

**ORIENTATION WORKSHOP ON  
'CARE AND PROTECTION OF REFUGEES AND IDPS IN NEPAL'  
KATHMANDU, NEPAL, 21 TO 23 NOVEMBER 2010**

**1. Background and context**

The Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group (CRG) every year in Kolkatta organises the Annual Winter Course on Forced Migration –A Program on Protection of Refugees, the Internally Displaced and other victims of Forced Migration”. The Winter Course is a product of CRG’s research, dialogues, and advocacy work on autonomy, human rights, issues of forced displacement and migration, forced migration, peace and conflict resolution, citizenship, borders and border-conflicts, and other issues originating from the conflicts around what may be called the “sacred geographies” of the nation-states in South Asia .

This year (2010), the CRG is organizing a similar workshop in Nepal from 21 to 23 November. The workshop is intended for academics, refugee rights activists and others working in the field of human rights and humanitarian assistance for victims of forced displacement. The workshop will deal with issues relating to refugee flows in South Asia with special reference to Nepal, violence, conflicts, and forced migration, national and international regime of protection, regional trends in forced migration, internal displacement, gendered nature of forced migration and protection framework, and environmental displacement.

The workshop will emphasise the experiences of displacement and refugee life, camp experiences, critical legal and policy analysis, and analysis of relevant notions such as vulnerability, care, risk, protection, return and re-settlement.

The main objectives of the course are:

- 1) To encourage dialogue between policy makers, research scholars, activists and media persons in South Asia.
- 2) To train personnel working in national human rights institutions in South Asia
- 3) To encourage researchers and scholars working on displacement studies through CRG’s network of researchers, activists and scholars working on forced migration related issues in South Asia
- 4) To build up a resource centre for future research work in this area for young scholars and activists

**2. Orientation Workshop on 'Care and Protection of Refugees and IDPs in Nepal'**

*The proposal*

2.1 The Workshop has been designed to meet with the current situations of the time; thus issues of displacement and refugee life, environment displacement will be covered in this dialogic exercise. One of the significant features of the course has been its ability to treat the issue of "forced migration" as holistic concept; which combines for its studies various forms of forced migration – internal and trans-border, the basic rights and issues of refugee protection and issues of internal displacement. Various types of forced migration – violence induced, environmental disaster induced, mixed form of migration; development induced, gender oppression induced and various types of discrimination induced migration are discussed throughout the programme.

2.2 This will be a residential workshop and will be preceded by a two-month long assignment and preparation through distance mode.

Schedule for the programme and each task:

(a) Advisory Committee Meeting: 25 August 2010

(b) Application submission Deadline: 31 August 2010

(c) Selection Committee Meeting: 19 September 2010

(d) Registration of Participants: 1-10 October 2010

(e) Dispatch of Reading Materials: 11 October 2010

(f) Three day workshop (including group assignments, lectures, roundtables and interactive sessions): 21 - 23 November 2010

2.3 Structure of the Workshop: Since we are organizing the orientation course in the form of the workshop we have planned lectures, roundtables and discussions under the following modules:

(a) Gender dimensions of Displacement in South Asia

(b) Conflict and Migration in Nepal

(c) Forced migration and Protection Practices for Refugees in Nepal

Resource Politics, Climate Change, Environmental Degradation and Displacement