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Labour Migration in Asia: trends and developments

The 7th ADB-ADBI-OECD-ILO Roundtable on Labour Migration in Asia: Finance and Technology to Increase the Positive Impact of Migration on Home Countries

18 - 19 January 2017

Manila, the Philippines

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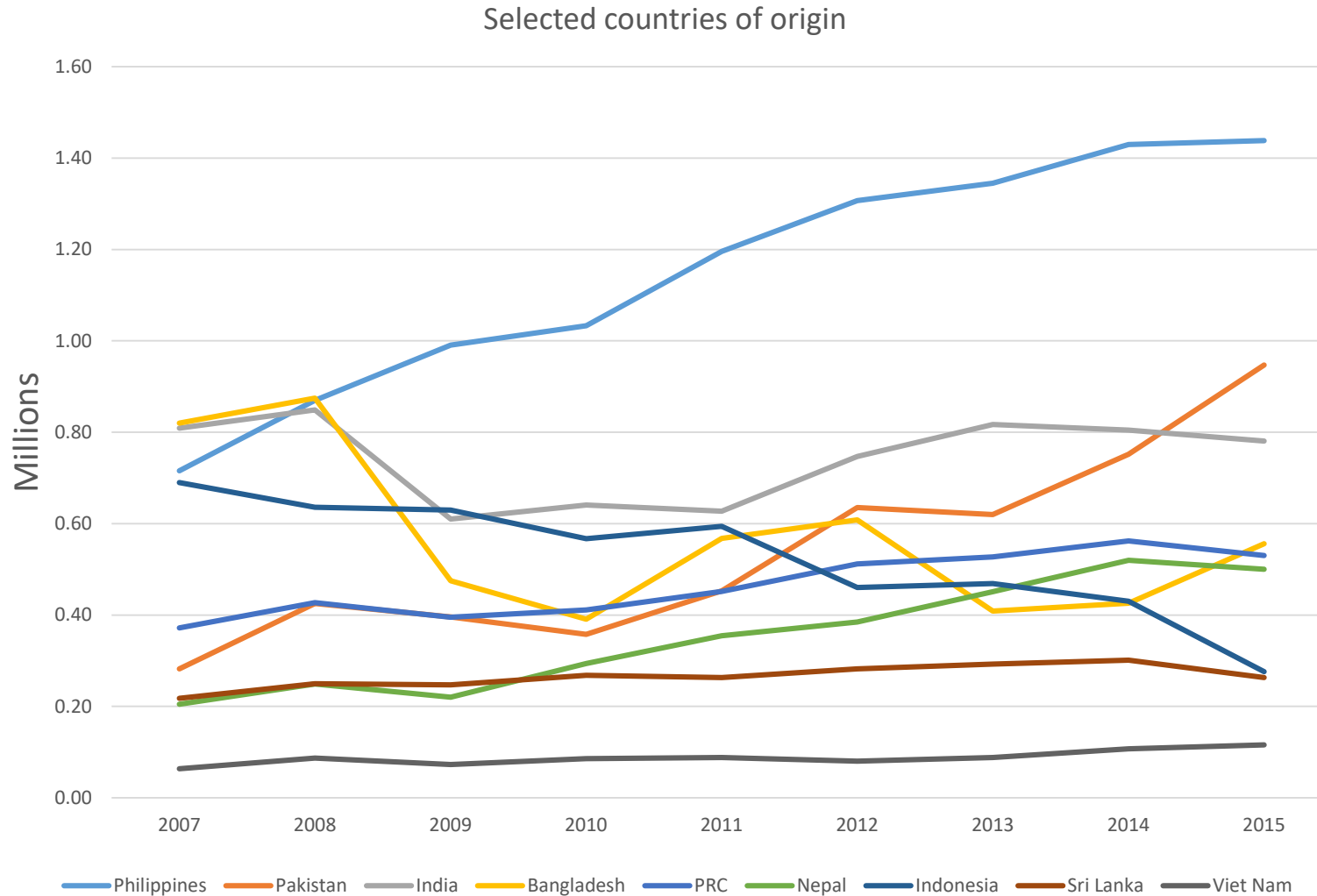


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Outflows from selected Asian countries

