish or broadcast.
- ▶ Realize that private people have a greater right to control information about themselves than public figures and others who seek power, influence or attention. Weigh the consequences of publishing or broadcasting personal information.
- ▶ Avoid pandering to lurid curiosity, even if others do.
- ▶ Balance a suspect's right to a fair trial with the public's right to know. Consider the implications of identifying criminal suspects before they face legal charges.
- ▶ Consider the long-term implications of the extended reach and permanence of publication. Provide updated and more complete information as appropriate.

## ACT INDEPENDENTLY

The highest and primary obligation of ethical journalism is to serve the public.

Journalists should:

- ▶ Avoid conflicts of interest, real or perceived. Disclose unavoidable conflicts.
- ▶ Refuse gifts, favors, fees, free travel and special treatment, and avoid political and other outside activities that may compromise integrity or impartiality, or may damage credibility.
- ▶ Be wary of sources offering information for favors or money; do not pay for access to news. Identify content provided by outside sources, whether paid or not.
- ▶ Deny favored treatment to advertisers, donors or any other special interests, and resist internal and external pressure to influence coverage.
- ▶ Distinguish news from advertising and shun hybrids that blur the lines between the two. Prominently label sponsored content.

## BE ACCOUNTABLE AND TRANSPARENT

Ethical journalism means taking responsibility for one's work and explaining one's decisions to the public.

Journalists should:

- ▶ Explain ethical choices and processes to audiences. Encourage a civil dialogue with the public about journalistic practices, coverage and news content.
- ▶ Respond quickly to questions about accuracy, clarity and fairness.
- ▶ Acknowledge mistakes and correct them promptly and prominently. Explain corrections and clarifications carefully and clearly.
- ▶ Expose unethical conduct in journalism, including within their organizations.
- ▶ Abide by the same high standards they expect of others.



## 4.5 On the Move<sup>11</sup>: IOM Blog recommendations for Journalists

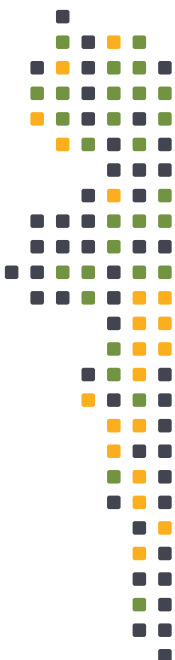
IOM Regional Office for Central America, North America and the Caribbean run a blog on migration called *On the Move*. One of the guest contributors have provided seven recommendations on how to better cover migration in the media<sup>12</sup>. It is worth considering these recommendations for better reporting on migration anywhere in the world, including in Bangladesh. The 7 points are summarized and adapted below:

- 1. Words matter.** Examine the terminology you use and refer to glossary of terms developed by IOM and others.
- 2. Respect the dignity of migrants.** Avoid the use of dehumanizing language and metaphors that cast migration as form of a natural disaster or an object (e.g. in Bangladesh, the use of 'manpower export' should be avoided).
- 3. Challenge hate speech.** Avoid stereotypical, negative expressions about migrants. Please refer also to the five point guide for Migration Reporting developed by EJN.
- 4. Connect with migrants.** Include a variety of sources, engage with migrants, migrant associations, NGOs working with migrants. It is important to include the voice of migrants and reflect the human aspect of migration.
- 5. Ensure a balanced coverage.** Avoid victimization and over simplification. In most cases, migrants are perceived in extremes, either as a problem or as a victim (or in some countries, as the only source of money for family and the country's development). Challenge these notions and promote other aspects of migration, for example, cover the stories of successful stories of migrants – both abroad and back in the country, like on remittances and the contribution of migrants to the development at home.
- 6. Adopt an International focus.** Place the migration story in a global context. Local or national interests may dominate, at the expense of a wider understanding of migration and the reasons for it. Migration after all is an international phenomenon and a global reality.
- 7. Promote evidence-based public discourse.** Make use of accurate information and resources, understand that correlation does not mean that it is the cause, be transparent and share with the public resources to further explore the topic at hand. Confront, fact-check and analyse statements to hold authorities accountable, educate the public and contribute to a deeper understanding of migration.

---

11. <https://rosanjose.iom.int/site/en/blog/how-cover-migration-media-7-recommendations-journalists>

12. <https://rosanjose.iom.int/site/en/blog/how-cover-migration-media-7-recommendations-journalists>



# Innovative strategies and good practices

## 5.1 The Journalist's Toolbox<sup>13</sup>: Resource for Reporting

The Journalist's Toolbox had been developed in 2008 by an American professor teaching journalism and has been part of the Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ). The contents are updated every week and has thousands of free (though some are fee-based) resources organized by beats on more than 150 searchable pages. It was initially launched as a page on a course syllabus at North-western University in Chicago in 1996.

The Toolbox provides journalists, students, academics and others reliable resources for reporting on many complex stories. The site was originally used by news librarians, eventually becoming more popular with reporters and editors. The Toolbox is a free resource for start-up newsrooms, freelancers, entrepreneurs, educators and student publications. Reporters new to a beat use the pages, which are organized like a newsroom, to get regular information for their coverage and sources. Teachers on journalism also use the content for their classrooms.

## 5.2 Migrationnewsbd<sup>14</sup>

It is the first specialized news portal on labour migration in Bangladesh. Their profile says that they try to cover stories and news that are usually not covered by the mainstream media.

## 5.3 Panos South Asia Blog on South Asian journalist blog on migrant labour<sup>15</sup>

The blog is part of a project of Panos South Asia on migrant and labour. It has a collection of stories produced by South Asian journalists who are fellows of the project. The objective of the project is to create and promote a migrant labour friendly environment through a common South Asian voice for reforms in the labour migration sector. The blog project aims to build a partnership with South Asian journalists (print, broadcast and online) on labour-related laws, international migrant labour rights and eventually increasing the frequency and quality of reports on media coverage of migrant labour issues.

## 5.4 On the Move Blog<sup>16</sup>

On the Move is a blog managed by the IOM Regional Office for Central America, North America and the Caribbean. News, research and discussions about migration are published every week.

