Return and Reintegration of Migrant Workers in Bangladesh

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domain of intervention:</th>
<th>Safer Migration</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Implementation period:</td>
<td>01.01.2019 – 31.12.2020</td>
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<td>Implementing partner:</td>
<td>BRAC</td>
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<td>SDC contribution:</td>
<td>CHF 1.33 million</td>
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<td>Modality:</td>
<td>Co-financing with the Embassy of Denmark</td>
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General description
Migration is the second largest contributor to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in Bangladesh, but little is done to make the remittances of migrants sustainable. There is no regulatory framework for socio-economic reintegration of returnee migrants and no obligation of duty bearers to this group of migrants. The project is a strategic opportunity for the Embassy of Switzerland to collaborate more closely with the Danish Embassy, a European representation with a development-oriented perspective, on the political topic of migration and return. Working on return and reintegration from a development perspective will also expedite the political discussions (of the European Union) for reintegration of deportees from Europe to Bangladesh.

Objectives
The objective of this single phase project is to improve the well-being of migrant workers and their families after return to Bangladesh. The project is based on the hypothesis that if the government has a framework for managing return and reintegration and if returnee migrant workers can access services for reintegration in Bangladesh, then they will be able to use remittances for productive purposes and benefit from the income earned, thus linking migration to development. One million men and women will be made aware of the importance of reintegrating migrant workers and about 5'000 men and women returnees will be reintegrated economically and socially, in their communities.

Lines of action / components
- Providing skills trainings to the men and women returnees
- To ensure that the returnee women migrants receive counselling for reintegration
- Civil Society Organizations advocate to the Government of Bangladesh for the welfare of returnee migrants
- Duty bearers are trained on the support needed for reintegration of returnee migrant workers
- Returnee migrants and/or their families receive financial literacy training

Intended impact in terms of systemic change
The intended impact of the project is that the Government of Bangladesh initiates the framework for reintegration of men and women migrant workers, so that migrants can make their migration experience sustainable (through productive utilization of remittances) and are not forced to re-migrate. Alongside, service delivery models for returnees will also be tested to formulate an evidence-based policy for reintegration.

Results to date
The project has reached out to 320'000 people through outreach activities until now. Until June 2019, the project has provided more than 7'000 beneficiaries with various services. The project has also provided emergency on arrival support to 1'047 returnee migrants upon their return at the airport. About 7'000 families of migrant workers have received remittance management trainings and within 2 months, about 20% of those families have started microenterprises.