- Overall labour migration flows remained stable in 2015, numbering 5.4 million workers.
- GCC countries continued to receive most of the flows – 76% in 2015.
- Decrease in flows in 2015 – Indonesia, Sri Lanka, PRC
- Countries of origin vary significantly in the proportion of women deployed

Outflows of workers from selected Asian countries, 2007-2015

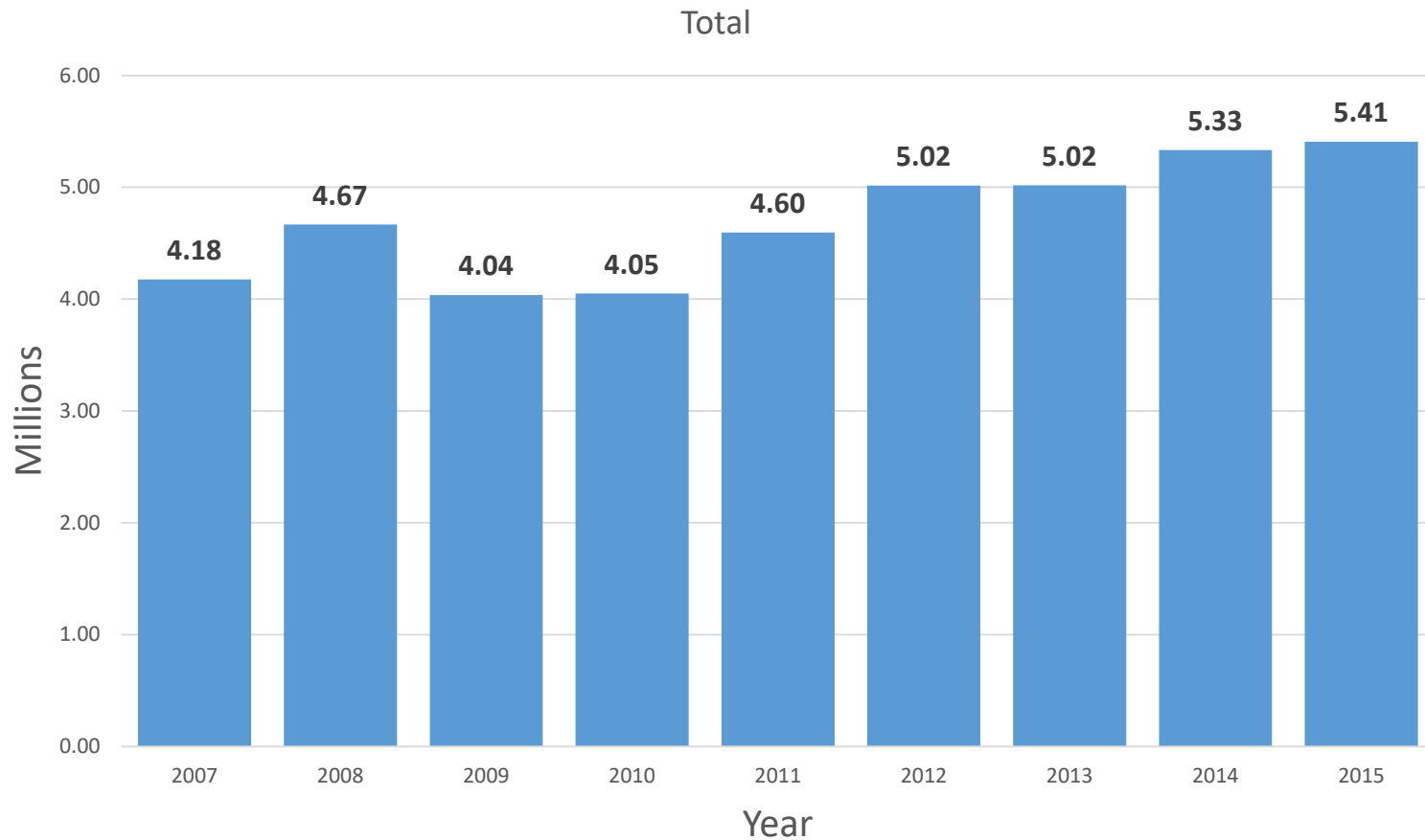


Source: National authorities. ADBI-OECD-ILO, 2017.

