

NO BORDERS TO EQUALITY: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

REALITIES OF WOMEN IN MIGRATION

- » Women in migration's **access to services**—including housing, health care, and education—is the top priority for respondents.
- » **Violence against women** is a major concern for women in migration. Almost 60 percent of the organizations surveyed work with survivors of violence.
- » Black and Indigenous women migrants face particular challenges. The surveyed organizations saw **multiple discriminations** as a top concern for women in migration.
- » The organizations surveyed work mostly with **undocumented migrant women**. Irregular status keeps migrant women in fear, living and working in precarious circumstances, limiting their access to jobs, services, safety, and justice.
- » Women migrant workers are highly concentrated in **domestic work**, while also participating in services, agriculture, and manufacturing, according to those surveyed.
- » **Climate change** is an emerging issue driving migration, noted by respondents in several regions.
- » **COVID-19** has meant a loss of livelihoods, intensification of poverty and hunger, and the rise of domestic violence and other forms of gender-based violence for women in migration, according to those surveyed.
- » Most of the organizations surveyed are aware of the **UN Global Compact for Safe, Regular**

and **Orderly Migration (GCM)**, though few are working on implementation of the compact.

TAKING STOCK

Based on survey data, WIMN and FES have made the following assessments:

Challenges Faced by Civil Society Organizations:

- » **Limited resources and lack of capacity** make it hard for the organizations surveyed to go beyond addressing immediate needs.
- » **Feminist movements** have only begun to put migration on their policy agenda. More can be done to make migrant women's voices heard within feminist networks and organizations.
- » **LGBTIQ+ migrants' issues** are not on the agendas of most mainstream migrant civil society organizations. Specific organizations that defend and promote the rights of LGBTIQ+ migrants, asylum seekers, and refugees at national levels, along with international LGBTIQ+ rights organizations, have begun to change this.
- » The report also assesses **public policy challenges** affecting the lives of women in migration based on the responses of the organizations surveyed and makes recommendations for governments in this sense (see Taking Stock chapter).

Moving Forward: Recommendations for Strategy and Organizing

- » Build **cross-sectoral alliances** based on the multiple identities of women in migration as



well as their diverse locations and concerns to bridge feminist, labor, migrant, climate justice, economic justice, and other sectors.

- » Integrate **LGBTIQ+** migrant's, asylum seeker's, and refugee's concerns into both migrant and feminist organizational agendas and spaces and recognize the leadership of LGBTIQ+ people on the move.
- » Recognize and address the **particular realities of Black and Indigenous migrants**, beginning with deliberate, inclusive outreach and alliance building with Black and Indigenous migrant organizations.
- » Create spaces for dialogue among grassroots migrant women's organizations and **feminist movements** within countries.
- » Recognize women's **urgent survival needs** while also supporting migrant women leaders in roles of organizing and advocacy to claim rights.
- » Make use of the **Global Compact for Migration's** Whole-of-Society Approach to advocate for the rights of women in migration by documenting women's lived experiences and building a common advocacy agenda led by women in migration.
- » Utilize **ILO Conventions 189** (Domestic Workers) and **190** (Gender-Based Violence in the World of Work) in global campaigns that center women in migration and build cross-sectoral alliances.