13. <https://www.journaliststoolbox.org/>

14. <https://migrationnewsbd.com>

15. <http://migration.panosa.org/>

16. <https://rosanjose.iom.int/site/en/blog>





# 6

## Coordination

It is important to connect and network among peers, but also regularly interact with relevant contact persons of the government and agencies working on migration and human trafficking. Regular contacts and networking will ensure the availability of updated information and story ideas. Collaborating with another news organizations or working with a group of beat journalists can also help to reduce costs and increase impact. Sometimes, collaboration and networking can ensure simultaneous launch of a story, even if they are independent and separate stories. This can create greater impact.

Journalists covering or wanting to cover migration and human trafficking beat/s should also become part of journalist forums like Reporters for Bangladeshi Migrants (RBM) and Diplomatic Correspondent of Bangladesh (DCAB).

For the government sector, regular contact with the Public Relation Officers (PRO) in the relevant ministries, including the labour attachés, would be mutually useful. The relevant ministries and the group of journalists should develop joint activities like press briefings, press visits, joint roundtable policy discussions, joint policy briefs, actively participate in the observation of IMD, annual joint social events, and other activities.



## Recognition and Awards

There are national and international awards, fellowships, grants and scholarships for journalists around the world on various themes, mostly supported through international agencies and development partners. Awards for journalists reporting on migration is relatively new in countries where this has been introduced.

Among the Asian experience, Philippines stand out as they have institutionalised such award as an official government recognition since 2011. The Migration Advocacy and Media (MAM)<sup>17</sup> Awards is conceived by the Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO) together with the Philippines' Inter-Agency Committee on Month of Overseas Filipinos composed of various government and civil society organisations, as part of celebrating International Migrants' Day and the entire month of December dedicated to migrants. The CFO is a government agency established in 1980 through a Presidential decree and is under the Office of the President. The CFO formulates policy and implements them, dedicated to uphold the interests, rights, welfare and patriotism of all overseas Filipinos. The MAM Awards introduced in 2011 recognise the positive contributions of media professionals in print, radio, movie and television, advertising and internet towards creating social awareness on safe migration and promoting a positive image of Filipinos overseas. There is no cash incentive as part of the award, but since it is recognised under the CFO and the Office of the President, MAM Awards is seen as highly prestigious and sought-after recognition by the journalists.

An award under The Press Council in Bangladesh, Ministry of Information or the National Steering Committee on Labour Migration under the Prime Minister's Office – inspired by the MAM Award in the Philippines – can be set-up. It would create a higher profile for journalists covering migration but will also encourage many to produce high quality stories on migration. It will also make the Award more sustainable as it will be less dependent on funding from development partners and NGOs. Following are a few existing media awards related to migration, starting with Bangladesh and expanding into other good examples.

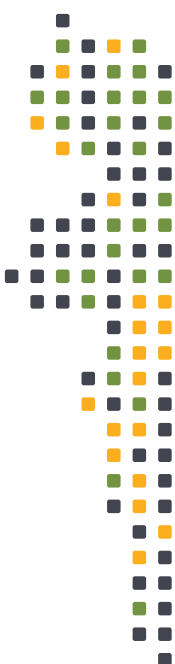
BRAC has introduced an annual Migration Media Award since 2015<sup>18</sup>, to formally acknowledge and promote objective journalism on migration. The nine categories range from newspaper journalism to broadcast and online journalism. Bangladeshi journalists both based in the country as well as abroad are eligible to apply. Panel of judges include a representative of the Ministry of Expatriate Welfare and Overseas Employment (MoEWOE), a teacher on mass Communication and Journalism, a prominent mass communication personality, and a representative of an international organization working on migration. For several years, the Award is sponsored by International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the European Union.

International Labour Organization (ILO) organizes a Global Media Competition on Labour Migration and Fair Recruitment<sup>19</sup> since 2015. Its main aim is to recognize and promote exemplary quality reporting on

17. <https://cfo.gov.ph/mam-awards/>

18. News report on BRAC Migration Media Award 2020 - <https://en.banglatribune.com/others/news/48449/13-journalists-get-Migration-Media-Awards>

19. [https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/labour-migration/news-statements/WCMS\\_755234/lang--en/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/labour-migration/news-statements/WCMS_755234/lang--en/index.htm)



labour migration and fair recruitment. The Award is given to two published media pieces and two synopses of stories. The synopsis category is open to both professional journalists and student journalists.

For 2020, specific coverage on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on migrant workers and their families, including the non-payment of wages – are encouraged.

The winners are selected by a panel of experts in international migration and journalism, judged on the basis of their creativity and accuracy, using appropriate terminology that protects migrants, promotes non-discrimination and highlight the benefits of safe labour migration and fair recruitment.

The Global Migration Film Festival<sup>20</sup> (GMFF) has been launched in 2016 by the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The objective of the GMFF is to use films as an educational tool that influence perceptions of and attitudes towards migrants, by focusing on social issues and creating a safe space for dialogue among migrants, their host communities and policy makers. The GMFF features films and documentaries that capture the promise and challenges of migration, and the unique contributions that migrants make to their new communities. Professional and emerging filmmakers across the world are eligible to participate, with films about the migrant experience according to the theme of the year for the Festival. The jury board include award winning film stars and UN Goodwill Ambassadors. The screenings take place around International Migration Day each year in variety of locations, from movie theatres to migrant communities and popular migration routes. Since 2016, IOM Bangladesh also organizes the festival periodically with the selection of winning films. Previous screenings were held in Dhaka and Cox's Bazar.

The Migration Media Award (MMA)<sup>21</sup> in EU - recognizes and rewards the journalistic excellence, relevance and newsworthiness of press pieces dealing with migration in the Euro-Mediterranean region. Journalists based in the EU or EU South partner countries like in the countries of North Africa are eligible to apply. Key objectives of the Award are:

- Put a focus on migration, its complexity, challenges and opportunities
- Contribute to a balanced narrative on migration
- Reward high quality reporting on migration



20. <https://www.iom.int/global-migration-film-festival>

21. <http://www.migration-media-award.eu/index.php/en/>





The Award page elaborates that the current on migration is more and more negative in Europe and across the world, compelling a review on how information on migration is gathered, shared and disseminated amongst different actors. The manner in which such information is presented often greatly influence both migration policy and public perception on migration globally. The awards are given in six categories - video, radio, online, print, multimedia and photography. For the first year in 2017, the award was given to 35 journalists and in 2018, 41 journalists were awarded. The winner stories are then published on the Award webpage. Awards are given on the basis of being 'time-intensive, un-sensationalistic, in-depth reporting and contributing to balance the narrative on migration, making it, evidence based, nuanced and less polarising'.