Outflows of workers from selected Asian countries, 2006-2015



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Source: National authorities. ADBI-OECD-ILO, 2017.



ASEAN trends

Deployment of migrant workers from ASEAN Member States, total deployment and deployment to ASEAN (total number and per cent)

AMS	Total Deployment (2015)	Deployment to ASEAN		Average annual deployment (2012-2015)		Deployment of women migrant workers (2015)	Average deployment of women (2012-2015) %
		Total	%	Global	ASEAN		
Cambodia	25 541	17 069	66.8	26 908	18451	9 901	34.1
Indonesia	275 736	128 646	46.7	428 096	172 669	243 600	56.6
Myanmar	95 274	89 031	93.4	73 830	69 014	12 600*	19.4 ¹
Philippines	1,430,842*	203,249*	14.2	1,445,000 ¹	62,620 ¹	--	--
Thailand	117 291	18 571	15.8	125 358	21 419	22 859	18.8
Vietnam	115 980	7 385	6.37	97 824	12 649	38 640	35.0
Lao PDR	50 712	--	--	--	--	27 176	50.2

Note:

*2014 data

1. 2012-2014 data only

Source: International Labour Migration Statistics (ILMS) Database for ASEAN, ILOSTAT

ASEAN trends



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Employed migrants by country of origin and sex

ASEAN Member State	Stock		
	Total	from ASEAN %	% women
Brunei Darussalam (2014)	52 161	79.5	35.8
Malaysia (2015)	2,127,100	56.4 (2013)	28.7
Thailand (2015)	1 443 474	89.7	...

Source: International Labour Migration Statistics (ILMS) Database in ASEAN, ILOSTAT

... indicates data not available

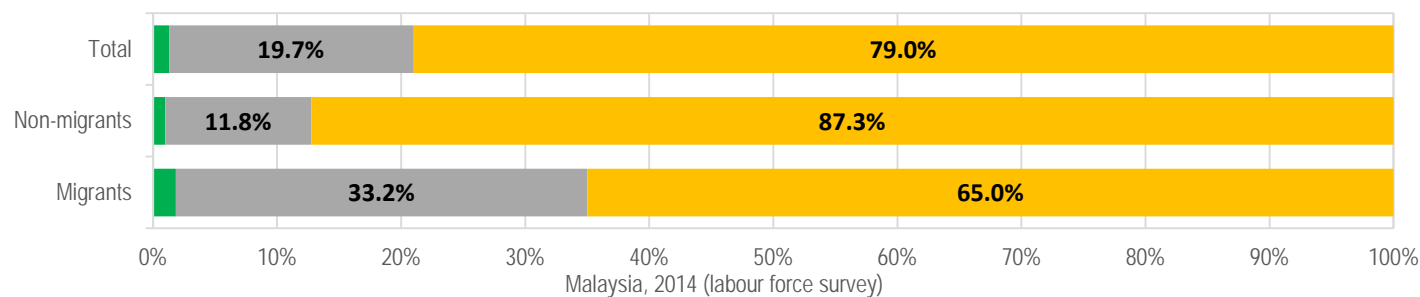
ASEAN trends



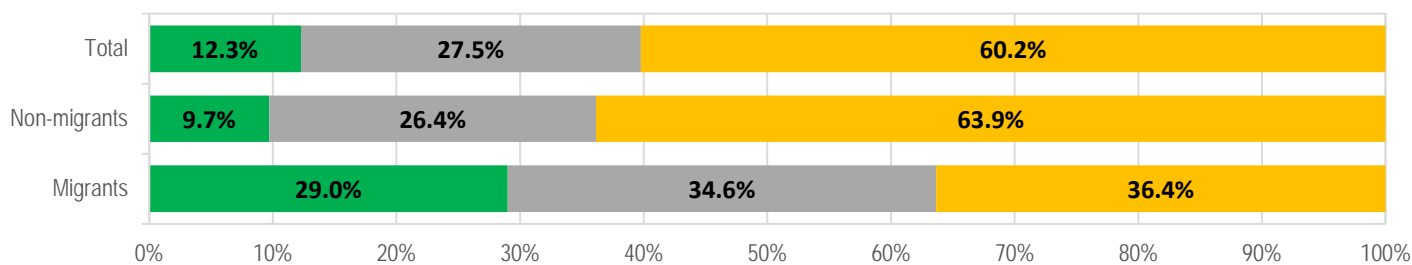
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Employment by broad economic activity for the total, nationals, and migrant populations in selected ASEAN Member States, latest year (per cent)

