## GFMD Platform for Partnerships: Calls for Action

# The International Recruitment Integrity System (IRIS)

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## Negative Impacts of Unethical Recruitment

- Exorbitant recruitment fees
  - Debt bondage, forced labour
  - Links with human trafficking and smuggling
  - Human and labour rights abuses
- False promises or misrepresentations of the job offer
  - Low wages and exploitative working conditions
- Compromised integrity of labour market/ immigration systems
  - Visa overstaying, problems with integration, downward pressure on wages and working conditions of national workforce
- Costs for Employers
  - Exacerbated skills mismatches, low retention rates, reputational damage

# UN Priority: Lowering Costs of Migration

 2013 High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development

Global Forum on Migration and Development

Post-2015 Development Agenda

### Complexities and Challenges

- Lack of recruitment regulations
- Inadequate enforcement of existing laws
- Inconsistency among legal frameworks
- Jurisdictional gaps or "loopholes" in the enforcement of regulations governing recruitment

## Public Private Alliance (PPA) for Fair and Ethical Recruitment

 A consortium of like-minded governments, businesses and civil society organizations

A consultative platform for involved parties

#### **PPA Goals**

Commitment: unite to eliminate unethical recruitment by strengthening fair recruitment practices

to increase

Collaboration: governments, companies & civil society

to drive

Coherence: among the efforts of many actors across sectors and regions

#### **PPA Outcome**

Practical tools for

governments and companies

to ensure ethical labour recruitment

# The International Recruitment Integrity System (IRIS)

- Global voluntary accreditation system for intermediaries committed to fair recruitment practice
- Strengthen implementation and enforcement of existing regulations
- Improve migrant workers' safety and protection



#### **Three Pillars of IRIS**

- Guiding Principles of fair recruitment practice
- Accreditation & compliance framework
- Referral protocol that links to remedial mechanism, e.g. government regulation, law enforcement, litigation



### **Steps Forward**

- June 16-17: IRIS Expert Meeting (sponsored by the Government of Australia)
- Development of the accreditation and compliance framework
- Development of pilot projects to test IRIS
   (seeking partnerships with Government, the
   private sector and civil society groups)
- Call for financial support for the PPA to further develop IRIS, other practical initiatives

### Call for a Multi-Stakeholder Approach

- Governments need to improve the regulation of recruitment intermediaries
- End-user companies need to ensure fair recruitment practices throughout supply chains
- Recruitment intermediaries need to commit to fair recruitment practices
- Civil society organizations need to support these efforts with intelligence from the ground up

#### For more information:

