

NORKA Roots — Kerala's Pioneering Return-Migrant Agency, and Its Documented Awareness Gap

City Innovation Library · Good practice · India

Quality score: 38/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Kerala's NORKA Roots is India's oldest state migrant-welfare agency, but a 2022 peer-reviewed survey of 1,985 returnees found 84–92% were unaware of its reintegration schemes, with some used by only a handful of people — a documented case of an under-reached safety net.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured results	1/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	1/3
Scalability	1/3
Sustainability / continuity	2/3
Innovation	1/3
Inclusiveness / equity	1/3
Multi-stakeholder collaboration	1/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-09-08

NORKA Roots (Non-Resident Keralites' Affairs Department, Government of Kerala) — accessed 2026-09-08

International Journal of Environmental Sciences — "Role of NORKA in Skill Development and Employment Opportunities", 2025 — accessed 2026-09-08

PMC — Rajan & Pattath, "Distress return migration amid COVID-19: Kerala's response", Asian Pacific Migration Journal, 2022 — accessed 2026-09-08

Cite this — Evidoria. *NORKA Roots — Kerala's Pioneering Return-Migrant Agency, and Its Documented Awareness Gap*. Persistent ID: 741ab30d-34bc-4399-9580-f0142fbabc13.