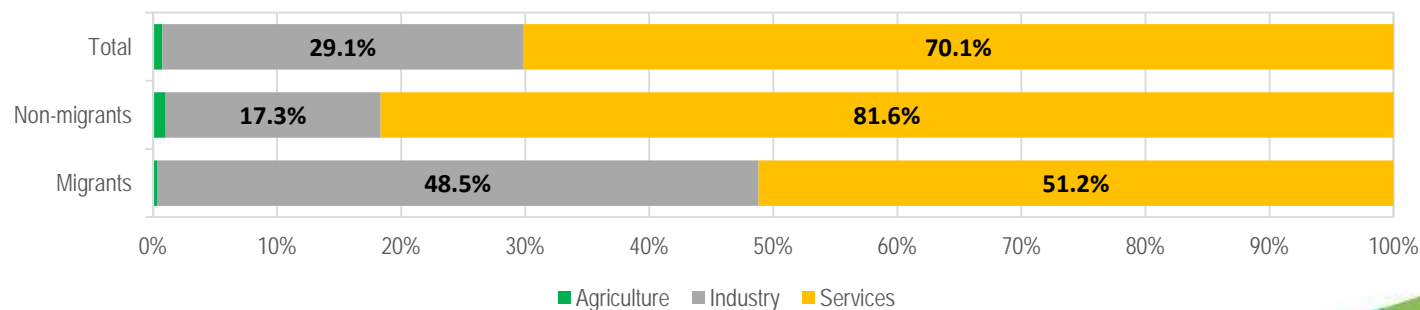
Brunei Darussalam, 2011 (population census)



Malaysia, 2014 (labour force survey)



Singapore, 2013 (administrative records)



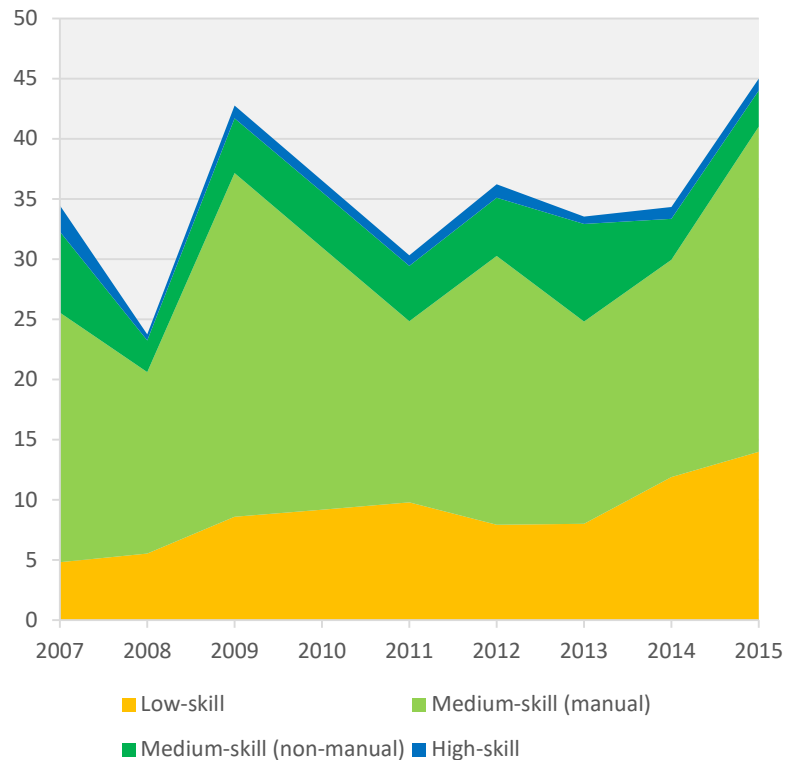
■ Agriculture ■ Industry ■ Services

Annual inflow of migrant workers by occupation ('000)

