Social protection for migrants in an irregular situation and/or the informal economy
An estimated 50 million people are living and working abroad with irregular status (UNDP HDR 2009).

- A person who does not comply with the national legislation and international agreements concerning the entrance, stay and employment in the host State (ICRMW, art. 5)
- Different causes: expiration of visa, rejection of asylum application, irregular entrance…

**Regular Migrants**
- Authorized to enter, to stay and to engage in a remunerated activity, according to national law and international agreements

**Migrants irregular situation**
Definitions – irregular situation

- A migrant in an irregular situation is a person who does not comply with the national legislation and international agreements concerning the entrance, stay and employment in the host State (ICRMW, art. 5)
- Different causes: expiration of visa, rejection of asylum application, irregular entrance...
- Equality of treatment often limited to migrants in a regular situation
Definitions – informal economy

• “Informal economy”: all economic activities by workers or economic units that are – in law or practice – not covered or not sufficiently covered by formal arrangements

• Workers in the informal economy are also often excluded from the social security system

• Many migrants in an irregular situation can only work in the informal economy
Questions

1. What are the obstacles migrants in irregular situations face in accessing social protection in their host countries and countries of origin?

Please distinguish between general obstacles all migrant workers face and specific barriers more related to this specific group.

You can bring examples from your own country.