



# Newsletter

Issue 9, January 2019

Happy New Year and welcome to the first edition of the IRIS Newsletter for 2019! This publication provides updates on the development of IRIS and efforts to end the unethical recruitment of migrant workers. Connect with us and share content or feedback.



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In this edition:

- Adoption of the Global Compact for Migration
- Philippines and Canada pilot project begins with training
- KnowTheChain's 2018 Apparel and Footwear Benchmark
- Learn more about IRIS certification outcomes



**Global Compact**  
FOR Migration

The [Global Compact for Migration](#) was adopted on Monday 10 December 2018 by leading representatives from 164 Governments at an international [conference](#) in Marrakesh, Morocco, in an historic move [described](#) by UN Chief António Guterres as the creation of a “roadmap to prevent suffering and chaos”.

The Compact is the first, intergovernmentally negotiated agreement, prepared under the auspices of the United Nations, to cover all dimensions of international migration in a holistic and comprehensive manner. It presents a significant opportunity to improve the governance on migration, to address the challenges associated with today's migration, and to strengthen the contribution of migrants and migration to sustainable development.

Encouragingly, there is a direct reference to IRIS under Objective 6 of the Compact, which focuses on facilitating fair and ethical recruitment and safeguarding conditions to ensure decent work.

Read more [here](#).

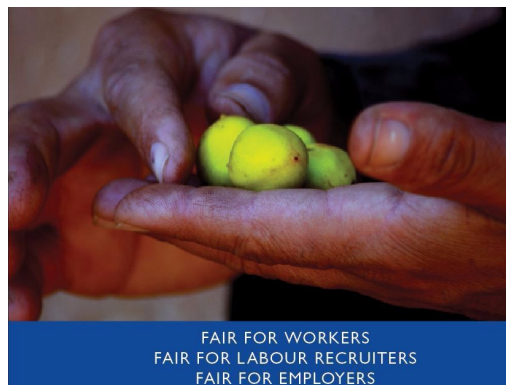
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### **Philippines and Canada pilot project begins with training for recruiters**

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) conducted training sessions with labour recruiters in the Canadian provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan in December 2018 and the Philippines in November 2018.

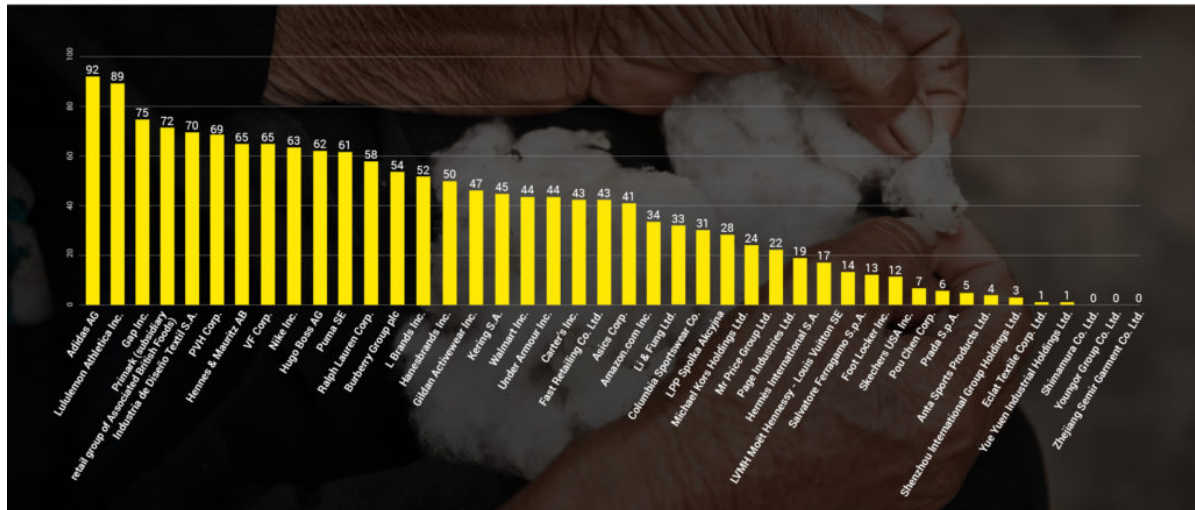
The training is designed to increase recruiters' overall awareness of ethical recruitment and to provide practical information on what recruiters need to demonstrate in their management systems to be IRIS-certified. In particular, the programme introduces recruiters to the business case for ethical recruitment, unpacks the IRIS Standard and explains in simple terms what management systems look like in practice.

The training is the first step for labour recruiters participating in the pilot project between the Philippines and Canada. The pilot, which was launched in mid 2018, will run for three years and aims to connect and build the capacity of ethical recruiters on both sides of the migration corridor.



#### **IRIS Progress Report:**

- IRIS certification now available in selected countries
- IRIS training for labour recruiters underway in multiple countries
- IRIS complaints and monitoring mechanism being developed through a phased approach
- IRIS advocacy and outreach efforts continue with support of partners



## 2018 Apparel and Footwear Benchmark

In December, KnowTheChain released their final benchmark of 2018, covering the apparel and footwear sector, which remains at high risk of forced labor despite decades of stakeholder and public scrutiny. The benchmark finds that 28 of 43 companies score below 50/100 in addressing the risk of forced labor in supply chains, and 10 companies score below 10/100.

This benchmark is KnowTheChain's second for the apparel and footwear industry. While some companies have improved their scores since the first benchmark in 2016, the industry overall needs to do much more in order to protect vulnerable workers at all levels of supply chains.

Notably, **Adidas** sits atop the benchmark with a score of 92 out of 100 possible points, the highest seen yet in any of KnowTheChain's benchmark reports, and the company remains in the top spot from 2016. **Lululemon** (89/100) secured second place overtaking **Gap Inc.** (75/100) since 2016.

Read more [here](#).



Learn more about the adoption of the Global Compact for Migration

## IRIS CERTIFICATION OUTCOMES:



Leading  
Performing

Developing  
No Rating  
Alert

IRIS is a multi-stakeholder initiative of IOM

**Did you know that  
IRIS certification is  
not a simple pass/  
fail?**

There are five possible outcomes for recruiters. This highlights the fact that IRIS is a process and that it takes both time and commitment for a recruiter to become IRIS certified.

Read more about how IRIS certification works [here](#).

With thanks to our partners and supporters



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