The competition is held with the support of the International Trade Union Confederation, the International Organisation of Employers, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ), Equal Times, Solidarity Centre, and Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA).



**2019 MIGRATION MEDIA AWARD**

**For Journalistic Excellence on Migration in the Euro-Mediterranean region**

For journalists based in the EU or in the EU South Partner Countries

**03 Languages**  
English, French & Arabic

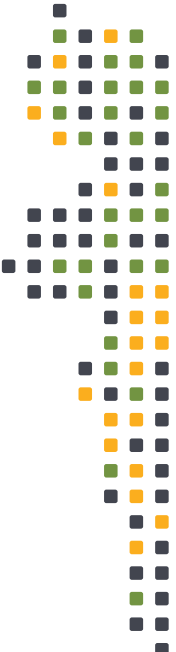
**06 Categories**  
Print, Online, Radio  
Video, Multimedia, Photo

**APPLY NOW** > **15 April** 2019

#MigrationMedia      [www.migration-media-award.eu](http://www.migration-media-award.eu)



# RESOURCES



## KEY FACTS AND FIGURES ON MIGRATION (as of November 2020)<sup>22</sup>

- 10 million Bangladeshis working in 173 countries, including 2 million in Saudi Arabia
- 2.2 million young men and women seek jobs every year in Bangladesh
- Domestic labour market can only absorb about 1 million
- About 700,000 (40% of the annual labour entrants) seek labour overseas
- About 40% of the migrant workers have studied up to middle school
- About 64% migrate from rural areas
- About 75% of them join the migrant labour force in Saudi Arabia
- Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Jordan, Lebanon, and Oman as top five countries of destination: 99 % are employed as domestic workers.
- 65% of them are lower skilled
- Between July 2019 to February 2020, 478,000 migrant workers went abroad
- Average migration cost for men BDT 230– 240 thousand and for women it is BDT 50,000
- Average monthly earnings by migrant workers are BDT 25,000 (BDT 24,000 for men, BDT 18,033 for women)
- Bangladesh is the 8<sup>th</sup> most remittance receiving country
- In 2018 Bangladeshis migrants remitted US\$15.54 billion
- Each year 50,000 Bangladeshis receive skills training: 35 % skilled; 48% low skilled.
- Main occupations for Bangladeshi migrant workers are in the hospitality and construction sector, and also in the domestic work, agriculture and manufacturing sector
- 18% of the annual migrant labour force are women
- Between 1991 and 2000 women migrating from Bangladesh constituted only 1 per cent
- In 2003 the Government lifted the ban on migration of low-skilled women migrant workers: by 2016, the proportion of women increased to 18 per cent
- In 2018, a total of 101,696 women migrated abroad for work
- Men remit more than women because they earn more, but women send back a greater portion of their earnings (72% women; 54 % men)
- In 2020, Bangladeshi migrants sent the highest amount of remittance. During July to October 2020, remittance received was USD 8.8 billion, which was USD 6.16 billion around the same time in 2019

## DEFINITIONS OF KEY MIGRATION TERMS

### *Definitions in the Overseas Employment and Migration Act, 2013*

**Migration:** "Migration" means the departure of a citizen from Bangladesh for the purpose of employment in a trade or profession in any foreign country.

**Migrant:** "Migrant" means any citizen of Bangladesh who has migrated to a foreign country for the purpose of overseas employment in any work or profession and is staying in that country.

22. Source: Bangladesh UN Network on Migration



**Migrant Worker:** “Migrant worker” or “worker” means any citizen of Bangladesh who, for wages:

- a) is in the planning process to migrate for work or is departing to any foreign country for work;
- b) is employed in a trade or profession in any foreign country; or
- c) has returned to Bangladesh at the end of the tenure of employment or without having completed the tenure of employment in a trade or profession from a foreign country;

### ***The UN Migration Agency (IOM)***

IOM defines a **Migrant** as any person who is moving or has moved across an international border or within a State away from his/her habitual place of residence, regardless of (1) the person's legal status; (2) whether the movement is voluntary or involuntary; (3) what the causes for the movement or (4) what the length of the stay is. ([https://www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/migration/index.html#:~:text=The%20UN%20Migration%20Agency%20\(IOM,the%20causes%20for%20the%20movement\)](https://www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/migration/index.html#:~:text=The%20UN%20Migration%20Agency%20(IOM,the%20causes%20for%20the%20movement)))

**Migrant:** An umbrella term used for a person who moves away from his or her place of usual residence, whether within a country or across an international border, temporarily or permanently, and for a variety of reasons (IOM, Glossary on Migration 2019).

An **international migrant:** defined as “any person who changes his or her country of usual residence” (UN DESA, 1998).

**Internal Migration:** The movement of people within a State involving the establishment of a new temporary or permanent residence.

**International Migration:** The movement of persons away from their place of usual residence and across an international border to a country of which they are not nationals.

**Regular Migration:** Migration that occurs in compliance with the laws of the country of origin, transit and destination.

**Irregular migration:** Movement of persons that takes place outside the laws, regulations, or international agreements governing the entry into or exit from the State of origin, transit or destination

**Country of destination:** In the migration context, a country that is the destination for a person or a group of persons, irrespective of whether they migrate regularly or irregularly.

**Country of destination:** In the migration context, a country that is the destination for a person or a group of persons, irrespective of whether they migrate regularly or irregularly.

**Country of transit:** In the migration context, the country through which a person or a group of persons pass on any journey to the country of destination or from the country of destination to the country of origin or of habitual residence.

