



International Labour Organization

Agenda

7th ADB-ADBI-OECD-ILO Roundtable on Labour Migration in Asia:

Finance and technology to increase the positive impact of migration on home countries

Jointly organized by:
Asian Development Bank
Asian Development Bank Institute
Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
International Labour Organization

18-19 January 2017, ADB, Manila

18 January 2017, Wednesday	
08.30 – 09.00	<i>Registration</i>
09.00 – 09:15	<p>Welcoming Remarks</p> <p>Juzhong Zhuang, Deputy Chief Economist, Asian Development Bank (ADB)</p> <p>Bokhwan Yu, Deputy Dean, Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI)</p>
09.15 – 10:15	<p>SESSION 1: TRENDS AND OUTLOOK FOR LABOUR MIGRATION, REMITTANCES AND LABOUR DEMAND IN ASIA IN 2015-2016</p> <p><i>This session will focus on the trends in migration from, to and within the region. Remittances will be covered in this session as well as the labour market outlook and demand for migrant workers in Asia. Questions addressed include: how has migration been affected by the global economic slowdown and by recovery? What are the recent trends in migration and policies? How have remittance flows been affected by changing labour markets and opportunities in destination economies?</i></p> <p>Session Chair: Bokhwan Yu, Deputy Dean, ADBI</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p><i>Recent labour migration trends to OECD countries from Asia</i>, Jean-Christophe Dumont, Head, International Migration Division, OECD</p> <p><i>Labour Migration in Asia: trends and developments</i>, Nilim Baruah, Senior Migration Specialist, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, ILO</p>

	<i>Remittances in Asia: key issues and policy challenges</i> , Guntur Sugiyarto , Principal Economist, Pakistan Resident Mission, ADB
10:15 – 10:45	Q&A session
10:45 – 11:15	<i>Group Photo and Coffee Break</i>
11.15 – 12:00	<p>SESSION 2: RECENT CHANGES IN LABOUR MIGRATION POLICIES</p> <p><i>This session looks at recent changes in the management of labour migration in Asia. Labour migration in Asia takes multiple forms and is changing rapidly. Asian countries are making constant adjustments to their policies to better match the flows of migrant workers to the needs of their countries, to protect migrant workers and to strengthen compliance mechanisms. Countries presenting in this session will discuss recent changes they have implemented to better govern and manage labour migration. Special attention will be given to newly signed or negotiated bilateral labour migration agreements and the impact of policies on women and men migrants. Changes implemented to improve compliance and to limit illegal employment of foreign worker will also be covered.</i></p> <p>Session Chair: Nilim Baruah, Senior Migration Specialist, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, ILO</p> <p>PRC, National Health and Family Planning Commission of China</p> <p>Viet Nam</p> <p>Thailand</p>
12:00 – 12:30	Open Discussion
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13.30 – 14:30	<p>SESSION 2: RECENT CHANGES IN LABOUR MIGRATION POLICIES (CONTINUED)</p> <p>Session Chair: Jean-Christophe Dumont, Head, International Migration Division, OECD</p> <p>Japan</p> <p>Malaysia</p> <p>Myanmar</p> <p>Philippines</p>
14:30 – 15:15	Open Discussion
15:15 – 15:30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
15:30 - 16:15	<p>SESSION 3: Promoting low-cost formal remittance channels and financial literacy</p> <p><i>Remittances are one of the driving factors for labour migration, especially within Asia. Remittances are not always sent through formal channels, and the costs related to both informal and formal channels often reduce migrant earnings substantially.</i></p> <p><i>The key questions in this session are: are formal remittance channels in place? What do we know about remittance costs and implication of these costs on formal remittance volumes? What have governments done to improve the accessibility of formal remittance channels and reduce costs? Is there any way to build low-cost formal remittance channels into labour migration frameworks such as bilateral agreements? To what extent is tax a barrier to formal remittances? What do we know about the level of financial literacy among different groups of</i></p>

	<p><i>labour migrants, and how can it be improved, both for the worker and for their household at home? What is the impact of financial inclusion and financial sector development (in receiving countries) on formal remittances? Are labour migrants more or less likely to be "banked"? Who are the partners in this process and how can fairness be ensured? How can Anti-Money Laundering and Countering Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT) regulations be respected without complicating remittances? What is the most conducive financial sector legislation and regulatory framework for remittances?</i></p> <p>Session Chair: Mayumi Ozaki, Senior Portfolio Management Specialist, South Asia Regional Department, ADB</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p><i>Promoting low-cost formal remittance channels and financial literacy</i>, Pia Bernadette Roman-Tayag, Director, Inclusive Finance Advocacy, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas</p> <p><i>Promoting low-cost formal remittance channels and financial literacy</i>, Eliki Boletawa, Head of Policy Program, Regional Initiatives and Working Groups, Alliance for Financial Inclusion</p> <p><i>Cross-border remittances: promoting low-cost formal remittance channels and financial literacy</i>, Isaku Endo, Senior Financial Sector Specialist, World Bank</p>
16:15 - 16:45	Q&A session
16:45 - 17:15	<p>Regional Presentations</p> <p>Pakistan</p> <p>Mongolia</p>
17:15 – 17:45	Open Discussion
18:00 – 20:00	Dinner Reception

