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Give to Gain: Investing in Migrant Women's Employment for Shared Prosperity

On **11 March 2026**, from **10am to 3pm**, in collaboration with LinkedIn Dublin, AkiDwA, the national network of migrant women in Ireland, will mark International Women's Day 2026 with a flagship event titled **"Give to Gain: Investing in Migrant Women's Employment for Shared Prosperity, at LinkedIn HQ, Wilton Place, Dublin 2."** The event also celebrates AkiDwA's 25th anniversary and a quarter century of advancing equality, rights, and economic empowerment for migrant women.

Since its establishment in 2001, AkiDwA has placed economic empowerment at the centre of its work. Its first Strategic Plan (2008) identified access to decent and meaningful employment as essential to migrant women's empowerment. Ensuring equitable access to the labour market, including recognition of qualifications, fair recruitment practices, and opportunities for career progression, remains a core priority. AkiDwA's advocacy is grounded in research and frontline programme experience, which consistently highlight the systemic barriers faced by migrant women in Ireland's labour market.

While progress has been made, structural inequalities remain. Migrant women continue to face barriers that limit their full economic participation and career advancement. International Women's Day 2026 provides an opportunity to move beyond awareness towards action.

Speaking ahead of the event, Dr Salome, CEO of AkiDwA, said: "*Economic independence is fundamental to women's advancement. Despite systemic barriers and social challenges, migrant women are determined to realise their potential and uplift their families and communities."*

Migrant women are making a significant contribution to the Irish economy, bringing skills, qualifications, entrepreneurship, and resilience to a wide range of sectors. However, many are employed in roles that do not reflect their education, professional experience, or full potential. AkiDwA's recent work on economic empowerment highlights the critical importance of inclusive recruitment policies, recognition of qualifications, and equitable career progression pathways. AkiDwA believes that when employers, policymakers, and institutions commit to inclusive practices and equal opportunities, the benefits extend beyond individual women to families, communities, and the wider economy

The AkiDwA International Women's Day event, held in collaboration with LinkedIn, will convene migrant women leaders, employers, policymakers, trade unions, and civil society organisations to explore practical solutions, share lived experiences, and advance commitments that promote equity and shared prosperity.

"As our organisation marks 25 years of advocacy, we are reminded that investing in migrant women is a strategic investment in Ireland's social and economic future," Dr Salome added.

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