



**10th ADBI-OECD-ILO Roundtable on Labor Migration in Asia  
Future of labor migration in Asia  
Challenges and opportunities in the next decade**

**Jointly organized by:  
Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI)  
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)  
International Labor Organization (ILO)**

**6-7 February 2020**

**Pullman Bangkok King Power  
8-2 Rang Nam Alley, Thanon Phaya Thai, Ratchathewi, Bangkok 10400,  
Thailand**

<b>6 February 2020, Thursday</b>	
8:30 – 9:00	<b>Registration</b>
9:00 – 9:10	<b>Welcoming Remarks</b> <i>Chul Ju Kim, Deputy Dean, Asian Development Bank Institute</i>
9:10 – 10:10	<b>HIGH LEVEL PANEL ON THE FUTURE OF LABOR MIGRATION IN ASIA, Challenges and Opportunities</b> <i>Labor migration in Asia has changed over the 2010s, but labor migration management tools have not always kept pace with these changes.</i> <i>Rapid population ageing in a number of Asia countries coupled with transformation in the world of work due to automation and digitalization suggest some major shifts in skills needs. New countries of destination, new channels of migration, different skills development patterns, and new partnerships are likely.</i> <i>On the occasion of the 10th Roundtable, high-level ministerial officials from Asian and OECD countries are invited to reflect on the prospects for labor migration in the region in the next 10-20 years. This is an opportunity to look back at the discussions in previous roundtables, as well as at recent regional work on preparing for the future. Such work includes, for example, the ASEAN Labour Ministers Statement on the Future of Work (Singapore, 2019), the 2019 ASEAN Forum on Migrant Labor (Bangkok) and the recent OECD Ministerial Meeting on Migration). Session participants will address factors which can transform the labor migration landscape and how they are preparing to address certain and possible changes.</i> Session Chair: <b>Panudda Boonpala</b> , Deputy Regional Director, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, ILO Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Muhammad Khair Razman</b>, Deputy Secretary General, Ministry of Human Resources, Malaysia</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ram Kumar Phuyal</b>, Member, National Planning Commission, Nepal</li> <li>• <b>Akiro Yoshida</b>, Director, Foreign Workers' Labour Management Office, Employment Security Bureau, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Japan</li> </ul>
10:10 – 10:30	<b>Q&amp;A</b>
10:30 – 11:00	<b>Group photo and Coffee break</b>
11:00 – 12:00	<p><b>High Level Panel (continued)</b></p> <p>Session Chair: <b>Chul Ju Kim</b>, Deputy Dean, ADBI</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Huiyao (Henry) Wang</b>, President of Center for China &amp; Globalization, PR China</li> <li>• <b>Ruben D. Torres</b>, General Secretary of the ASEAN Trade Union Council (ATUC)</li> <li>• <b>Trevor Sworn</b>, Board Member of the Cambodian Federation of Employers (CAMFEBA)</li> </ul>
12:00 – 12:15	<b>Q&amp;A Session</b>
12:15 – 12:30	<b>Wrap up by Jean-Christophe Dumont</b> , Head, International Migration Division, <b>OECD</b>
12:30 – 13:30	<b>Lunch</b>
13:30 – 14:30	<p><b>SESSION 1: LABOR MIGRATION TRENDS AND POLICIES IN ASIA</b></p> <p><i>This session will focus on recent trends in migration and its governance at regional and global levels as well as remittances flows in the region. Questions addressed in this session include: What are the main global trends in international migration, in terms of channels, their magnitude and direction? How have remittance flows been affected by changing labor markets and opportunities in destination economies?</i></p> <p><i>The session will also review the latest developments in multilateral governance of migration. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provide an important framework of reference. So do efforts to implement the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in countries. Other commitments include the 2017 ASEAN Consensus on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights of Migrant Workers, adopted by ASEAN leaders. Questions addressed include: What are the recent developments in the global and regional migration governance and its implications for labor migration in the Asia-Pacific region?</i></p> <p>Session Chair: <b>Panudda Boonpala</b>, Deputy Regional Director. Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, ILO</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Jean-Christophe Dumont</b>, Head, International Migration Division, OECD</li> <li>• <b>Nilim Baruah</b>, Senior Migration Specialist, Decent Work Team, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, ILO</li> <li>• <b>Pitchaya Sirivunnabood</b>, CBT Economist, ADBI</li> </ul>
14:30 – 15:00	<b>Open Discussion</b>