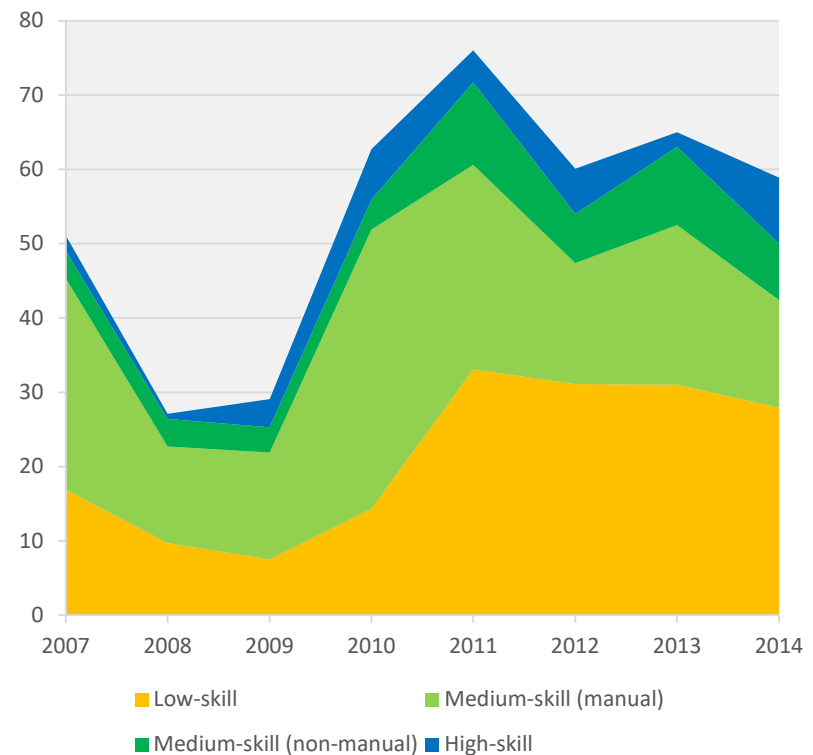


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Thailand (Labour Force Survey)



Malaysia (Labour Force Survey)



Notes: High-skill occupations are defined as International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO) groups 1 (managers), 2 (professionals), and 3 (technicians and associate professionals). Medium-skill (non-manual) occupations include ISCO groups 4 (clerks) and 5 (service and sales workers). Medium-skill (manual) occupations include ISCO groups 6 (skilled agricultural and fishery workers), 7 (craft and related trade workers), and 8 (plant and machine operators and assemblers). Low-skill occupations consist of ISCO group 9 (elementary occupations). See ILO. 2012. *International Standard Classification of Occupations: ISCO-08: Volume 1: Structure, group definitions and correspondence tables* (Geneva, ILO). Data for Thailand (labour force survey) measure all those who migrated to Thailand within the previous