**Integration:** The two-way process of mutual adaptation between migrants and the societies in which they live, whereby migrants are incorporated into the social, economic, cultural and political life of the receiving community. It entails a set of joint responsibilities for migrants and communities, and incorporates other related notions such as social inclusion and social cohesion.

**Reintegration:** A process which enables individuals to re-establish the economic, social and psychosocial relationships needed to maintain life, livelihood and dignity and inclusion in civic life.

**Smuggling of migrants:** The procurement, in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit, of the irregular entry of a person into a State Party of which the person is not a national or a permanent resident.

**Trafficking in persons:** The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation.



Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs.

**Migrants in vulnerable situations:** Migrants who are unable to effectively enjoy their human rights, are at increased risk of violations and abuse and who, accordingly, are entitled to call on a duty bearer's heightened duty of care.

### ***UN for Refugees and Migrants***

While there is no formal legal definition of an international migrant, most experts agree that an international migrant is someone who changes his or her country of usual residence, irrespective of the reason for migration or legal status. Generally, a distinction is made between short-term or temporary migration, covering movements with a duration between three and 12 months, and long-term or permanent migration, referring to a change of country of residence for a duration of one year or more. (<https://refugeesmigrants.un.org/definitions>)

### ***International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families, 1990***

The term "migrant worker" refers to a person who is to be engaged, is engaged or has been engaged in a remunerated activity in a State of which he or she is not a national. (<https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/cmw.aspx>)

The present Convention is applicable, except as otherwise provided hereafter, to all migrant workers and members of their families without distinction of any kind such as sex, race, colour, language, religion or conviction, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, nationality, age, economic position, property, marital status, birth or other status.

## **Relevant Issues (included in the OEMA 2013)**

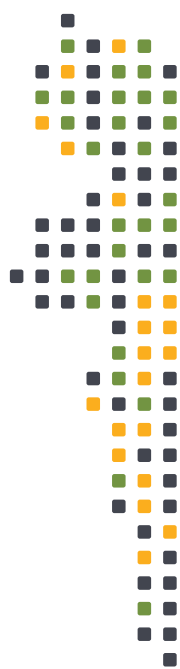
### ***Recruiting Agent***

A person willing to provide recruitment services to aspirant migrants. S/he has to apply to the Government for a licence in the manner and form prescribed, with relevant documents (trade license, TIN, tax payment certificate, police certificate, bank statements of financial solvency, in case of company – MoA, articles of association, certificate of incorporation, and upon payment of fees). They also have to provide an affidavit declaring that while sending migrant workers overseas, fees and other amounts in excess of the ceiling fixed by the Government shall not be charged and an undertaking to the effect that while sending workers overseas, false promises shall not be made to any person and that fraudulent actions shall not be practiced.

### ***Duties of the Recruitment Agent***

The duties of a recruitment agent shall be as follows:

- a) to protect the interest of migrant workers;
- b) to produce, when applicable, the migrant worker for registration to collect migration clearance;
- c) to employ the migrant worker in the job offered and provide wages and other benefits and to ensure a good workplace conditions in accordance with the terms and conditions of the employment contract, and to maintain communication with the employer for these purposes; and
- d) to discharge other duties as may be specified, from time to time, by the Government





## *Labour Welfare Wing*

Labour Welfare Wing is established (if deemed necessary) in Bangladesh Missions in any of the destination countries for the purpose of expanding reach into the labour market thereto or for protecting the rights of migrant workers.

### *Duties of the Labour Welfare Wing*

The Wing has duties specified in this Act. These are:

- (1) The authorized officer of the Labour Welfare Wing shall inspect the place of work where Bangladeshi migrant workers are to be employed in the concerned country and shall meet with the employers, when necessary.
- (2) Following the regular inspection: the authorized officer of the Labour Welfare Wing shall, in December of every year, send to the Government an annual report along with necessary recommendations relating to the condition of Bangladeshi migrant workers working in the concerned country. The report prepared under subsection
- (3) Shall contain the following information
  - a. a list of Bangladeshi migrant workers with names of trades and professions they are employed in, their working conditions, benefits and problems;
  - b. a list of cases brought against Bangladeshi migrant workers, if any, along with details thereof, and information about workers detained or convicted for offence;
  - c. a list of names of the migrant workers who have died, causes of their deaths, and whether they were compensated by the employer or not, or indication of possibility of getting compensation;
  - d. services, counselling, and legal assistance offered by the Bangladesh Mission or the steps taken to resolve the problems of migrant workers;
  - e. an estimation of the job opportunities of for the Bangladeshi workers in the concerned country and the current status of the implementation of any existing bilateral agreement regarding the rights of Bangladeshi migrant workers in such country; and
  - f. any other matter as may be specified by the Government from time to time.

### *Migrants' Rights*

- **Right to information:** Migrant workers shall have the right to be informed about the migration process, employment contract or the terms and conditions of the work overseas, and the right to know about their rights as per the law before his departure.
- **Legal aid:** Migrant workers and the persons who have become victims of fraud in the name of migration shall have the right to reasonable legal aid.
- **Right to file civil suit:** Without prejudice to the right to seek a criminal prosecution for any offence under this Act, a migrant worker, if affected by violation of any provision of this Act or of the employment contract, may file a civil suit for compensation.
- **Right to return home:**
  - A migrant worker, especially a worker detained or stranded, or otherwise is in situation of distress overseas, shall have the right to return to Bangladesh and to receive necessary assistance from the Bangladesh Mission in the concerned foreign country;
  - If any sum of money is spent for repatriating a migrant worker, the money so spent may be recovered from that person;
  - If a migrant worker in a situation of distress due to the negligence or illegal activity of a recruitment agent, the Government may direct the concerned recruitment agent to bear the costs of repatriation of that migrant worker;





- If a recruitment agent fails to pay the money ordered to be paid under the Subsection (3), the Government may recover the sum of money from the concerned recruitment agent in accordance with the provisions of the Public Demands Recovery Act, 1913 (Bengal Act No. III of 1913).
- **Financial and other welfare programmes:** For the purpose of welfare and development of migrant workers and the members of their families, the Government may, if necessary, undertake measures to launch, and make more accessible, bank loans, tax-exemptions, saving schemes, investment opportunities and other facilities.

