

THE RISKS AND REALITIES FACING ETHIOPIAN WOMEN MIGRATING FOR DOMESTIC WORK

1 LEAVING ETHIOPIA

WHY DO ETHIOPIAN WOMEN MIGRATE?

- Fleeing conflict, persecution and natural disasters
- Earn a better living
- Job or education opportunities
- Escaping gender inequalities

OBSTACLES TO MIGRATING SAFELY INCLUDE LACK OF:

- Training
- Information
- Documentation eg passports
- Funds
- Time to prepare their migration

The use of illegal recruitment agencies and smugglers increases the risk of abuse and exploitation.

2 THE JOURNEY

RISKS

- Sexual and gender-based violence
- Exploitation
- Running out of money
- Getting stuck
- No food and water
- Extreme weather
- Exhaustion
- Trafficking

TRAFFICKING

Types of trafficking:

- Sexual exploitation
- Forced labour
- 71% of those trafficked from Ethiopia are women

HALF A MILLION WOMEN MIGRATE TO THE MIDDLE EAST FOR DOMESTIC WORK EVERY YEAR

WHAT CAN BE DONE?

- Create laws and policies that work for migrant domestic workers.
- Ensure migrant domestic workers have safe working conditions and fair pay.
- Provide migrant domestic workers with the information they need to make informed decisions.
- Ensure that migrant domestic workers have the healthcare and support they need.
- Support migrant domestic workers after they return home.
- Provide migrant domestic workers who are survivors of gender-based violence with access to essential services.

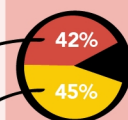
4 RETURNING HOME

UPON RETURN, MANY EXPERIENCE

- Social stigma and discrimination
- Issues finding work
- Issues getting health care and support
- Limited or no access to essential services for survivors of gender-based violence

UPON RETURN:

- Continued to be unemployed
- Continued to be domestic workers



FORCED RETURN

3 LIFE AS A DOMESTIC WORKER

WORKING CONDITIONS

- Physical, sexual and psychological abuse
- Very long workdays
- Not given enough food
- Locked away and isolated
- Passport and phone removed
- Discrimination
- No payment
- No pension or medical care

HEALTH RISKS

- Injuries on the job
- Negative impacts on physical and mental health

PAY AND REMITTANCES

- Ethiopian migrant women domestic workers earn US\$150 - US\$500 per month
- Some send up to 80 - 90% of their earnings home to family.

READ THE FULL BRIEF:

