In 2013, there were 232 million international migrants world-wide. From 1990 to 2013, globally the number of international migrants increased by over 77 million; within Asia the number of migrants rose by 21 million.

In 2013, women comprised 48 per cent of all international migrants worldwide. Of all the international migrants, women represent 83 per cent of the 52-100 million domestic workers worldwide.

In 2013, 58 per cent of all migrants in Asia were men. The annual increase in the number of male migrants in Asia (3.1 per cent) is greater than the number of female migrants (1.9 per cent). The increase in male migrants in Asia was fuelled by the strong demand for migrant workers in the oil-producing countries in Western Asia.
Country Profiles of Labour Migration

1. **LEBANON**: As of 2013, there are currently over 250,000 women migrant workers in Lebanon (ILO). The majority of the migrant workers come to Lebanon from: Ethiopia, Philippines and Sri Lanka (UN Women).

2. **EGYPT**: Migrating population from Egypt in 2013 reached more than 3.4 million, whereby more than half (2.9 million) migrated to MENA countries, with the top 3 destination being Saudi Arabia (1,298,388), UAE (711,894) and Jordan (276,950) (UN DESA).

3. **JORDAN**: There are an estimated 1.5 million migrant workers currently in Jordan (ILO). The majority of migrant workers in Jordan originated from come from Egypt as well as several countries in South-East Asia, such as: Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, the Philippines and Indonesia. The most common employment sectors for migrant workers are: agriculture, construction, garment, tourism and hospitality and domestic work (ILO).

4. **SAUDI ARABIA**: There are over 9 million migrant workers currently in Saudi Arabia (HRW). A rough breakdown of the origin of these migrant workers is as follows: India: 1,452,927, Egypt: 1,005,873, Yemen: 894,109, Pakistan: 1,005,873, Bangladesh: 447,055, Ethiopia: 26,618. Foreign labour comprises 89% of the private sector labour force in Saudi Arabia (ILO).

5. **BAHRAIN**: More than 458,000 migrant workers work in Bahrain, who are primarily from South Asia, forming around 77% of the country’s work force – most working in unskilled or low-skilled jobs, in industries such as construction, retail, wholesale and domestic work in 2012. (Human Rights Watch).

6. **QATAR**: There are approximately 1.15 million migrant workers currently in Qatar (IOM), comprising roughly 94% of the overall population (ILO). A rough breakdown of the origin of these migrant workers is as follows: Egypt: 88,000; India: 250,000; Iran: 150,000; Nepal: 175,454; Pakistan: 250,000; Philippines: 125,000; Saudi Arabia: 20,000; Sri Lanka: 88,000.

7. **BANGLADESH**: More than 5 million Bangladeshi workers are working abroad as labour migrants. Major destination countries for Bangladeshi migrant workers are: Bahrain, Jordan, South Korea, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and UAE (ILO). Women comprise half of the total migrant labours (ILO), with 80% concentrating in Saudi Arabia and UAE. Overseas Pakistanis sent large amounts of remittances, reaching US$ 15 billion (ILO).

8. **INDIA**: Of all the total of 14 million Indian migrant workers currently living and working abroad, nearly half take jobs in a MENA country in 2013, predominantly in Saudi Arabia (1,761,857) and Kuwait (730,558) (UN DESA). Migrant workers contributed to the remittances of approximately US$ 70 billion in 2012.

9. **PAKISTAN**: More than 7 million Pakistanis have worked abroad since 1971 to 2013, out of these, 94% have sought employment in the GCC countries, with 80% concentrating in Saudi Arabia and UAE. Overseas Pakistanis sent large amounts of remittances, reaching US$ 15 billion (ILO).

10. **SRI LANKA**: Over 1.5 million Sri Lankan nationals are working abroad as labour migrants. Major destination countries for Sri Lankan labour migrants are: Bahrain, Jordan, South Korea, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and UAE (ILO). Women comprise half of the total migrant labours (ILO), with women domestic workers comprised 42% of the migration flows from Sri Lanka in 2010 (Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment). As of 2013, the amount of remittances from overseas Sri Lankan workers has totaled over 6.7 million USD (IOM). The remittances sent by the migrant workers contribute 22.4 per cent of GDP in 2012 (ILO).

11. **PHILIPPINES**: A total of 10,455,788 Filipinos were working and living overseas as of 2011. Of those, 45% are overseas Filipino workers who are expected to return at the end of their contract of employment. The highest number of temporary overseas Filipinos is found in West Asia (2,717,046) mostly in Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Kuwait and Bahrain) (ILO). As of 2013, the amount of remittances from overseas Filipino workers totaled over 24 billion USD, representing 12.65% of GDP in 2012 (ILO).

12. **YEMEN**: The majority of Yemeni migrants work in the GCC countries, particularly coming from India (2,852,207), Bangladesh (1,089,917), and Pakistan (953,708), Egypt (711,894) and Philippines (477,139) comprising over 90 percent of the country’s private workforce. (UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division).

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