### ***Offences, Penalties, and Trial***

It shall be considered an offence if a person or a recruitment agent charging unlawful amounts of fees, and such others:

- (1) sends or assists to send a person overseas for the purpose of employment or enters into contract on behalf of another person, in violation of provisions of this Act or of the Rules;
- (2) receives or attempts to receive any sum of money or a payment in any other form by giving a person a false undertaking to provide overseas employment;
- (3) detains, without any valid reason, the passport, visa, and migration-related documents of a migrant worker; and
- (4) makes a person fraudulently emigrates or induces a person to enter into a contract for migration by giving a false promise of high wages, benefits and facilities, or engages in fraudulent activities in any way with regard to a migrant worker; and, for that offence, the concerned person or the recruitment agent shall be punishable with imprisonment of a term which may be up to five years, and with a penalty, which shall not be less than Bangladeshi Taka One Lakh.

### ***Special Services for Women Migrant Workers' Welfare (WEWB Act, 2018)***

The Wage Earners' Welfare Board Act, 2018 includes the following special services for ensuring women migrant workers' welfare:

- Rescue, repatriation, provision of legal and medical assistance and recovery of compensation if any female migrant worker is physically abused and tortured, injured in an accident, ill or endangered due to any other reason; and, if necessary, establish and operate help desk and safe home.
- Planning and implementation of projects for social and economic rehabilitation and reintegration of returnee migrant workers

## **Sources of Information on Migration**

### **Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training (BMET)**

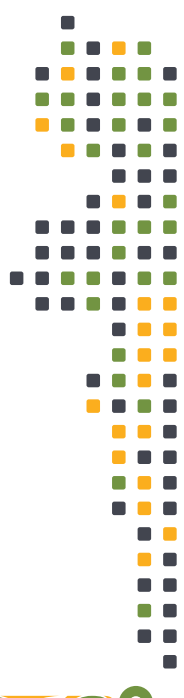
89/2 Kakrail, Dhaka 1000  
 Phone: +880-2-49357972, 49349925  
 Email: bmet@bmet.gov.bd  
 Website: www.bmet.gov.bd

### **Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment (MoEWOE)**

Eskaton Garden, Probashi Kalyan Bhaban, 5th Floor,  
 71, 72 Old Elephant Road, Dhaka 1000  
 Phone: +880-2-9334888

The Research Wing of the Expat Ministry and WEWB are located in the same building as the Ministry.

Following are lists of District Employment and Manpower Offices, more popularly known by its acronym DEMO (all over Bangladesh); DEMO offices are the executing organisations for BMET.



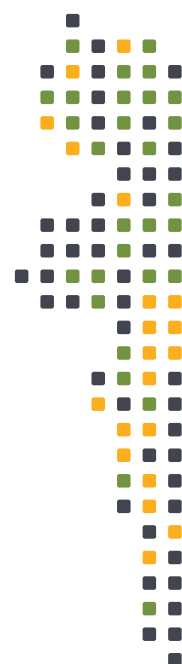
*The list of government as well as private TTCs (Technical Training Centre) are also attached herewith. The pre-departure trainings are mandatory for all potential migrants, which are provided at these centres along with other vocational trainings.*

## List of BMET and DEMO offices

Sl	District	Address	Telephone	E-mal
1.	Barisal	Alhaz Khadem Hossan Complex (2nd Floor), BM College Road	0431-63643	demobarisal@bmet.gov.bd
2.	Bogra	Gohail Road, Khandar	0521-66962	demobogra@bmet.gov.bd
3.	Bandarban	Master Shopping Centre, Main Road	4600 0361-62387	demobandarban@bmet.gov.bd
4.	Chattogram	CGO, Building No-2, Agrabad	031-720881, 721639	demochittagong@bmet.gov.bd
5.	Cumilla	Jawtola, Cumilla	081-65487	demoCumilla@bmet.gov.bd
6.	Dhaka	Probashi Kallyan Bhaban, 71-72, Elephant Road, Eskaton Garden	02-55138684-5	demodhaka@bmet.gov.bd
7.	Dinajpur	Gasipara, Dinajpur	0531-65059	demodinajpur@bmet.gov.bd
8.	Faridpur	Jamuna Bhaban, Mollahbari Road	0631-62620	demofaridpur@bmet.gov.bd
9.	Jamalpur	Vocational More, Bozrapur	0981-63160	demojamalpur@bmet.gov.bd
10.	Jessore	Plot No:64, Sector No: 2, Holding No: 5, New Market, Dhaka Road	0421-66916	demojessore@bmet.gov.bd
11.	Khulna	46, Polytechnic Road, Kalishpur	041-720910	demokhulna@bmet.gov.bd
12.	Kushtia	Matrichya 7/9, P.T.I Road	071-73386	demokustia@bmet.gov.bd
13.	Mymensingh	1, J.C. Guho Road	091-62996	demomymensingh@bmet.gov.bd
14.	Noakhali	Laki Mansion, Majidi Bazar	0321-61312	demonoakhali@bmet.gov.bd
15.	Pabna	Dhaka Road, Pabna	0731-65408	demopabna@bmet.gov.bd
16.	Patuakhali	College Road, Banani Lane	0441-62140	demopotuakhali@bmet.gov.bd
17.	Rajshahi	Ghater Road, Rajshahi	6000 0721-773376	demorajshahi@bmet.gov.bd
18.	Rangamati	Bijoy Sharani, Kalindipur	0351-62252	demorangamati@bmet.gov.bd
19.	Rangpur	House No-308 Road No - 05 (Shurjomukhi), Mulatola	0521-65429	demorangpur@bmet.gov.bd
20.	Sylhet	Mirja Villa, Pathantola	0821-717534	demosylhet@bmet.gov.bd
21.	Tangail	7/7, Abdul Mojid Bhuya Lane, Registipara	0921-53395	demotangail@bmet.gov.bd
22.	Manikganj	Zilla Porishad Bhaban, Manikgonj	02-7710230	demomanikganj@bmet.gov.bd



