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UKRI GCRF Gender, Justice & Security Hub

Migration & Displacement Stream

Gendered Dynamics of Labour Migration

Project 2

# In-depth Interviews Topic Guide

# (Name of Country)

### General Information

Pseudonym (Names will be changed to protect interviewees):

Age:

Nationality:

Place of Birth:

Level of Education:

Occupation in the Country of Origin:

Occupation in Name of Country:

Marital Status (If yes, occupation of husband):

Number and ages of Children (occupation/education level of children):

Stay in Name of Country:

Legal Status (Residence and work permit, visa type):

## Interview Topic Guide Themes and probing questions

### The Process of Migration

* **Why did you decide to leave your country? How was your life in your country back then?**
* Did you take the decision alone? How was the reaction of your family or (husband)? Did you feel any pressure?
* Are there any other countries that you migrated to and worked before?
* **Why did you prefer Name of Country to migrate and work?**
* Did you have any relatives and friends who migrated to Name of Country beforehand? Did they help you to migrate? If so in what way?
* Did you contact any agencies? How do they work? How much did you pay to the agency?
* How did you apply for your passport? Did you need permission from your family or (husband) to travel outside the country?
* **Who are left in your country (your children, husband, parents, etc.)**? If you have caring responsibilities, how did you arrange childcare and/eldercare and domestic works?
* **How did your journey start?** How did you enter Name of Country? Did you travel by bus or have a flight?
* How did you get your visa/residency card, at the border or beforehand? Did you have any troubles entering the country?
* What did you bring with you in your luggage? Were there any special things like photo album? Did you bring any special food items?
* How was your first week in the city you resided? What was your first impression?
* Do you have friends who migrated to other countries? How and where did they go?

### Drivers of Migration, Experiences in the Country of Origin

* How was your work experience in your home country?
* What kind of job did you do?
* How much did you earn [if you want to answer]
* Did you experience any discriminatory attitudes at your work environment?
* Do they behave and pay equally? How do things differ for women and men?
* **Who was/is the head of household?**
* **What is the extent of violence against women in your country? Did you experience any kind of violence and/or sexual harassment in your country?**
* Have you ever experienced violence at home? How do you describe (domestic) violence? Is it possible to register a case? How does the process work?
* **What do you think about the difficulties of being a woman in your country?**
* What are the limitations/obstacles in your view in terms of socialization, using public places, dress code?
* What were you doing in your leisure time? (Is it possible for a woman to have a drink outside alone or to meet a male friend? Is it safe to walk alone at night? Do women freely use public spaces? Is there a dress code for women in public space? Are there any restricted places for women? Did you have any bad experiences with men in streets or in public transportation? Did you feel any social pressure in public space as a woman?)

### Experiences in \*\*name of country\*\*

* **How was your first job experience in Name of Country?**
* What kind of jobs did you have during your time in Name of Country?
* How did you start to work here? How did you find this job?
* Do you have a health insurance? Is it possible for you to have treatment at a hospital?
* How many hours do you work a day? What are you specifically responsible for?
* Do you have any off days during the week? Do you also work at weekends?
* Do you earn enough to live? Do you also support your family?
* Are you pleased with your job? What are the pros and cons?
* Have you experienced any **discriminatory practices, bad behaviours** or any other troubles within your work environment?
* Do you think there are unequal attitudes towards you as a foreigner?
* **Where do you live in?**
* Do you live alone or share your flat with a partner or friends/family members? How many flats have you changed?
* Are you pleased with the city, neighbourhood and neighbours? How is it different from your country?
* In your city that live in, do you have any friends from your country? Do you get any help from them?
* **Did you experience any sexual harassment or any other troubles in your home/work environment?** How do people treat you in general?
* Have you faced any issues in renewing your residence permit?
* No, never
* Do you intend to go back to your country for a while? Is it possible to keep the same job/position or do you find a new one every time you come back?
* What are the disadvantages of having such an interruption?
* **How often do you call your family members**?
* How often do you call your family members back home?
* **How do you evaluate this process? Are you pleased with leaving your country, migrating and working here?**
* Have any family members ever visited you here?
* Do you recommend migrating to Kurdistan Region to any of your friends or family members? Why?

### Impact of Covid-19 Outbreak in \*\*name of country\*\*

* **How have you been influenced by the Covid-19 outbreak in Name of Country?**
* Have you lost your job? (no need to ask household workers)
* How did you manage to pay for your rent-bills and food expenses? Have you lost your apartment? (no need to ask household workers)
* How do you afford the hygiene obligations (no need to ask household workers)?
* Have you had a health insurance covering basic needs and access to hospitals?
* What is your pre/post-pandemic income? Has there been any change?
* **Have you felt insecure for being in a foreign country (due to COVID-19)?**
* Have you tried to go back to your home country? Do you still consider going back?
* How did your communication with your family change?
* How did/do you get the news on coronavirus?

### Public Access and Spatial Mobility Before Covid-19 Outbreak (to be asked to the participants before COVID-19)

* **Did/Do you have leisure time? What do you do in your holidays? Where do you go?**
* Did/Do you meet your friends from your community or from Name of Country?
* Did/Do you have **specific places to meet**? Do you go **food places** to eat the meals that you missed? Do you also cook them at home? Do you have any troubles of finding any ingredients here? Are there any **ethnic street market or food stores** here?
* Do you organize social events like wedding, religious activities, etc.?
* How do you go to your workplace? Do you **use public transportation**?
* How do people react to a foreign woman on buses/taxis or on the streets? Have you experienced **any conflict, arguments or fight because of your nationality**?
* Have you had any bad experiences with men on streets or in public transportation?
* Do you feel comfortable with **the way you dress in public space**?
* Are there areas in the city that you feel unable to go?
* Is it possible for you to have a drink outside alone or to meet a male friend?
* Is it safe to walk at night?
* How do you cope with the police who makes regular security controls at check points?
* How do you feel while you are outside? Do you feel any pressure?

### Final thoughts and wishes

* Are there any other things that you would like to add?
* Are you pleased with your life and work here? She is content with her life.
* Would you like to go back your home country or any other countries? Yes if things improve and there is stability in the country she would like to go back to her home country.
* Do you have any future plans? What would you wish to do in the future?