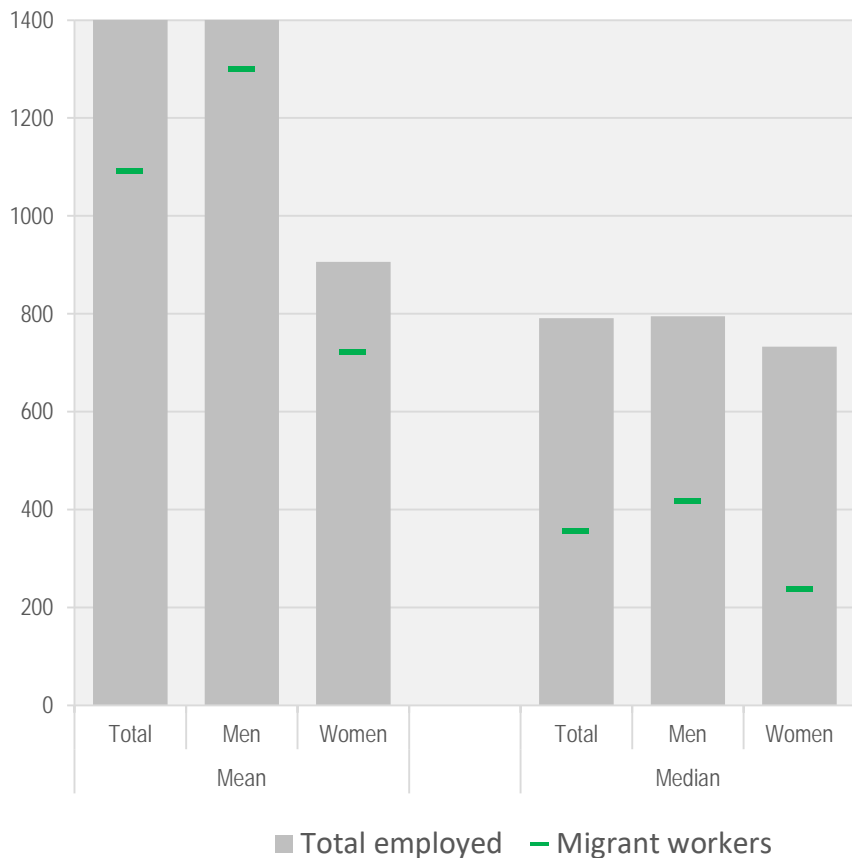
Source: International
Labour Migration
Statistics Database
(ILMS)

Average monthly wages of the total employed and migrant workers in Brunei Darussalam and Malaysia, latest year (USD)

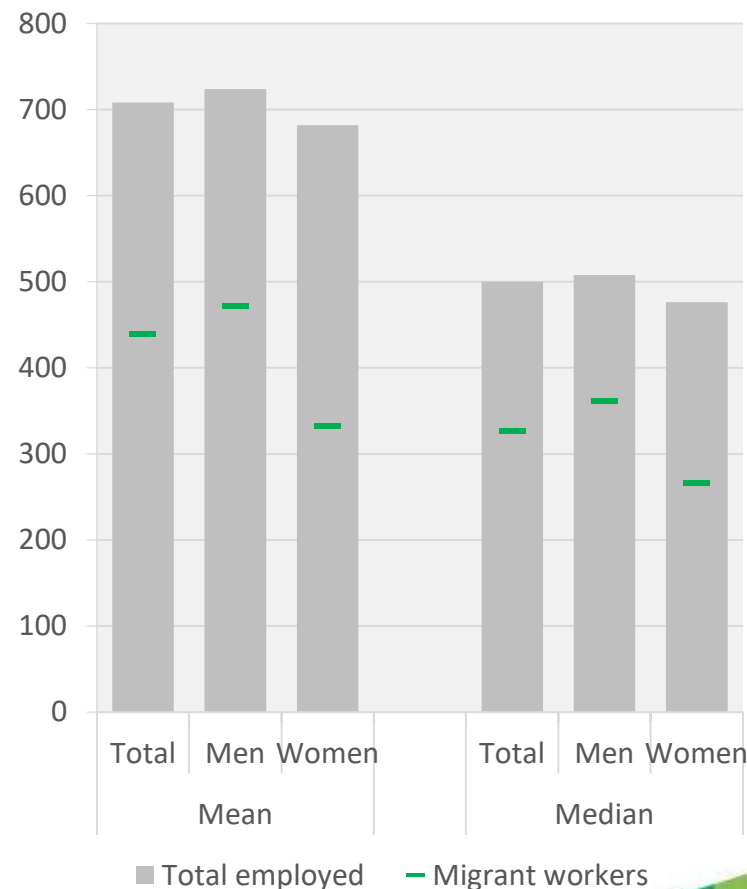


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Brunei Darussalam, 2014 (population census)



Malaysia, 2014 (labour force survey)