Sl	District	Address	Telephone	E-mal
23.	Munshiganj	14/1, East Dewvog, Munshiganj	02-7710230	demomunshiganj@bmet.gov.bd
24.	Narshingdi	West Brahmandi (Near Town Hall)	02-9462362	demonarshingdi@bmet.gov.bd
25.	Gopalganj	In front of DC office, Gopalganj	02-6685288	demogopalganj@bmet.gov.bd
26.	Kishoreganj	Gaital (Nearby Circuit House), Kishorgonj	01710756619	demokishoreganj@bmet.gov.bd
27.	Netrokona	Nagra (near officers' quarter)	01710756619	demonetrokona@bmet.gov.bd
28.	Chandpur	Aslam Mansion (2nd Floor), J.N. Sen Gupta Road	01554327689	demochandpur@bmet.gov.bd
29.	Feni	North Daktar Para, Feni	0331-74146	demofeni@bmet.gov.bd
30.	Cox's Bazar	Collectorate Bhaban (DC Office)	01195111660 0341-52208	democoxsbazar@bmet.gov.bd
31.	Khagrachhari	Halima Monjil, Shantinagar	0371-161959	demokhagrachhari@bmet.gov.bd
32.	Sirajganj	New Bogra Road, M.A. Motin Road	0751-64015	demosirajganj@bmet.gov.bd
33.	Chapai Nawabganj	Neamat Nagar (Oktroy signal),	0781-53091	demochapainawabganj@bmet.gov.bd
34.	Gaibandha	D.B. Road (Near fire service),	0541-61841	demogaibandha@bmet.gov.bd
35.	Joypurhat	Sadar Road, Amtoli, Joypurhat	0571-62131	demojoypurhat@bmet.gov.bd
36.	Chuadanga	Nijum Dip, Sadar Hospital Road, Thana Council Para	0761-62651	demochuadanga@bmet.gov.bd
37.	Shatkhira	In front of Main Post Office, Sahidnajmul Huq Sarani	0471-63240	demoshatkhira@bmet.gov.bd
38.	Bhola	Kalinath Bazar, Talukdar Road	049-162832	demobhola@bmet.gov.bd
39.	Borguna	College Branch Road, Borguna	0441-862256	demoborguna@bmet.gov.bd
40.	Jhenaidah	Asrafull Monjil, 58/1, Kabi Golam Mostofa Road, Arappur	0451-62919	demojhenaidah@bmet.gov.bd
41.	Panchagar	Sadar Road, Masjed Para	0568-61377	demopanchagar@bmet.gov.bd
42.	Maulovibazar	Khan Monjil, Borakapon and Shakhargio Road	0861-52199	demomaulovibazar@bmet.gov.bd

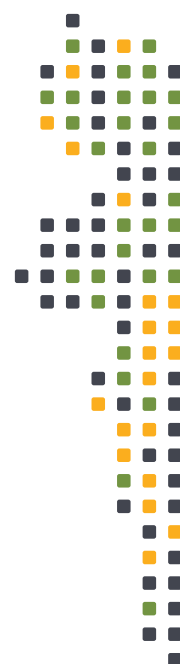


## List of TTCs

Sl	Name of Institutes	Address	Phone	Email
1.	BIMT, Narayanganj	Bandar, Narayanganj	7661119 01711392360	sharifa0096@gmail.com
2.	IMT, Faridpur	Beribad, Chunaghata, Faridpur Sadar	1816883821, 01781173431	imt.faridpur.gov@gmail.com
3.	IMT, Bagherhat	Boitpur, Daratana Bridge, Bagherhat Sadar	01731925605	imt.bagerhat@gmail.com
4.	IMT, Sirajganj	Mulibari, Saydabad, Sirajgonj	01552435677	principalimts@gmail.com
5.	IMT, Munshiganj	Borliya, Tungibari Munshiganj	01816342594	imt.munshigonj@gmail.com
6.	IMT, Chandpur	Gastola, Dakatia Nodi Bridge, Chandpur	01556305835	imtcha5@gmail.com akrambimt@gmail.com
7.	Bangladesh- German TTC, Mirpur, Dhaka.	Mirpur-2, Dhaka- 1216.	9002713, 9002018 01714822316	bgttc.1965@yahoo.com
8.	Bangladesh-Korea TTC, Mirpur, Dhaka	Darus-Salam, Mirpur, Dhaka-1216	9000184, 9000186, 01552398373	principalbkttc67@yahoo.com
9.	Bangladesh-Korea TTC, Chattogram	Nasirabad, Chattogram	031-682082 031-682673 01711273708	Chattogrambkttc@gmail.com
10.	TTC, Rajshahi	Sopura, Rajshahi	0721-761336, 761598 01842710856/ 01739474359	principalttcraj@gmail.com
11.	TTC, Khulna	KUET Road, Telegati, Khulna	041-2870047 01710490997	ttckhu@gmail.com
12.	TTC, Barisal	C & B Road, Barisal	0431-65072 01718596919	ttcbar@gmail.com
13.	TTC, Mymensingh	Maskanda, Mymensingh	091-63977 01711979417	ttcmyn@gmail.com
14.	TTC, Faridpur	Sree Angon, Faridpur	0631-62534 01715552310	faridpurttc@gmail.com
15.	TTC, Cumilla	Kotbari, Cumilla	081-65662, 65978, 01711585835	principalCumillattc@gmail.com
16.	TTC, Rangamati	College Gate, Rangamati	0351-62203, 62320 01818996945	ttcranga@yahoo.com
17.	TTC, Bogra	Nishindara, Shantahar Road	051-66391, 64617 01716514245	ttcbogra@yahoo.com
18.	Sheikh Fazilatunnesa Mujib Mohila TTC, Dhaka	Darus-Salam, Mirpur, Dhaka-1216	8054167 01715029096	sfmmttc@gmail.com
19.	TTC, Tangail	Jalfai, Ashekpur, Tangail	0921-62925 01711947860	ttctangail2014@gmail.com
20.	TTC, Kushtia	BSIC Moor, Churhas, Kushtia	071-62512 01716280022	kushtiattc@gmail.com



