

# Better migration, stronger systems, shared prosperity

## Skills-driven, responsible and development-oriented solutions across borders

Are you a public or private organisation seeking to support migration in ways that are effective, ethical and grounded in labour market realities?

Do you want labour mobility to deliver **lasting benefits** for migrants, communities, and economies — rather than short-term or fragmented results?

Helvetas works at the intersection of **skills development, employment systems and safe migration** to help turn labour mobility into a **shared development opportunity** for countries of origin and destination.

## A development partner for responsible labour mobility

Labour mobility is increasingly shaping labour markets worldwide. Ageing populations and labour shortages in many high- and middle-income countries coexist with large youth cohorts facing limited employment opportunities elsewhere. When well governed, labour mobility can reduce poverty, address skills shortages and contribute to inclusive growth. When poorly managed, it exposes migrants to exploitation and undermines development gains.

Helvetas **brings long-standing operational experience and systems-level expertise** to help ensure labour mobility works better — for people, for labour markets and for societies of origin and destination.



Plumber skills training for migrants, Nepal, @Helvetas

# What sets us apart

## Locally grounded, globally relevant

Helvetas' long-term presence and trusted local partnerships ensure that labour mobility interventions are **grounded in real-world contexts**, institutional realities and labour market dynamics — leading to solutions that are feasible, scalable and sustainable.

## Connecting skills and mobility

A defining strength of Helvetas lies in **linking labour mobility with vocational skills development and employment systems**. We work with training providers, recruitment agencies, employers and public institutions to align skills development with labour demand — including international labour markets — while promoting recognition of skills, work-based learning and career progression.

## Working across the migration ecosystem

Rather than treating migration as a single event, Helvetas strengthens the **full labour mobility ecosystem**, including: Pre-departure preparation and information, ethical recruitment and protection mechanisms, skills recognition and certification, employer engagement and labour market matching, reintegration and skills utilisation upon return

## Driven by results, built for impact

Together with partners, Helvetas co-creates solutions that strengthen institutions, foster ownership and deliver **measurable, lasting impact** for migrants, families, employers and communities.

# Our core strengths

- **Deep operational experience** in safe labour migration and vocational skills development
- **Work across the entire migration cycle:** preparation, recruitment, employment abroad, return and reintegration
- **Systems approach** linking skills systems, labour markets, migration governance and protection
- **Presence and partnerships** across key migration corridors in South Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe and beyond
- **Field-based credibility combined with advisory capacity**, supporting both implementation and system reform

# Our experience

Helvetas works at the intersection of **safe labour migration, vocational skills development, and employment promotion**, supporting people to improve their livelihoods through safer migration pathways, stronger skills, and better access to work opportunities.

Our experience spans the full development cycle across Eastern Europe, the Western Balkans, Asia, Africa, and Latin America, with a strong focus on linking training and labour market systems to private sector needs and promoting shared ownership between public and private actors.

**Our work** includes:

- Labour-market and skills demand analysis
- Strengthening training providers and systems
- Promoting inclusive work-based learning and employability pathways
- Supporting job placement, self-employment, entrepreneurship, and reintegration
- Improving access to reliable migration information, labour rights awareness, and fair recruitment practices
- Strengthening mobility preparation, financial literacy, psychosocial support, and grievance mechanisms in case of abuses
- Supporting the productive use of remittances and recognition of skills acquired abroad

Helvetas has particularly **strong operational experience** in the South Asia–Arab States migration corridor (pre-departure and reintegration stage), especially in Nepal and Bangladesh, while also supporting youth on the move in West and North Africa through learning-to-earning pathways.

*In 2025, Helvetas capacitated 960k individuals affected by migration to know their rights and access services, supported 1,700 actors to improve services for migrants, helped 183k people increase their income, and enabled 33k people to access new or better employment.*



Pre-decision making orientation session, Bangladesh, @Helvetas

## Our offer

### Designing and co-creating labour mobility solutions

- Labour mobility and skills systems analysis
- Programme and strategy design at the intersection of migration and employment
- Facilitation of multi-stakeholder processes across origin and destination contexts

### Learning, evidence and reflection

- Thematic studies and analytical briefs on labour mobility and skills
- Design and facilitation of learning exchanges and communities of practice
- Documentation of operational lessons and good practices

### Contribution to policy dialogue grounded in field experience

- Scaling and sustaining impact
- Development of practical tools, training modules and methodologies
- Capacity development for public institutions, service providers and civil society
- Coaching and technical backstopping for programme implementation
- Support to mainstream labour mobility solutions in local institutions and systems



Welding training, Ukraine @Helvetas

## Who we work with

- Bilateral and multilateral donors
- Public institutions in countries of origin and destination
- Philanthropic foundations and networks, including those engaging on migration, skills, employment and social inclusion
- Private sector actors, employers and training providers
- Civil society organisations and migrant support actors

## Our ambition

Make labour mobility work better for people, for economies and for societies of origin and destination – by connecting skills development, labour markets and migration governance in a coherent, responsible and evidence-based way.

## Learn more and get in touch

<https://www.helvetas.org/en/switzerland/how-you-can-help/follow-us/blog/migration/labor-mobility-in-an-age-of-demographic-imbalance>