

UNCTAD workshop on  
**Recognition of qualifications to facilitate  
movement of natural persons**

Co-organized by UNCTAD-ACP Secretariat

Geneva, 3 May 2019

**Mutual recognition on qualifications: facilitating skilled labor mobility**

by

Ms. Devi Ariyani  
Executive Director  
Indonesia Services Dialogue



# Workshop on Recognition of Qualifications to Facilitate the Movement of Natural Persons

Geneva, 3 May 2019



## Session 2: Mutual Recognition of Qualifications in Bilateral or Regional Labour Agreements

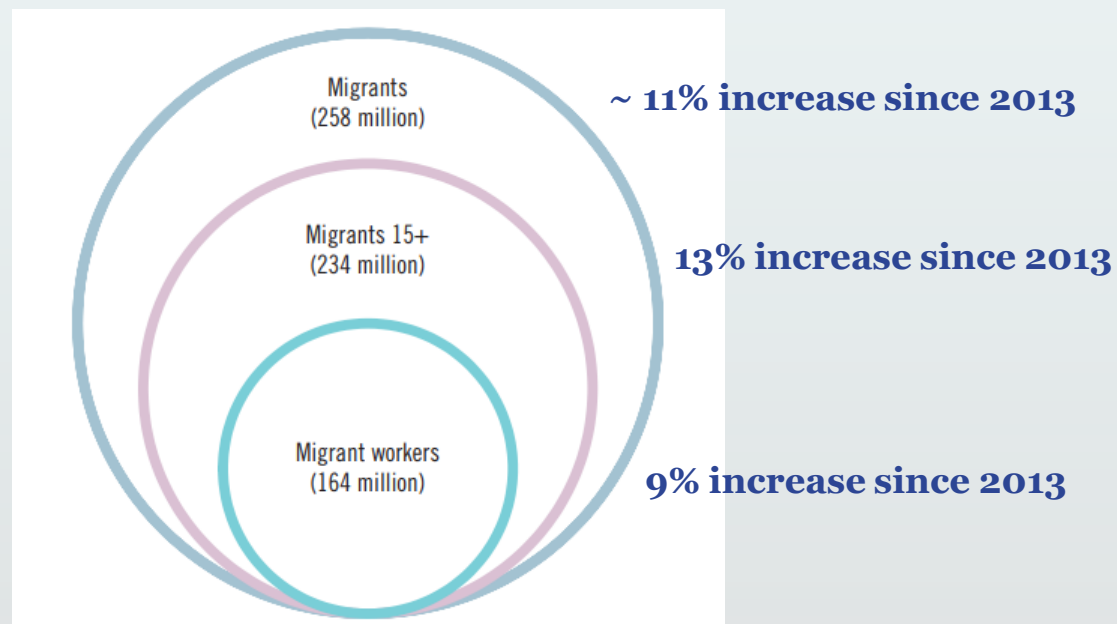


**Natalia Popova**

**ILO Labour Migration Branch**

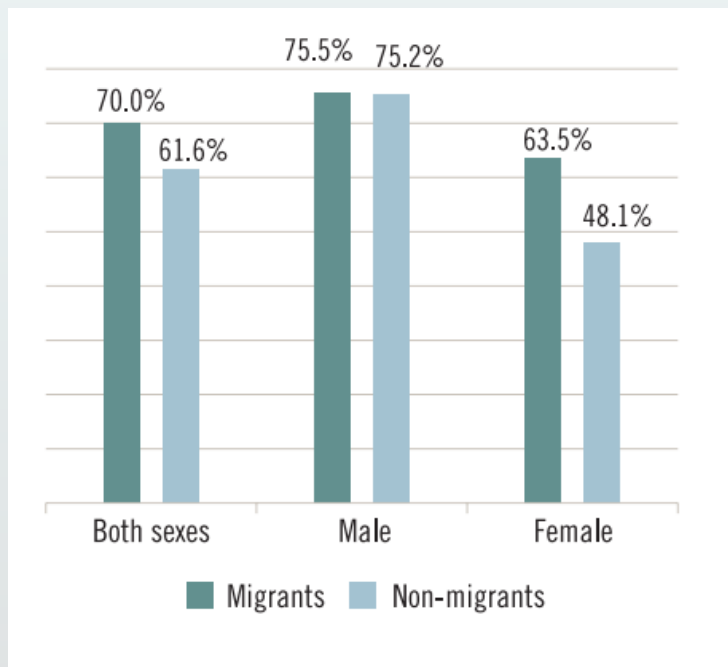


## Global Estimates - stock of international migrants and migrant workers, (2017)



Source: ILO Global Estimates on International Migrant Workers – Results and Methodology. 2nd ed. International Labour Office - Geneva: ILO, 2018

