

RAHI IMPACT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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Making labor migration cheap, safe, and accessible



MISSION

Rahi Impact's mission is to make temporary international labor migration cheaper, safer, and more accessible for workers from low- and middle-income countries, empowering migrants and their families to break free from poverty.

VISION

We envision a world where every worker, regardless of their origin, can safely and affordably access global opportunities.

OUR APPROACH

We aim to achieve this by leveraging technology to cost-effectively help blue-collar workers from South Asia, such as construction laborers from India, migrate to work in Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries.

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THE PROBLEM

India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Bangladesh collectively send nearly 2.5 million workers abroad annually, primarily low- and mid-skilled workers migrating to Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries on temporary contracts. Most migrants rely on networks of intermediaries to find job opportunities and navigate the migration process. **Unfortunately, these intermediaries often charge exorbitant fees, exceeding \$3,000 – equivalent to over 2.5 years of wages in the migrant’s home country – forcing many into debt.** Fraudulent practices by some intermediaries drive a 28-34% migration failure rate, resulting in crippling financial losses.

Migrants lack access to reliable information, which perpetuates these challenges by leading to poor decisions and abuse. Even successful migrants face exploitation, particularly in GCC countries, where practices like passport withholding can trap workers in abusive conditions.

OUR SOLUTION

We envision a tech-first solution that reduces migration costs, failure rates, and safety risks for low- to mid-skill workers migrating from South Asia to GCC countries. Our scalable, cost-effective solution will provide critical information to support decision-making, connect users to vetted job opportunities, and provide personalized migration support.

A tech-based approach enables rapid, data-driven iteration to meet migrants’ needs, while capitalizing on rapidly expanding mobile and internet penetration in South Asia.

Year 1 Activities

Our first-year goal is to deeply understand the full migration journey and identify automation opportunities. We’ll either launch in India or Bangladesh, and focus on learning by:

- **Interviewing and shadowing** migrants, intermediaries, employers, and experts
- **Piloting** direct migration assistance via WhatsApp and phone support to test solutions

Year 1 insights will guide development of a tech-first solution in Year 2 that is cost-effective, scalable, and achieves product-market fit by accommodating varying levels of digital literacy.

POTENTIAL STRATEGIC PIVOTS

Given that our intervention is relatively untested, we will use Year 1 to critically evaluate our theory of change and pivot if required. Potential alternative paths to impact include:

1. **Increasing labor migration to higher-income countries**, such as Germany or Japan
2. **Exploring potential revenue streams** and considering a for-profit model if we find that it is essential to maximizing impact and cost-effectiveness

CURRENT STATUS

Rahi Impact is a nonprofit that secured seed funding to cover initial costs through the Charity Entrepreneurship Incubator Program. We currently operate under the fiscal sponsorship of the Players Philanthropy Fund in the United States.