

**EXPERT SYMPOSIUM ON  
INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

Population Division  
Department of Economic and Social Affairs  
United Nations Secretariat  
New York, 26 February 2019

**CONTRIBUTION  
TO THE EXPERT SYMPOSIUM ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

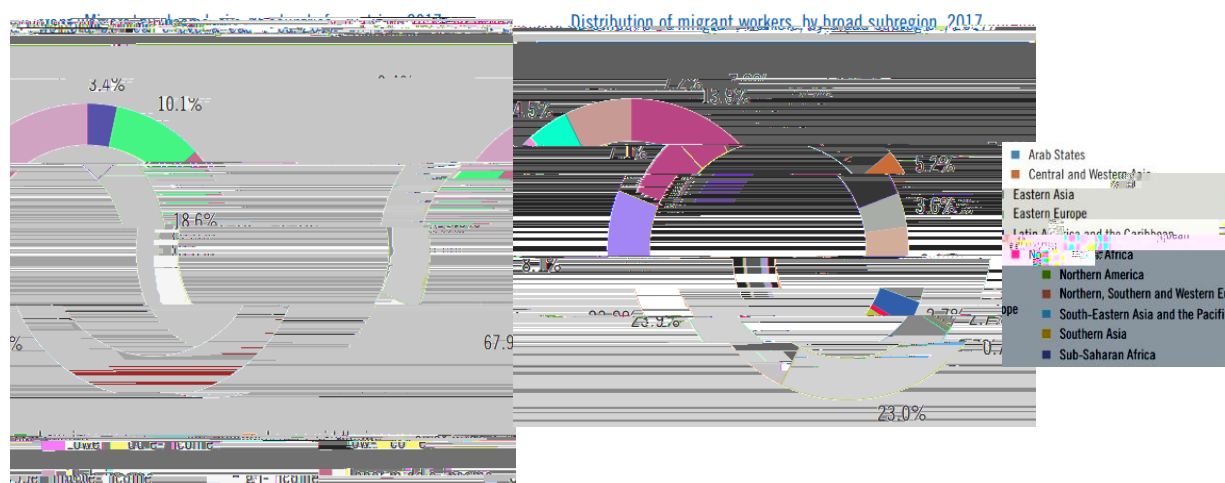
*International Labour Organization (ILO)*

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<sup>1</sup>The views expressed in the paper do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the United Nations Secretariat.







Source: ILO (2018).

### Future work

The ILO continues delivering technical assistance on improving labour migration statistics and has further extended the International Labour Migration Statistics (ILMS) database. The ILO, through its Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) TRIANGLE project, funded by Canada, produced the ILMS database to cover the 10 countries of the ASEAN region: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam. Following six successful rounds of data collection (in November 2013 and July 2014), the data were disseminated in the ILO’s ILOSTAT database on international labour statistics as a unique source freely available to users online. The number of countries included in the ILMS database was later extended to include 6 Arab States and, thanks to a memorandum of understanding signed between the ILO and Statistics Korea (KOSTAT), the number of countries in the database was further increased from 16 to 27.

The ILMS database is based on standardized tables defined across three separate modules: (a) international migrant stock, (b) international migrant flow, and (c) nationals abroad. The relevant data is collected through focal points identified by each Member State. The content and format of the questionnaire has recently been revised and improved so as to render the data-collection system more user-friendly. The questionnaire that forms the basis of the ILMS database has been integrated into the annual ILO questionnaire completed by national statistical offices of Member States. Eventually, the ILMS database will continue to contribute to the regular generation of global estimates on migrant workers.

As countries start implementing the new ICLS Guidelines and more data become available, future global estimates may be aligned accordingly and different categories of migrant workers may be included and analysed, such as frontier workers, seasonal workers, etc. In addition, statistics on different aspects of labour migration, such as quality of work, wages, labour rights (linked with the ICLS resolution on SDG indicator 8.8.2)<sup>3</sup> and the informal economy may be collected to provide more comprehensive insight for evidence-based policy-making.

<sup>3</sup> ICLS. 2018. *Resolution concerning the methodology of the SDG indicator 8.8.2 on labour rights*. International Labour Organization. Available at: [https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---stat/documents/meetingdocument/wcms\\_648636.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---stat/documents/meetingdocument/wcms_648636.pdf)