



our reference

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Dear,

It is with great pleasure that we present to you our brochure with a collection of testimonies of migrant workers in Qatar.

Since 2014, six labour organizations from India and Nepal (GEFONT, NTUC, CFTUI), one domestic workers' movement (NDWM), the Belgian NGO World Solidarity Movement (WSM) and the Belgian trade union organizations ACV-CSC and ACV-CSC Building – Industry & Energy (ACV BIE) have been collaborating on a pilot project of Migrant workers and Qatar. This project will map out how migrant workers in Qatar are organizing themselves through local support groups. It will look into the different communication lines between the migrant workers and the trade unions in the sending countries. Another goal of the project is to get a view on the actors that are involved, and so to better understand the migration process from Nepal/India to Qatar. This with a particular focus on multinational construction companies and how they organize their work sites in Qatar.

We are glad we can present this brochure as a first and very concrete result. It brings together some of the testimonies that have been collected through the project. The brochure and the testimonies remind us that migration is a very personal experience for people, for workers and their families, and even for the local communities they are coming from. Victims of abuses and exploitation often suffer personal dramas. But on the other hand we are also reminded of the resilience of people, the power of innovation and the power of solidarity. Despite the very difficult working and living conditions which these migrants are confronting in Qatar, they do start to organize themselves. We want to share these experiences with you.

The project which is supported by ACV-CSC, ACV-CSC BIE and WSM contributes to the global campaign for decent working conditions in Qatar, spearheaded by the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) and the Building and Woodworkers' International.

The brochure was first presented to the press and to the general public in Kathmandu, Nepal on the 29<sup>th</sup> of February.

With kind regards,

Marc Leemans  
President ACV-CSC

Pierre Cuppens  
General Secretary ACV-CSC BIE  
Vice-President BWI

André Kiekens  
General Secretary WSM