




International Conference on

Migration, Remittances and Development Nexus in South Asia

*Crystal Room – Upper, Taj Samudra Hotel, Colombo
4-5 May, 2009*

Organized by
Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka
&
Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, Colombo

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IPS/FES Conference, 4 - 5 May 2009

Migration, Remittances and Development Nexus in South Asia *Pakistan*

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Outline

1. Migration trends from pakistan
from political to economically motivated
2. Migration policies and institutional frameworks
3. Problems during migration cycle
4. Conclusions and way ahead

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Migration from pakistan

- ♦ 1947 7.24 million people migrated to india on basis of their religious and political affiliations
- ♦ Economically motivated migration first begin in 50's with the revival of industrialization europe
- ♦ This trend intensified in 70's with the oil boom in middle east
- ♦ North-america is also a center of attraction for highly skilled professionals

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Migration from Pakistan (continued)
Distribution of trans-migrant Pakistanis workers by region

Regions	During 1971-2007	
	Number	Percentage
Middle east	3935403	94.66
Libya	67722	1.63
Malaysia	15932	0.38
South korea	12571	0.30
UK & USA	12209	0.29
Others	113751	2.74
Total	4157588	100.00

Source: Bureau of Emigration and Overseas employment Pakistan

Migration from Pakistan (continued)
Migrant skills

Skill level	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Highly qualified	1.78	1.27	1.89	2.63	3.12	2.52
Highly skilled	10.02	10.35	8.95	10.88	8.92	9.27
Skilled	50.85	47.52	44.32	40.66	39.25	35.97
Semi-skilled	2.20	2.15	2.21	1.88	1.84	2.18
Un-skilled	35.15	38.71	42.63	43.95	46.88	50.06
Total (number)	147422	214039	173824	142135	183191	287033

Migration
 Policies and institutional frameworks
Legal framework

Emigration from Pakistan for the purpose of overseas employment is controlled regulated, facilitated and monitored under Emigration Ordinance 1979 & Rules made there under (amended from time to time)

Legal framework
Salient features

- Procedure for registration of emigrants,
- Appointment and duties of the CWAs,
- Registration of emigrants working abroad,
- Appointment of sub-agents by recruiting agents,
- Training, orientation and counseling for awareness of emigrants,
- Application and renewal procedure for recruiting licenses,
- Recruiting agent's code of conduct, and
- Penalty for contravention of rules.

Institutional framework

1. Bureau of Emigration & Overseas Employment

- Control and regulate emigration for employment abroad.
- Implement emigration laws through 07 regional offices.
- Licensing authority for Overseas Employment Promoters.
- Look after the interest of the emigrants.
- Facilitate, supervise and monitor the activities of Overseas Employment Promoters
- Advise the Federal Government on emigration policies and procedure.

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Institutional framework (continued)

Overseas Employment Promoters

Process demands from foreign employers and assist them to make recruitment and selection of workers.

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Institutional framework (continued)

Overseas Pakistanis Division

Main responsibilities includes migrants and their families protection and welfare

thorough

Community welfare attaches in destination countries

Overseas pakistani foundation in home country

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Institutional framework (continued)

Community welfare attaches (CWA)

- ♦ Helping migrant workers in distress
- ♦ Enforcement of foreign service agreements of workers
- ♦ Ensuring workers access to benefits according to local laws and international laws and conventions ratified by the host countries

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Institutional framework *(continued)*

Overseas Pakistani Foundation (OPF)

- ◆ Health Care Facilities
- ◆ Educational Facilities
- ◆ Housing
- ◆ Economic Rehabilitation
- ◆ Compensation / Assistance
- ◆ Investment Advisory Cell

Institutional framework *(continued)*

Ministry of Interior

- ◆ Issuance of identification and traveling documents
- ◆ Border management to record and control flow of legal and illegal immigrants and emigrants

Problems during migration cycle

1. Home country

- ◆ Lack of information
- ◆ Overcharging
- ◆ Frauds
- ◆ Limited coverage of migrant and their families welfare initiatives

Problems during migration cycle *(continued)*

2. Destination countries

- ◆ Confiscation of travel documents
- ◆ Violations of work agreement
- ◆ Forced deportations
- ◆ Changing labor demands
- ◆ High costs of living and work permit renewal

Conclusions

- ◆ overdependence on one market
- ◆ continued supply of un-skilled labor
- ◆ slow process of policy reforms
- ◆ lack of coordination among institutional setups
- ◆ real stakeholders are missing, migrants associations/development sector

Conclusions (*continued*)

- ◆ Focus on macro level-micro level receives no attention
- ◆ Limited coverage of welfare and protection programs

Way ahead

- ◆ Accelerating policy reform process
- ◆ Inclusion of real stakeholders, migrants, in dialogue and development process
- ◆ Linkages beyond regions, South Asia-Middle-east, South Asia-Europe

Thanks!!