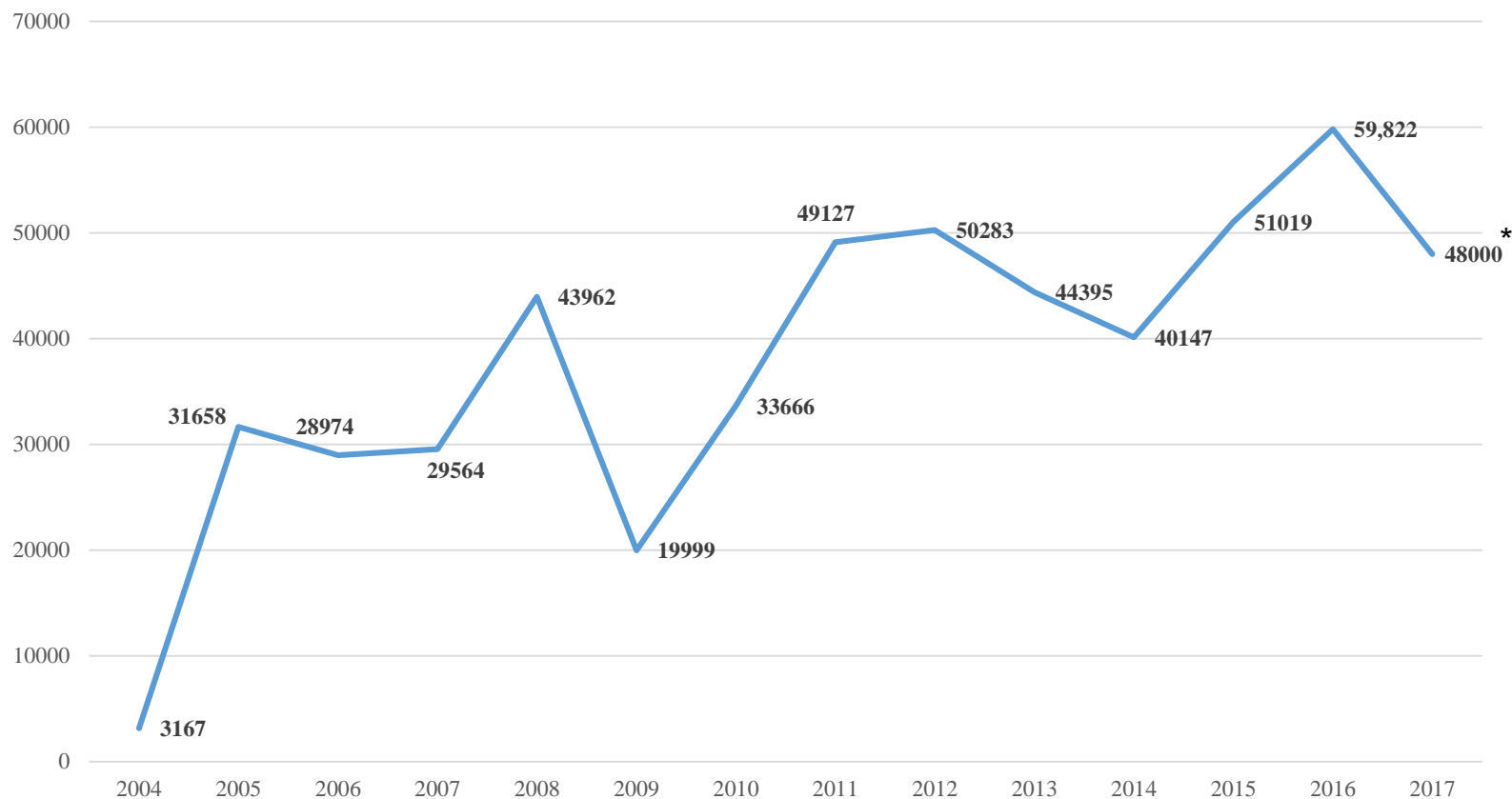
Source: International Labour Migration Statistics Database (ILMS)

Republic of Korea



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Entry of foreign workers to Republic of Korea by year



Source: Ministry of Employment and Labour, Republic of Korea

**Note: 2017 figure is the quota for EPS entrants for that year*



ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC)

ASEAN Labour Ministers Meeting (ALMM)
ALM' Work Programme 2016-2020

ASEAN Senior Labour Officials Meeting
(SLOM)

SLOM's Working Group on
Progressive Labour Practices to
Enhance the Competitiveness of
ASEAN (SLOM-WG)

**SLOM-WG Work Plan
2016-2020**

ASEAN Occupational Safety and Health
Network (ASEAN-OSHNET)

