



COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT NETWORK



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Enhancing the Development Potential of Migrant Domestic Workers Through International Labour Agreements



Insieme, per un mondo possibile.



The thesis entitled “Enhancing the development potential of migrant domestic workers through international labour agreements” aims at analysing whether the international labour agreements enhance the development potential of migrant domestic workers. The research is based on empirical analysis comprising of case studies of ten selected countries grouped by five migration corridors: Paraguay – Argentina, Zimbabwe – South Africa, Indonesia – Malaysia, Nepal – Lebanon, Ukraine – Poland. The analysis contains evaluation of the work quality conditions of migrant domestic workers as well as their legislative protection. Different levels of cooperation between states regarding labour migration were outlined, namely multilateral, regional and bilateral agreements and other instruments. The sources are qualitative and quantitative data of the ILO databases and estimates provided by the UN agencies and national Ministries.

The spectrum of vulnerabilities and barriers to mobility that migrant domestic workers face were outlined in the research. Special attention was dedicated to the role of workers’ and civil society organizations in improving the labour rights conditions of migrant domestic workers. The detailed explanation was given to the lack of protection mechanisms in the existing labour agreements as well as the importance of their adoption was highlighted in the light of a valuable

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contribution of migrant domestic workers to social, economic and human development of the countries of destination and origin.

Key words: *migrant domestic workers, labour migration, exploitation and vulnerability of MDWs, international labour agreements, ILO instruments, development impact of MDWs.*

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