Sl	Name of Institutes	Address	Phone	Email
21.	TTC, Noakhali	Gabua, Begumganj, Noakhali	0321-62863 01843673245	noakhalittc@yahoo.com
22.	TTC, Dinajpur	Matasagor, Shekpura, Dinajpur	0531-51128 01199476563 01712070563	dinajpurttc@gmail.com
23.	TTC, Bandarban	Megla, Bandarban	0361-62867 01812597984	bandarbanttc@yahoo.com
24.	TTC, Sylhet	Alampur, Sylhet	0821-841800 01711986019	sylhetttc2@gmail.com
25.	TTC, Jessore	Khulna Road, Near Bus stand, Jessore	0421-68867 01712284092	jessorettc@gmail.com
26.	TTC, Patuakhali	Patuakhali Sadar, Patuakhali	0441-63676 01712754483	ttcpatuakhali@gmail.com
27.	TTC, Pabna	Laxinathpur, Pabna	01716205372	emdadul.31bd@yahoo.com
28.	TTC, Rangpur	Taluk Darmadas, Rangpur	01711731248	lutfar73@gmail.com
29.	TTC, Jamalpur	Beltia, Jamalpur	01712769871	jamalpurttc@gmail.com
30.	TTC, Thakurgaon	Goalpara, Thakurgaon	0561-53599 01711375538	ttcthakurgaon@gmail.com
31.	TTC, Lalmonirhat	Harivanga, Lalmonirhat	01718254773 01822850355	ttclal_45@yahoo.com
32.	TTC, Chapai-nawabganj	Barogoria, Chapai nawabganj	0773251049 01715150336	rahimpttc@yahoo.com
33.	TTC, Khagrachari	Golabari, Khagrachari	0371-61899 01832848148	khgttc@gmail.com
34.	TTC, Laxmipur	Khilbaisa, Masimnagar Laxmipur	0381-61958 01712806707	ttc.laxmipur@gmail.com
35.	TTC, Narshingdi	Shaspur, Shibpur Narshingdi	1710834885 01689016992	narsingdittc@gmail.com
36.	TTC, Natore	Basudebpur, Natore	0773251049 50 01714717012	ttcnatore@gmail.com
37.	Rajshahi Mohila TTC	Sopura, Rajahahi	0721-861407 01712110274	mttc.raj@gmail.com
38.	Khulna Mohila TTC	KUET Road, Telegati, Khulna	041-2870470 01712134667	kmmttc2010@yahoo.com
39.	Sylhet Mohila TTC	Alampur, Sylhet	0821-840503-04 01911569308	smttc61041@gmail.com
40.	Chattogram Mohila TTC	Nasirabad, Chattogram	0312-580523 01715010321	cmmttc2006@gmail.com
41.	Barisal Mohila TTC	C & B Road, Barisal	0431-61476 01818481126	mttcbarisal@gmail.com
42.	TTC, Jhenaidah	Arabpur, Jhenaidah	0451-61440 01716599162	jhenaidahttcj@gmail.com
43.	TTC, Keraniganj	Hazratpur, Keraniganj	02-7760037 01716373394	keranigonjttc@yahoo.com
44.	TTC, Sherpur	Ganopoddi, Nakla, Sherpur.	01920660576	ttcsherpurnokla@gmail.com
45.	TTC, Brahmanbaria	Chinair, Brahmanbaria	01730087723	bbariattc@gmail.com
46.	TTC, Kurigram	Technical College More, Kurigram	01558348415 01712991138	kurigramttc@gmail.com



Sl	Name of Institutes	Address	Phone	Email
47.	TTC, Rajbari	Ahlladhipur, Rajbari	01711780114	rajbarittc@gmail.com
48.	TTC, Bhola	Jaynagar, Bangla Bazar, Bhola	01816920434	moazzembh@gmail.com
49.	TTC, Nilphamari	Kukhapara, Nilphamari	01718758754	rasadul.mi@gmail.com
50.	TTC, Jhalokathi	Bikna, Jhalokhathi	01553285841	ttcjhalokathi@gmail.com
51.	TTC, Chuadanga	Vimrulla, Chuadanga	01712585555	ttcchuadanga@gmail.com
52.	TTC, Gopalganj	Gunapara, Gopalganj	01714545851, 01941427561	ttcgopalganj@gmail.com
53.	TTC, Narail	Dumurtala, Narail	01712040789	nttc.14@gmail.com
54.	TTC, Panchagarh	Baganbari, Panchagarh	01727499178	principalpanchagarhttc@gmail.com
55.	TTC, Joypurhat	Hanail, Joypurhat	01717016766	joypurhatttc@gmail.com
56.	TTC, Pirojpur	Mukterkathi, Pirojpur	01927817136	pirojpur.ttc@gmail.com
57.	TTC, Kishoreganj	Katabaria, Kishoreganj	01818959342	mhalmamun74@gmail.com
58.	TTC, Manikganj	West Bandutia, Manikganj	01726020454, 01616020454	atayabcitttc@gmail.com
59.	TTC, Borguna	Karaitala, Borguna	01819911361	borgunattc@yahoo.com
60.	TTC, Magura	Abalpur, Magura	01712775388	ttcmagura@gmail.com
61.	TTC, Gaibandha	Kholahati, Gaibandha Sadar	01718617847	ttc.gaibandha@gmail.com
62.	TTC, Madaripur	Charmuguria, Madaripur	01712088229	madaripurttc@gmail.com
63.	TTC, Satkhira	Binerpota, Satkhira	01720586572	satkhirattc@gmail.com
64.	TTC, Moulvibazar	Moulvibazar Sadar	01930842074	ttcmoulvibazar@gmail.com
65.	TTC, Shariatpur	Shariatpur Sadar	01720609580	shariatpurttc@gmail.com
66.	TTC, Naogaon	Naogaon Sadar	01715294771	ttcnaogaon@gmail.com
67.	TTC, Netrokona	Netrokona	01712488039	netrakonattc@gmail.com
68.	TTC, Meherpur	Meherpur	01718409112	meherpurttc@gmail.com
69.	TTC, Sunamganj	Sunamganj	01772003545	





