

Recruitment in Guatemala and El Salvador

A presentation for the Food Network for Ethical Trade

December 18th, 2021

Presenter: Stephanie Bratnick, North America Regional Coordinator



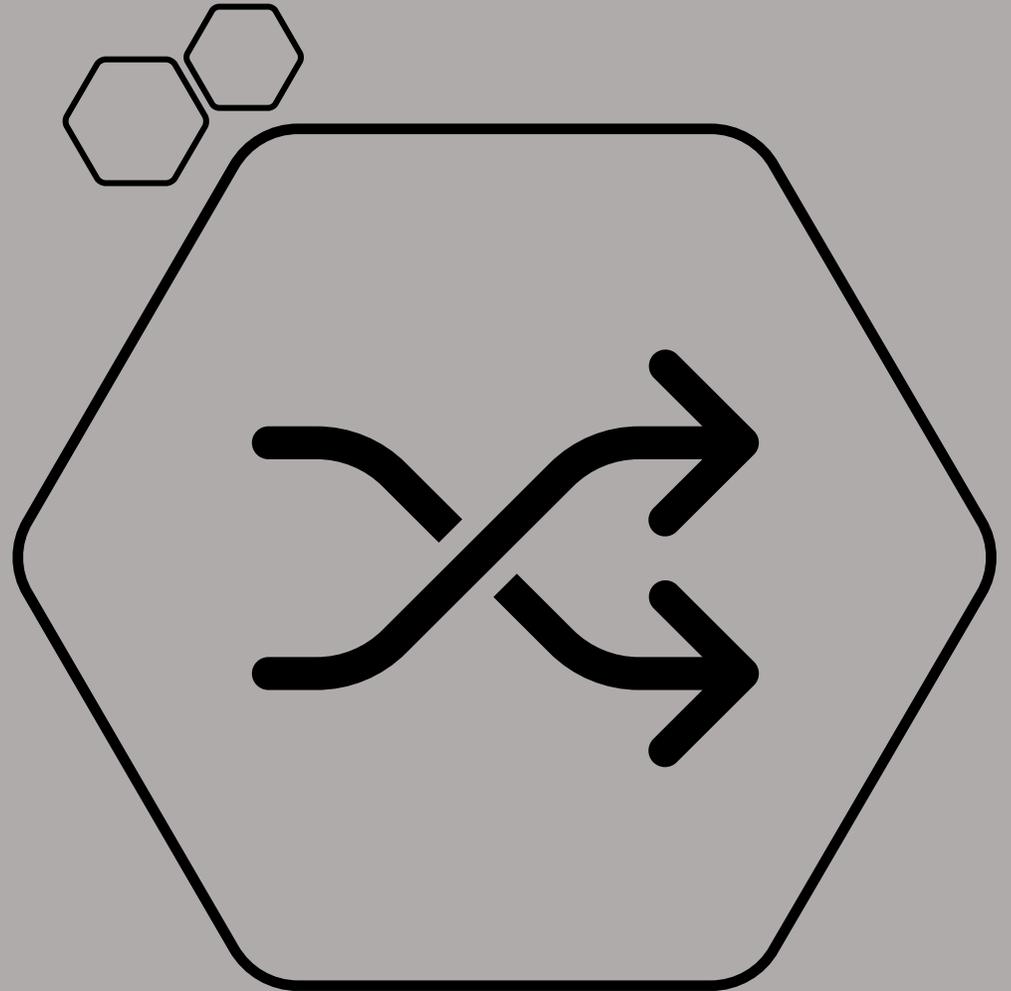
Why do workers migrate from Guatemala and El Salvador?

Push factors:

- Poverty
- Unemployment
- Crime and violence

Pull factors:

- Family reunification



Destination Countries



Primary:

- Mexico
- United States
- Canada

Secondary:

- Belize
- Costa Rica
- Nicaragua
- Panama
- Spain/Italy (asylum-seekers)

Primary sectors:



Agriculture



Horticulture



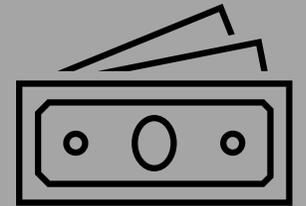
Food Processing



Construction

Recruitment Landscape

- Highly informal
 - Charging of fees
 - Largely through unofficial subcontractors
 - Workers who have returned and know the system or the employer
 - Rural based
- Population
 - Largely men
 - Growing number of women
 - Large indigenous community



Recruitment fees



- Application
- Copies
- Visa
- Passport
- Health certification
- Travel
- Payment to recruiter or subcontractor

Resources



- <https://issuu.com/justiceinmotion/docs/who-how-howmuch-report-sm>
- <https://cdmigrante.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Ripe-for-Reform.pdf>
- https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_protect/---protrav/---migrant/documents/publication/wcms_744521.pdf
- https://www.migrationpolicy.org/sites/default/files/publications/labor-pathways-central-america_eng_final.pdf
- https://programamesoamerica.iom.int/sites/default/files/mechanisms_for_labour_migration_in_mesoamerica.pdf

Thank you.

Stephanie.Bratnick@ihrb.org

