

EASY READ VERSION

Voluntary Review Report (VRR) on the status of implementation of the Global Compact for safe, orderly and regular Migration (GCM) in ASEAN, the Disability Migration Network (DMN)

International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) 2026

NOTE

There are some words in this document that might be hard to read or understand.

Hard words in this document are in a **blue bold** print.

You can click on these **blue bold** words, and it will take you to a definition of these words on page 14 and page 15.

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BACKGROUND



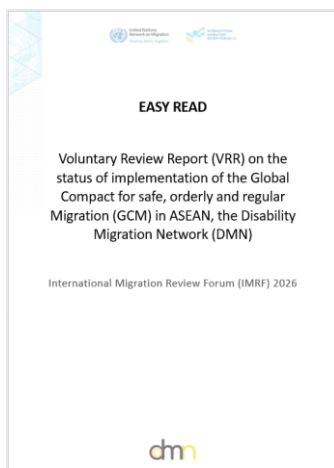
The Global Compact for Migration (GCM) aims to protect all migrants.

The GCM guides governments on how to create fair and safe policies and practices for migrants.

The International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) is a global meeting held every four years.



Governments, United Nations, and other organisations come together to talk about the Global Compact for Migration (GCM) to understand how migration can be safer and fairer for everyone.



A Voluntary Review Report (VRR) is a document that a government or a regional, national or local organisation choose to write.

It explains what the country or region has done to make migration safer and fairer, and what still needs to improve.



The Disability Migration Network (DMN) is a group led by Organisations of Persons with disabilities (OPDs).

It works to make migration rules and systems safe and fair for persons with disabilities.

(0) INTRODUCTION



Persons with disabilities have the same Rights as everyone else to move between countries and be safe.

This Right is protected by the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD).



The Asia-Pacific region has many migrants and more than 750 million persons with disabilities.

As migration numbers increase, more persons with disabilities will also migrate.



People often migrate to find safety, jobs, and better living conditions, especially because of poverty, discrimination, war, or climate problems.



Many migration governance systems are not designed to include persons with disabilities.

Some laws and policies make it harder for persons with disabilities to travel, work, and access their Rights.



Research shows that migrant workers with disabilities face more problems during migration.

They often rely on unsafe migration pathways.



These problems include, misinformation, higher costs, workplace discrimination, longer work weeks, restricted access to work permits and job loss.

These problems can also affect them when they return home.

(1) METHODOLOGY AND PROCESS OF REVIEW



This report was written by the Disability Migration Network (DMN).

This report shares information about migration and disability in ASEAN.



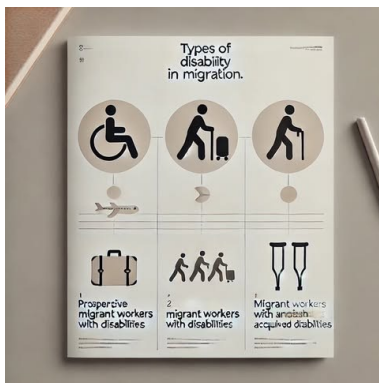
To make this report, we read reports and research from the internet.

We also collected written inputs from organisations of persons with disabilities (OPDs) about their experiences with migration.

(2) POLICY AND ENABLING ENVIRONMENT



Since 2022, the Secretary-General Report say that migrants in vulnerable situations, including persons with disabilities, face higher risks of human rights violations.



Persons with disabilities interact with labour migration in many ways, such as:

- Persons with disabilities may migrate for work,
- Persons without disabilities may become disabled during migration.
- Persons with disabilities may move with family members.
- Persons with disabilities may stay behind when family members migrate.



Migration systems still do not include disability well.

Many policies talk about equality and protection, but they are not always adapted to the needs of migrants with disabilities.



Many migration pathways are not available or accessible for persons with disabilities.

Recruitment systems, medical exams, government procedures, and social protection often do not help persons with disabilities.

(3) SUMMARY OF PROGRESS AND EVALUATION OF MEASURES TAKEN SO FAR



Many countries wrote Voluntary Review Reports (VRRs) about migration in 2022.

But disability was not mentioned much.



When disability was mentioned, it was often seen as a welfare or support issue, such as disability benefits, not as a key part of migration policy.



In ASEAN countries, persons with disabilities can face extra barriers, such as problems getting birth registration, identity documents, or permission to travel.



Some immigration laws and systems still discriminate against persons with disabilities, especially persons with intellectual or psychosocial disabilities.



Since the 2022 International Migration Review Forum (IMRF), progress has been slow for persons with disabilities.

Disability is still often missing from migration data, policies, and decision-making.

(4) CONCLUSION AND NEXT STEPS



Migrant workers with disabilities are often invisible in migration policies and discussions.



Persons with disabilities face many barriers during migration, such as hard-to-access information, unfair immigration laws and medical exams, and limited access to services, social protection, and support when they return home.



To make migration better for persons with disabilities:

**Become A
Member**

Organisations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs) should be included in migration decision-making at local, national, and regional levels.



To make migration better for persons with disabilities:

Governments and migration services should provide training on disability inclusion and make information and services accessible (for example sign language, Braille, and accessible digital information).



To make migration better for persons with disabilities:

Countries should collect better data on disability.

There should also be a global event led by Organisations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs) on disability, migration and refugees.



To make migration better for persons with disabilities:

Disability, alongside gender and children, should be a guiding principle of the Global Compact for Migration (GCM).

THE END

Thank you for reading.

This report was produced by the Disability Migration Network (DMN).

For inquiries about producing easy-to-read resources, please contact our team at disabilitymigrationnetwork@gmail.com.

All pictures and clipart are either AI generated or obtained from:

<https://clipart-library.com>

GLOSSARY

Accessible	<p>Something that is easy to use for persons with disabilities. Such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ramps to get into a building • Information is easy to read • Information in sign language
ASEAN	A group of countries in Southeast Asia that work together on things like trade, safety, and development.
Barriers	Things that make it hard for persons with disabilities to take part fully (for example, stairs, hard-to-read forms, or bad attitudes).
Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)	A global agreement that protects the rights of persons with disabilities and ensures they are treated equally.
Discrimination	Discrimination means treating someone unfairly or differently because of things like their race, gender, disability, or other characteristics.
Government	The group of people who make decisions and rules for a country.
Human rights violations	When a person's rights are not respected or are taken away.
Immigration laws	Rules that say who can enter, live, or work in a country.
Medical exam	A check-up by a doctor to see if someone is healthy. Nearly always mandatory for migrant workers.
Migrant / Migrant worker	Persons with or without disabilities who move to another country to live or work.
Migration pathways	The different ways a person can move to another country to live or work.

Migration	When a person moves from one country or place to another to live or work.
Organisations of Persons with disabilities (OPDs)	Are a group formed by persons with disabilities to advocate for their rights, provide support, and promote inclusion in society.
Poverty	When people or communities lack the money needed to meet needs like food, shelter, and clothing.
Recruitment	The process of finding and hiring workers for a job.
Refugees	People who leave their country because it is not safe for them to stay.
Rights	When you have Rights it means you are able to do and have things.
Secretary-General Report	A report written by the head of the United Nations to explain important global issues and progress.
Social protection	Support from the government, like money, healthcare, or services, to help people when they need it.
Work permits	An official paper that gives a person permission to work in a country.