**ASEAN-OSHNET Plan of Actions 2016-
2020**

ASEAN Committee on the
Implementation of the ASEAN
Declaration on the Protection and
Promotion of the Rights of
Migrant Workers (ACMW)

ACMW Work Plan (2016-2020)

ACMW Drafting Team

ALM Work Program 2016-2020



Skilled and adaptable workforce	Productive Employment	Harmonious, Safe and Progressive Workplace	Expanded Social Protection
<p>Improved workforce competitiveness and productivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased number of skilled workers in ASEAN Member States Improved labour productivity of ASEAN Member States <p>Strengthened capacities to promote skills development and recognition (include but not limited to LMIS, TVET, etc.)</p>	<p>Improved level of employment and reduced levels of unemployment and under-employment in ASEAN Member States</p> <p>Increased support for workers in rural employment and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)</p>	<p>Promoting sound industrial relation system</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced incidence of labour disputes in ASEAN Member States Increased capacity and strengthened institutionalized mechanisms of social dialogues and tripartite cooperation in ASEAN <p>Fostering safe and healthy environment in the workplace</p> <p>Strengthened capacity for labour inspection</p> <p>Increased capacities for labour law enforcement</p>	<p>Strengthened social protection systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raised awareness on social protection Expanded coverage, affordability, availability, quality, equitability and sustainability of social protection <p>Reduced incidence of workers in vulnerable situations, including forced labour, in ASEAN Member States</p>

Recent policy developments

A. Information dissemination

1. Philippines: online PEOS portal introduced, now mandatory for 1st time MWs and seafarers

B. Regulation of recruitment and admission

1. ILO Fair Recruitment General Principles and Operational Guideline
2. Thailand – Royal Ordinance on Employment of MWs 2016 - zero recruitment fees to be charged to MWs; (New round of registration of MWs from April-July 2016).
3. India – requires female domestic workers and nurses to be placed only through State agencies; emigration clearance via e Migrate
4. Code of Conduct among PRAs adopted in Myanmar; VAMAS (Vietnam) - application of its Code.

Policy developments

c. Working conditions

1. Singapore has increased the number of OSH officers and auditors. (*ILO Study for Thailand, 2016, points to continuing OSH issues – on education and equipment - on smaller work sites, and inadequate number of inspectors*)
2. Thailand: multidisciplinary inspection team that conducts joint inspection of fishing vessels. Ratification of ILO Conventions on Maritime Labour and OSH (C 187).
3. Increase in minimum wage in Malaysia announced in 2016 (but exempts DWs)
4. Myanmar: Ratification of Maritime Labour Convention.

Policy developments

G : Collecting, sharing and analysing labour migration data

1. Myanmar - 1st labour force survey in 25 years conducted in 2015; relevant findings include:
 - 2 million nationals abroad: 61% male, 39% female
 - 85% of MWs send remittances to their former household members
 - Average number of years abroad: 4 years
2. International Labour Migration Statistics (ILMS) Database in ASEAN, supported by ILO – New round of data collection for 2015
 - Regional gender-disaggregated database consisting of 18 statistical tables
 - Technical focal points in all AMS

Gaps: include return migration and need for better Alignment of data definitions with international standards to ensure comparability

Policy developments

H : Bilateral agreements and policies

Several MOUs have been forged:

- Cambodia-Malaysia, 2015, - lifts suspension of deployment of DWs;
- Cambodia-Thailand, Lao PDR-Thailand, Myanmar-Thailand - 2016
- Bangladesh-Malaysia – 2016

Afghanistan: launched a National LM Strategy.

KSA: lifted a six year ban on male MWs from Bangladesh

I : Role of social partners and CSOs

- Advocacy on rights of migrant workers
- Support services on complaints; outreach to members

J : Global

- Agreement to launch intergovernmental negotiations on a Global Compact for safe, orderly and regular migration.

Concluding remarks

- Overall labour migration flows remained stable in 2015
- Flows mainly to GCC and SE Asia. Fall expected in deployment to ROK in 2017
- Issues around migration cost and recruitment highlighted
- Employment and working conditions of MWs continue to need attention
- Intergovernmental process on a Global Compact on Migration launched



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Thank you

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