



Promoting Gender Equality in the Labor Market: Gender, Labor and Migration in the People's Republic of China

17-18 November 2016

Room 2030, The New Main Building (The Library Building), BNU Main Campus
19 Xijiekou Wai St., Beijing, 100875, People's Republic of China

PROGRAM

DAY 1: THURSDAY, 17 NOVEMBER 2016

- 8:30–9:00 Registration
- 9:00–9:45 **Session 1: Opening**
Emcee: Welcome Remarks and Introduction of Speakers
Imrana Jalal, Senior Social Development Specialist (Gender and Development), Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- 9:00–9:15 Opening Remarks
Benedict Bingham, Country Director, PRC Resident Mission, (ADB)
Xu Yuebin, School of Social Development and Public Policy, Beijing Normal University (BNU)
Tim De Meyer, Country Director, ILO Office for China and Mongolia
- 9:15–9:20 Introduction: Overview of Study and Research & Workshop Themes
Wendy Walker, Principal Social Development Specialist, East Asia Department, ADB
- 9:20–10:20 **Session 2: An Overview of Trends and Emerging Issues in the Labor Market in the PRC: Gender, Migration and Transitions**
Session objectives and expected outcomes: It is often said that the Chinese economy, and society more broadly, are “in transition.” The presenter will assess the impact on women of the multiple transitions that are underway highlighting the market, structural, growth and demographic transitions. This session will be scene-setting, identifying and providing a high-level overview of key trends.
Chair: **Imrana Jalal**, Senior Social Development Specialist (Gender and Development), ADB
Speaker: **Fiona MacPhail**, International Consultant, ADB and Professor of Economics, University of Northern British Columbia, “*Gender, Work and Migration in PRC’s Multiple Transitions: An Overview*”
- 10:20–10:45 Coffee Break

10:45–12:30 Session 3: Women in the labor market in the People’s Republic of China

Session objectives and expected outcomes: This presentation is based on the ILO Asia-Pacific Working Paper Series, Women in the labor market in the PRC (2015). It will examine the nature and causes of the evolving trends in women’s labor force participation and employment, and probe the factors that influence and perpetuate gender inequality.

10:45–11:30 Chair: **Joni Simpson**, Senior Gender, Equality & Non Discrimination Specialist, ILO-Bangkok

Speaker: **Makiko Matsumoto**, Employment Specialist, ILO-Bangkok

11:30–12:30 Discussants for both Sessions 2 & 3 followed by Q & A

Chair: **Xu Yuebin**, Professor, School of Social Development and Public Policy, BNU

Panelists/Commentators:

Chen Tingting, Program Officer, Women’s Empowerment, The Asia Foundation, Beijing

Niny Khor, Economist, PRC Resident Mission, ADB

12:30–2:00 Lunch

2:00–4:00 Session 4: Gender, Labor & and Migration I

Sessions objectives and expected outcomes: With over 250 million migrant workers there is an enormous flow of workers from rural to urban areas in the PRC. In general, migrant workers earn less, and among them migrant women workers earn the least. They face gender wage discrimination compared to migrant men, are more likely to be employed in the private and informal sectors, and have the lowest self-reported well-being of all groups. The session will explore some of these themes and discuss the social impact of migration on female migrant workers.

Chair: **Wendy Walker**, Principal Social Development Specialist, East Asia Department, ADB

Speakers: **Ming Tian**, Professor, Director of Institute of Migration and Urbanization, School of Social Development and Public Policy, Beijing Normal University, “*A comparative analysis on the occupational status of female migrant workers in the labor market in PRC*”

Yao, Kun, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences on behalf of the **Migrant Women’s Club**, “*Twenty years of the first generation of migrant women*”

Suwei Xiao, Associate Professor, School of Social Development and Public Policy, BNU, “*No One Knows What’s Gonna Happen Tomorrow: Mistress Arrangement and the Emotional Dislocation of Rural Women in Urban PRC*”

4:00–5:00 **Cocktails**

DAY 2: FRIDAY, 18 NOVEMBER 2016

9:00–10:30 Session 5: Gender, Labor & and Migration II

Session objectives and expected outcomes: Continued from Session 4.

Chair: **Fiona MacPhail**, International Consultant, ADB and Professor of Economics, University of Northern British Columbia

Speakers: **Wan Tianyi**, Senior Editor, Capital University of Economics and Business, *“Reproductive choices of female migrant workers in PRC”*

Zheng Zhenzhen, Professor, Institute of Population and Labor Economics, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, *“Rural-Urban Migration in Gender and Development Perspectives: a case of PRC”*

Li Shi, Professor, Department of Economics, Business School, BNU. *Why do the Chinese rural-urban migrant workers have lower social security coverage?*

10:30–11:00 Coffee Break

11:00–12:30 Session 6: Emerging Issues Affecting Gender Equality in the Labor Market in the PRC—Gender, Entrepreneurship and the Care Economy

Session objectives and expected outcomes: The transition of the Chinese economy from a planned to market economy since 1978, while associated with a dramatic rise in income per capita, has led to a decrease in publicly and work unit provided care services, with women shouldering the largest burden of unpaid child and elder care. How does unpaid care work affects women’s opportunities and gender equality? This session will also provide a summary of policy lessons for programming of women’s entrepreneurship interventions and strategies. This session will explore some of these themes and recommend policies to address them.

Chair: **Niny Khor**, Economist, PRC Resident Mission, ADB

Speakers: **Dong Xiao-Yuan**, Professor, University of Winnipeg, *“How does unpaid care work affects women’s opportunities and gender equality?—Main findings of the ‘Care, Gender and Inclusive Growth in PRC’ Project”*

Jiantuo Yu, Director, Research Department I, China Development Research Foundation, *“Supporting Women Entrepreneurship: Rethinking Policy Actions”*

Joni Simpson, Senior Gender, Equality & Non Discrimination Specialist, ILO-Bangkok, *“Women’s Entrepreneurship: What Works?”*

12:30–12:35 Closing

Imrana Jalal, Senior Social Development Specialist (Gender and Development), ADB

12:35–2:00 Lunch