15:00 – 16:00	<p><b>SESSION 2: RECENT CHANGES IN LABOR MIGRATION TRENDS AND POLICIES IN ASIA</b></p> <p><i>This session looks at recent changes in the management of labor migration in Asia, the origin region for over 40% of all migrants in the world in 2015. It has been notably because of the importance of temporary labor movements to Gulf countries and OECD member countries, as well as intra-ASEAN and East Asia migration. While there are well-functioning corridors and many good practices in the region, not all labor migration at present is safe, orderly or regular, and not all migration is fair. Migration corridors and sectors of employment are gendered, with men and women prevailing in different occupations and channels. Further, irregular migration often occurs in parallel with regular migration.</i></p> <p><i>Countries presenting in this session will present the latest trends in labor migration from (and to) their countries and discuss recent regulatory changes they have implemented to deal with the challenges and to govern better and manage labor migration. Special attention will be given new laws, mechanisms or international agreements signed as well as bilateral labor migration agreements negotiated.</i></p> <p>Session Chair: <b>Jonathan Chaloff</b>, International Migration Division, OECD</p> <p>Country presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Md Azimuddin Biswas</b>, Joint Secretary, Administration Wing, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Bangladesh</li> <li>• <b>Zaki bin Zakaria</b>, Undersecretary, International Division, Ministry of Human Resources, Malaysia</li> <li>• <b>Lokahari Bashyal</b>, Under-secretary, Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Nepal</li> <li>• <b>Naveed Akhtar</b>, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development, Pakistan</li> <li>• <b>Tran Anh Thu</b>, Head of Division, Department of Overseas Labour, Ministry of Labour-Invalids and Social Affairs, Viet Nam</li> <li>• <b>Bancha Chuenchom</b>, Labour Specialist, Professional Level, Department of Employment, Ministry of Labour, Thailand</li> </ul>
16:00 – 16:30	<b>Open Discussion</b>
16:30 – 16:45	<b>Coffee Break</b>
16:45 – 17:45	<p><b>SESSION 2: RECENT CHANGES IN LABOR MIGRATION TRENDS AND POLICIES (CONTINUED)</b></p> <p>Session Chair: <b>Pitchaya Sirivunnabood</b>, CBT Economist, ADBI</p> <p>Country presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Nurul Sofia</b>, Deputy Director, Economic and International Finance, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Indonesia</li> <li>• <b>Aye Myat Mu</b>, Assistant Director, Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population, Myanmar</li> <li>• <b>Sujeewa Tissera</b>, Senior Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Skills Development, Employment and Labour Relations, Sri Lanka</li> <li>• <b>Chuop Narath</b>, Deputy Director General, Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training, Cambodia</li> <li>• <b>Cindy Villegas Nuguit</b>, Planning Officer, International Finance Policy Office, Department of Finance, Philippines</li> </ul>

