

# ASIA-PACIFIC FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT 2019

“Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality”

27-29 March 2019 | UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE CENTRE . BANGKOK, THAILAND

## Empowering migrants through safe, orderly and regular migration in Asia and the Pacific

**Venue:** UNCC Meeting Room G

**Date:** 29 March 2019

**Time:** 10:45-12:15

**Organizers:** Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security, Government of Nepal; ESCAP; ILO; IOM; UNDP; UN-Women

### Background:

Migration is a defining trend of today’s globalized world and a megatrend within the Asia and Pacific region. In 2017, there were over 62 million migrants in the region, over half of them being women, and over 101 million people from countries of the region lived outside their countries of birth. The Asia-Pacific and the Arab States host around 34 per cent of the world’s migrant workers, over 56 million in total.

Migrants contribute to sustainable development, but they are also at risk of being left behind, especially women migrants and children. Recognizing this fact and focusing on means to maximize the benefits of migration, United Nations Member States adopted the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (Marrakech Compact on Migration) on 19 December 2019.

The Global Compact is firmly rooted in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Several SDGs and their corresponding targets and indicators under review this year are closely related to migration. In particular:

- SDG 8.8: “Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for ... migrant workers, in particular women migrants, ...”
- SDG 10.7: “Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, ...”
- SDG 10.c: “By 2030, reduce to less than 3% the transaction costs of migrant remittances and eliminate remittance corridors with costs higher than 5%”
- SDG 16.2: End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children
- SDG 17.18: “... to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by ... migratory status, ...”

### Scope:

The event seeks to highlight the relevance of the Marrakech Compact on Migration in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for the Asia-Pacific region. The focus will be on actions in the region to ensure a rights-based and gender sensitive implementation of the commitments contained in the Compact, including priority areas, means to promote cooperation, and engagement of Governments, civil society actors, social partners and other stakeholders.

**Key Questions:**

- How does the Marrakech Compact on Migration support efforts to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific?
- How can regional cooperation play a role in implementing the Marrakech Compact?
- What are the priority areas and next steps towards implementing the Marrakech Compact to ensure empowerment, inclusion and equality for all? Are there any low hanging fruits one should focus on first?
- Have countries in the region already taken concrete steps in implementing the Marrakech Compact? Are there any examples?
- How will the implementation of the Marrakesh Compact be reviewed at the global and regional levels?

**Programme**

<u>Time</u>	<u>Agenda</u>
10.45-10.50	Welcome – Mr. Hongjoo Hahm, Deputy Executive Secretary, ESCAP
10.50-11.00	Keynote presentation – Ms. Panudda Boonpala, Deputy Regional Director, ILO
11.00-11.45	Panel discussion – Moderator: Ms. Nenette Motus, Regional Director, Asia-Pacific, International Organization for Migration <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mr. Ram Prasad Ghimire, Joint Secretary Foreign Employment, Nepal Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security</li><li>• Ms. Anna-Karin Jatfors, Deputy Regional Director Asia-Pacific, UN-Women</li><li>• Ms. Sringatin, Indonesian Migrant Workers Union</li><li>• Professor Sriprapha Petcharamesee, Chair, Institute of Human Rights and Peace Studies, Mahidol University</li></ul>
11.45-12.10	Q&A
12.10-12.15	Closing

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