

## **Project ILFM (International Law and Forced Migration)**

### **Objectives**

With new challenges also at hand of mixed human migratory pattern, the call is loud and clear for India, Myanmar and Malaysia to equip themselves with more empathetic refugee and migrant policies and start to develop a national legislative framework that will protect asylum seekers, refugees and internally displaced people (IDPs) based on international norms and regulations.

Because displacement has significant human rights and development ramifications at the national and local levels, humanitarian interventions must also be integrated with initiatives promoting sustainable development in countries of origin, transit, and destination. Without the law, refugees lack legal status, lack basic human rights, and are vulnerable to exploitation. They are trafficked, subject to arbitrary arrest and detention, left destitute and homeless, and on top of it all, are vilified as “illegal immigrants”. Without the law there is no solution and refugees are left in indefinite limbo. For these reasons, the project will aim to push for the adoption in Partner Countries of a meaningful, comprehensive, domestic legal framework that is consistent with international standards and ensures refugees are actually protected. It will do so by promoting an integrated legislative approach to forced migration by tackling its root causes through the offering of advanced international and national legal research on the subject which will also include social aspects and ultimately ensure the safety and dignity of forced migrants.

ILFM addresses the current PC’s emergency, where local legal practitioners have huge responsibility in the provision of a multifaceted assistance to people in need of legal and humanitarian help. Having high skilled professionals trained from PC HEIs represents a unique opportunity achieve solid improvement of refugee strategy, in respect of domestic and international rule of law improvements, working methodology/processes that will generate sustainable results that will positively impact at societal level.

The specific objectives of the ILFM project are summarized in the following:

1. To Improve legal practitioners’ knowledge and expertise on International law and forced migration.

2. To Increase the capacity of the academic staff of Partner HEIS and improve their level of competences and skills.
3. To upgrade academics performance and providing the appropriate environment helping them play their roles effectively.
4. Enrich the innovation capacities as well as the internationalization and modernization of Partner HEIs.

### **Activities**

The main activity of the project ILFM will be the development and delivery of the Master in Law curricula in international law and forced migration.

The main activity of the project ILFM will be the development and delivery of the Master in Law curricula in international law and forced migration. The Master programme will be designed to provide legal practitioners and academics in India, Myanmar and Malaysia a better understanding of the scope and content of national and international legal norms governing the movement of persons. The current legal framework in Partner Countries is scattered throughout a wide array of principles and rules. However, such fragmentation undermines and impedes the understanding and, consequently, the effective implementation of international law in this area.

The delivery of the Master will tackle in a unified matter the fragmented law area will thus prove of use for legal practitioners and especially judges of whom decisions contribute to the consistent and sound interpretation and application of relevant standards. In that way it could help to bridge protection deficits in contexts where political, administrative and legislative processes may be weak. The course will also prove beneficial for attorneys at law as they will be better prepared to formulate legal arguments in support of refugees or/and asylum seekers and/or internally displaced people. Last but not least, the LLM course will enhance skills development through practice-oriented teaching.

In addition, the curriculum development in International Law and Forced Migration (ILFM) will meet the needs of PC HEI academic staff of the provision of more qualitative education and training linked to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century globalized era. In this regard, the transfer of knowledge from

partner HEIS, the exchange of good practices and the developed Knowledge Centers on Forced Migration and Democracy will also contribute to the scientific knowledge advancement on the specific topic of refugees.

Finally, it deserves to highlight that by providing tailored made LLL courses following the “train the trainer” through a balance of direct instruction and project-oriented teaching methods will also contribute to feeding qualified, well-prepared academic staff into the Partner country’s University System.

### **Target Groups**

The ILFM project aspires to address the needs of the following target groups:

- Students-Legal Practitioners (judges, prosecutors, court staff, bailiffs, lawyers and notaries)
- Academic Staff
- Researchers from Partner HEI’s
- National Authorities
- Private Sector Stakeholders
- Society and NGOs

The targeted group will also include HEIs with relevant Departments/Faculties in International Law, Refugee law, Human Rights Law, Civil Law, Criminal Law, Migration Studies, Education Professionals and Academic Staff (other than partners’), Students, Researchers, Experts, Associations or Networks of HEIs, Research Institutes and VET providers among other.