19 January 2017, Thursday	
08:45 – 09:30	<p>SESSION 4: Mobilizing diaspora and increasing the development impact of remittances</p> <p><i>Migrants own their remittances and they decide, with their families, how to spend them. However, there is ample scope to provide and promote solutions which meet migrant needs and support the development of the country of origin. Recent innovative proposals include diaspora bonds and remittance securitization. On an individual level, formal instruments to provide loans to migrants linked to formal remittances can also help. Investments for poverty reduction with direct benefits for families receiving remittances can also be attractive. In cases of natural disasters, workers abroad, emigrants, and the diaspora may help contribute.</i></p> <p><i>The session will look at these different instruments and discuss where they can be appropriate and what support is required for them to work.</i></p> <p>Session Chair: Nilim Baruah, Senior Migration Specialist, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, ILO</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p><i>Mobilizing diaspora and increasing the development impact of remittances</i>, Emb. Julio Camarena Villaseñor, Ambassador of Mexico to the Philippines</p>

	<p><i>Engaging the diaspora and migrant workers for home country development: diaspora finance and remittances</i>, Piyasiri Wickramasekara, Honorary Associate, Department of Sociology and Social Policy, School of Social and Political Sciences, University of Sydney</p> <p><i>Empact Global, Homestrings Diaspora Bond Program</i>, Eric-Vincent Guichard, Chief Executive Officer, Homestrings Ltd.</p>
09:30 - 10:00	Q&A session
10.00 – 10:45	<p>SESSION 4 (CONTINUED): Mobilizing resources</p> <p>Sri Lanka Cambodia Nepal</p>
10:45 – 11:00	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11:00 – 11:30	Open discussion
11:30 – 12:00	<p>SESSION 5: New Technology to increase the returns to labour migration and remittances</p> <p><i>This session will focus on the use of ICT to lower costs, simplify and make more accessible labour migration channels and remittances. Telephone banking, e-banking and e-payment are revolutionising household and microfinance. This session will examine different systems and discuss how they are affecting labour migrants. ICT is also used for job matching, to manage and support outgoing workers, using electronic cards and contracts, for example. How can these be made to work better for migrants and administrations? Does new technology open new opportunities for education on legal and safe migration as well as financial literacy? What role can new technologies and platforms play in reducing remittance costs, and what are the barriers?</i></p> <p>Session Chair: Aladdin D. Rillo, Senior Economist, ADBI</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p><i>Evolving international remittance technologies: policy implications</i>, Diana Boncheva, Strategic Partnerships and Projects, Mondato LLC</p> <p><i>Job matching platforms for international migration and mobility in OECD countries</i>, Jonathan Chaloff, Administrator, International Migration Division, OECD</p>
12:00 – 12:30	Open discussion
12:30 – 13:30	<i>Lunch Break</i>
13:30 – 14:15	<p>Regional Presentations</p> <p>Bangladesh Taipei, China PRC, China International Contractors Association</p>
14:15 – 14:45	Open discussion
14.45 – 15:30	<p>SESSION 6: MANAGING LABOUR MIGRATION: Technology Workers</p> <p><i>Information technology workers are the foundation of the global knowledge economy's infrastructure. Many Asian countries are major players in outsourcing but also in deploying</i></p>

	<p><i>and providing IT workers around the world. IT is a skilled occupation and is often a favourable channel for emigration, although many destination countries have raised concerns about “body-shopping” and the risk that mobility and transfer of IT workers may undercut conditions for local workers. This session will look at the trends in global IT worker mobility, how they are treated by policies in origin and destination countries, and what factors are shaping the flows and policies in this domain.</i></p> <p>Session Chair: Jonathan Chaloff, Administrator, International Migration Division, OECD</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p><i>Managing labour migration: technology workers</i>, Mark Buchanan, Fragomen Global, Singapore</p> <p><i>Migration Advisory Committee: review of Tier 2</i>, Maria del Castillo, Migration Advisory Committee, United Kingdom</p> <p><i>Japan and technology workers from india: working through institutional stickiness</i>, Anthony D’Costa, University of Melbourne, Australia</p>
15:30 – 16:00	Open discussion
16:00 – 16:15	<i>Coffee Break</i>
16:15 – 16:45	<p>Focal Point: Improving Statistics</p> <p><i>Following each Roundtable, the organizers prepare a publication with the main topics of discussion but also covering labor migration statistics in the region: how many workers are deployed and how many admitted; which are the destinations and what jobs are done by migrant workers. The availability, coverage and quality of statistics vary across the region. The annual publication tries to present the most up-to-date information on the phenomenon. Delegates will be given the data which the organisers received for their own country. The OECD will present the sources for its joint publication covering Asian countries and ask delegates to follow up with contacts in their administrations to complete this data for next year</i></p> <p>Speaker:</p> <p>Jean-Christophe Dumont, Head, International Migration Division, OECD</p>
16:45 – 17:00	<p>Closing Remarks</p> <p>Nilim Baruah, Senior Migration Specialist, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, ILO</p> <p>Jean-Christophe Dumont, Head, International Migration Division, OECD</p>