## List of non-governmental TTCs

Institution Name	Address	Telephone and E-mail
Bismillah Technical Training and Testing Institute	House 53, Road 7, Block D, Vatulia, Turag	01713-020635 bismillah2000@gmail.com
Montague Training and Certification	142, 143 Miraspara, BSIC, I/A, Tongi, Gazipur	01914-861046 montagebd@yahoo.com
Greenland Training Centre	Ashulia Model Town, Demra	01847-100850 gm_gac@glandgroup.com
Basundhara Training and Testing Centre (BTTC)	Shekher Jaiga, Staff Quarter Road, Khilgaon, Dhaka-1219	01762-696042 info@bashundhara-ttc.com
Learn to Earn	House 18, Road 1, Block D, Mirpur-2, Dhaka	01913511540 learntoearn.bangla@yahoo.com
Skill and Productivity Limited (SPL)	56/7 N, Polashnagar, Section-11, Pollobi, Mirpur	01817140501 aminul@spl-bd.org
SAIC Institute of Management and Technology (SIM)	965, East Shaorapara, Rokeya Shoroni, Mirpur	01715016193, 01936005580 simt.dhaka@gmail.com
Desh Polytechnics College (DPC)	Section 11, Block A, Road 3, House 1, Pollobi, Mirpur	0191044990-3, 01766536678 dpc_mass@yahoo.com dpcmas@gmail.com
Ideal Institute of Science and Technology (IIST)	105, Shenpara, Porbota, Mirpur-10	01711605657 list.ecc@gmail.com
Glorious Technical Training Institute (GTI)	19/4, Goran Chatbari, Mirpur-1	01938849503 Mazed.bas@gmail.com
Shaymoli Ideal Technical College (SITC)	16/C-D, Nurjahan Road, Bashbari, Mohammedpur	01712634871 saju070573@yahoo.com
SKUS Technical Training Centre (STTC)	Javed, Road-1, House-6, Kathalganj A/A, Chottogram	01711307601 skus.ctg@gmail.com sttc.ctg@gmail.com
Siam Training Centre	Hossain Ahmed Para (Khalpara), Potenga, Chottogram	01817780199 md.rafiqulislam7710@gmail.com shaon7701@gmail.com
Amin Technical Training Centre	1318 Moynar Tek, Ziabagh, Uttarkhan, Uttara, Dhaka	01715670004 amin.tech.bd@gmail.com
Skill Development Training Centre	Ajampur, Uttarkhan, Dhaka	01713003520 skilldti@gmail.com
Dolphin Occasional Training Centre	North Medinimondol (Mawa), Louhojong, Munshiganj	01713063877 dolphin_global@yahoo.com santo_iqb@yahoo.com
Livelihood Development Training Institute (LDTI)	Holding-1317, East Modontek (Haq Villa), Krishi Bank Road, Sabujbagh, Dhaka-1214	01711055163 anikaldti@gmail.com
Chuadanga Model Computer Institute and Technology (CMIT)	Chuadanga Bazar (Near Police Station), Isobpur Bottola, Chuadanga, Jessore	01799428594 monir2u@yahoo.com
Glamour Boutique House and Training Centre (GBHTC)	Ghop, Jail Road, Jessore	01760198457 parvin.jessore@gmail.com
Sundarban Institute of Technology (SIT)	161, Jail Sarani, Boyra, Khulna	041-2851333, 01730173474 mahfuzsit@gmail.com
Juthi Training Centre (GTC)	Sangalosi, Nilphamari	01717361424 kamrulhasan017kh@gmail.com
Mollah Sweater Training Centre (MTC)	Sangalosi, Nilphamari	01722080172 mollatrainingcenter@gmail.com



Institution Name	Address	Telephone and E-mail
Habibur Rahman Sweater Training Centre (HRST)	EPZ Turn, Sangalosi, Nilphamari	01738051553 habib_hrstc@hotmail.com
RISDA Institute of Technology (RIT)	Birulia, Savar, Dhaka	01552 350687 hemayet68@yahoo.com
Ayat Skill Development Centre (ASDC)	Jirabo, Ashulia, Savar, Dhaka	02 9851895 01720-388268 nusratferozaman@gmail.com
Unique Vocational Training Centre Ltd. (UVTC)	Road-08, Ward-07, Block-C, Goshbagh, Ashulia, Dhaka-1341	01769501643 zhtusar@hotmail.com
Al Islam Technical and Education Institute (ATEC)	Anarkali, Aukpara, Ashulia, Savar, Dhaka	01985903055 al-islam@aitlbd.net
The New St. Mary's Training Centre	A-88/2, East Rajashon, Birulia Road, Savar, Dhaka	01712016065 rahulrjph@yahoo.com
Dream Skill Development and Research Institute (DSDRI)	House-1, Road-5, Block-G/1, Mirpur-2, Dhaka	01789333366, 01794515763, 01760198457 dream7md@gmail.com
Muktijoddhya Science and Technology College (MSTC)	Bokshiganj, Jamalpur	01711526366 mbpcollege@yahoo.com
Underprivileged Children's Educational Programme (UCEP), Bangladesh	Plot 2-3, Mirpur-2, Dhaka-1216	
Sadia International	House-88, Road-17/A, Block-E, Banani, Dhaka	

# অভিবাসী তথ্য কেন্দ্র

# MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE

## MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE

Dhaka: DEMO Dhaka, Ground Floor  
Probashi Kallyan Bhaban  
71-72 Old Elephant Road  
Eskaton Garden  
Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh  
Mobile: +8801730666936

Cumilla: DEMO Cumilla  
25, Chandala House  
Bagichagaon  
Cumilla-3500  
Bangladesh  
Mobile: +8801713086330

✉ info@mrc-bangladesh.org  
🌐 www.mrc-bangladesh.org  
📘 Migrant Resource Centre Bangladesh  
📷 mrc\_bangladesh  
🐦 mrc\_bangladesh

Supported by



Federal Foreign Office

Implemented by



**ICMPD**

International Centre for  
Migration Policy Development

