

# MIGRATION & BORDERS

Introducing the Economic Factors of Human Security

By Douglass MacLean



# ABOUT JUSTICE WITHOUT BORDERS

- Justice Without Borders (JWB) is a non-profit organization that supports victims of labor exploitation and trafficking in seeking fair compensation for exploiters even after they return home.
- JWB providing direct logistics and legal support for ongoing cases, as well as strategic research for practitioners on the front lines. We compile a learning catalog of cross-border cases, which in addition aims to improve client service, as well as to support legal and policy advocacy aimed at promoting the basic rights of migrant workers.
- Link: <http://www.forjusticewithoutborders.org/>



# WHAT IS “LABOUR MIGRATION” ?

- “Labour migration” can technically include all skill levels of workers.
- However, normally refers to low-to-medium skilled workers
- These groups of workers form the majority of workers...and value generated





# ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF LABOUR MIGRATION

- Home and host countries see value in labour migration.

## **Home country benefits**

- Remittances: Valuable to country GDP, but even bigger impact on the local level.
- A potential work channel when there are no good jobs around.
- Individual benefits—more than just income. Many personal benefits as well.

## **Host country benefits**

- Fills jobs that locals do not want to do. (at the prices employers want to pay)
- Frees local workers up for so-called “higher value” jobs
- Some opportunities to sustain population.



# HUMAN SECURITY IN LABOUR MIGRATION

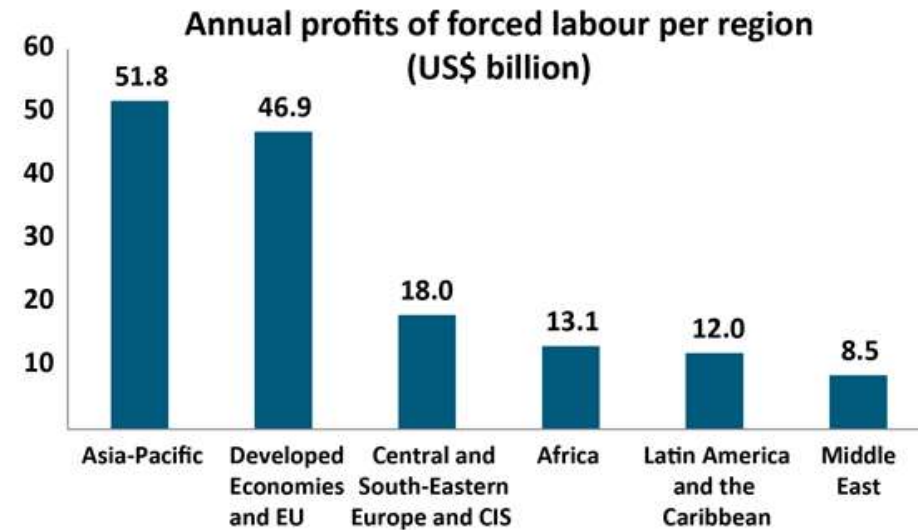
- What is “human security”?
- Key human security issues in labour migration.
  - Recruitment at home
  - Exploitation abroad
  - Special security risks for women in labour migration
- Economic implications of human security.
- Failures in human security → **exploitation!**



# ECONOMIC COSTS OF EXPLOITATION

- What is exploitation?
- Regional and global estimates
- Costs to host countries
- Costs to home countries

Forced labour generates annual profits of US\$ 150 billion



# BUILDING HUMAN SECURITY FOR MIGRANTS

- Creating regulations that match the market for migrant labour
  - Cross-border regulations are almost non-existent.
  - Existing agreements between countries can be the basis for new regulations
- Harmonizing laws between home and host countries
- Developing cross-border access to justice



**THANK YOU!**