17:45– 18:00	<b>Open Discussion</b>
18:30 – 20:30	<b>Dinner Reception</b>

## 7 February 2020, Friday

09:00 – 10:00	<p><b>SESSION 3: Partnerships for Migration in the Health Sector</b></p> <p><i>This session looks at the latest developments in partnerships for migration in the health sector. The focus is on regulated professions in the health sector, rather than on informal care work.</i></p> <p><i>The number of migrants in regulated health occupations is increasingly rapidly and migrant health professionals play a major and growing role in the health care workforces in many countries of destination. Building on the WHO Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel, the discussion will look at new models of partnership to increase the breadth and depth of the health workforce in origin countries and establish fair recruitment channels. Cost-sharing of training, public-private partnerships and Skills Mobility Partnerships will all be covered.</i></p> <p>Session Chair: <b>Jean-Christophe Dumont</b>, Head, International Migration Division, OECD</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• WHO Representative (TBC)</li><li>• <b>Markus Biercher</b>, Director International Affairs of the Federal Employment Agency, on “Triple Win”</li><li>• <b>Yu Korekawa</b>, National Institute of Population and Social Security Research, Tokyo, Japan</li><li>• <b>Efrat Lev Ari</b>, Population, Immigration and Border Authority, Israel</li></ul>
10:00 – 10:30	<b>Open Discussion</b>
10:30 – 11:00	<b>Coffee Break</b>
11:00 – 12:00	<p><b>SESSION 4: GOING DIGITAL</b></p> <p><i>Management of labor migration has increasingly gone digital, eliminating paper procedures. On-line matching, smart identity cards, electronic contracts, all promise more efficiency and transparency. Migrants may have more access to information and less reliance on costly intermediaries. Contracts may be easier to enforce when digital copies are accessible.</i></p> <p><i>But this also raises questions of equity of access and privacy protections. How can low-educated migrant access and benefit from this? Who owns the data? To what extent are intermediaries still handling applications?</i></p> <p><i>This session will give countries a chance to present their modernization of procedures and how this has changed their work.</i></p> <p>Session Chair: <b>Chul Ju Kim</b>, Deputy Dean, Asian Development Bank Institute</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Aiko Kikkawa Takenaka</b>, Economist, ERCD, ADB</li><li>• <b>Anjali Fleury</b>, Technical Officer, TRIANGLE in ASEAN Project, ILO</li></ul>
12:00 – 12:30	<b>Open Discussion</b>
12:30 – 13:30	<b>Lunch</b>
13:30 – 14:30	<b>SESSION 5: BREAKOUT SESSIONS - PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE OF LABOR MIGRATION IN ASIA</b>

	<p><i>Based on the discussions on Day 1 on the future of migration in Asia and Day 2 on health sector and digitalization, participants will break into smaller groups to identify major challenges and potential changes in the framework for labor migration in Asia.</i></p> <p><i>This session involves Breakout Sessions during which roundtable participants will collaborate to discuss the different trends underway and responses to challenges and opportunities. Each group will come up with a result to share with the plenary, focusing on one major trend, one major challenge and possible solutions.</i></p>
14:30 – 15:00	<p><b>SESSION 5 (CONTINUED): OUTCOMES OF BREAKOUT SESSION</b></p> <p>The rapporteurs for each of the groups will have 5-8 minutes to present the output of the work in the breakout sessions and receive feedback from other participants.</p>
15:00 – 15:15	<p><b>Coffee Break</b></p>
15:15 – 16:30	<p><b>SESSION 6: How can countries address critical issues in oversight of working conditions?</b></p> <p>How can countries address critical issues in oversight of working conditions? When problems are discovered and widely reported, how can countries quickly react to the demand for reform?</p> <p>Thailand faced this issue when its fishing and seafood processing industry drew negative international attention a few years ago. This session will discuss how transformative changes have since been made in Thailand with respect to improving working conditions in sea fisheries. Progress on “Ship to Shore Rights” in Thailand ranges from the ratification of ILO C188 on work in fishing, to improved labor inspection, much greater use of employment contracts and organization of fishers. Indonesia has also taken measures to more effectively regulate fishing in territorial waters.</p> <p>This will be an information session, organized in panel format.</p> <p>Session Chair: <b>Jonathan Chaloff</b>, International Migration Division, OECD</p> <p>Panel members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Pattana Bhandhufalck</b>, Assistant Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Thailand</li> <li>• <b>Francesca Gilli</b>, Attache/Programme Officer, EU Delegation in Thailand</li> <li>• <b>Pongthiti Pongsilamane</b>, Deputy Secretary General, SERC, Thailand</li> <li>• <b>Prad Kerdpairoj</b>, Director of Sustainability, Asia – Sustainable Development Dept. Thai Union</li> <li>• <b>Rene Robert</b>, Labour Administration &amp; Labour Inspection Specialist, Decent Work Team, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, ILO.</li> <li>• <b>Iwan Pujosemedi</b>, Head of International Institutional Cooperation Section, Ministry of Manpower, Indonesia</li> </ul> <p>Q&amp;A</p>
16:30 – 17:00	<p><b>Closing Remarks</b></p> <p><i>Chul Ju Kim, Deputy Dean, Asian Development Bank Institute</i></p> <p><i>Nilim Baruah, Senior Migration Specialist, ILO</i></p> <p><i>Jean-Christophe Dumont, Head, International Migration Division, OECD</i></p>