## Global Estimates - global labour force participation rates of migrants and non-migrants, by sex (2017)

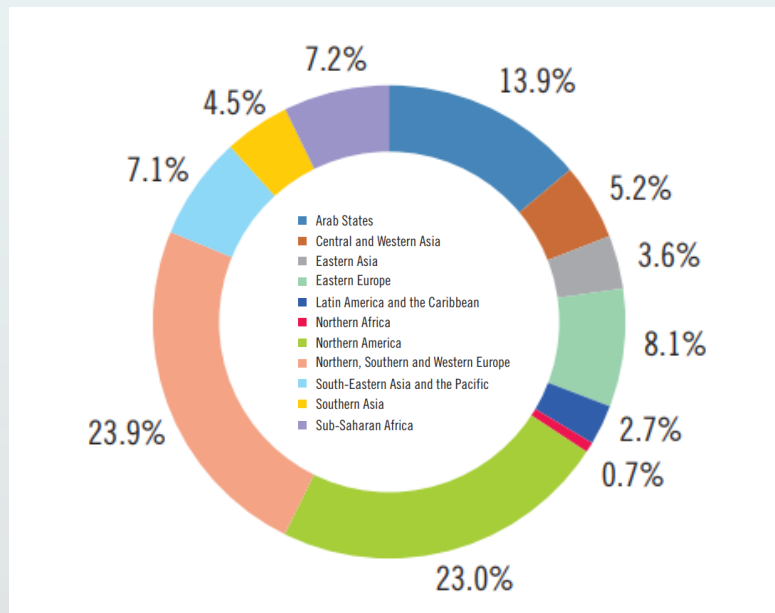


The migrant labour force participation rates of both men and women were lower in 2017 compared to 2013. These findings coincide with the general global trend of falling labour force participation.

Migrants of working age have higher labour force participation than non-migrants of working age, primarily due to the significantly higher labour force participation rates of migrant women compared to non-migrant women.

Source: ILO Global Estimates on International Migrant Workers – Results and Methodology, 2nd ed. International Labour Office - Geneva: ILO, 2018

## Global Estimates - distribution of migrant workers, by broad sub-region (2017)



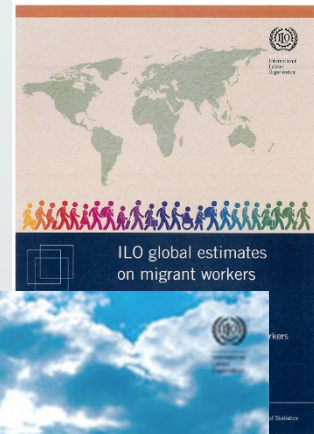
The shares of migrants in each region's workforce in 2017 were estimated to be very similar to 2013 levels.

In 9 out of 11 sub-regions, the labour force participation rate of migrants is higher than that of non-migrants.

The sub-region with the largest share of migrant workers as a proportion of all workers is the Arab States (40.8 per cent), followed by Northern America (20.6 per cent) and Northern, Southern and Western Europe (17.8 per cent).

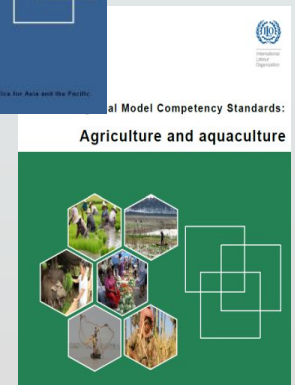
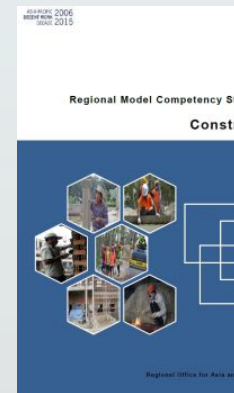
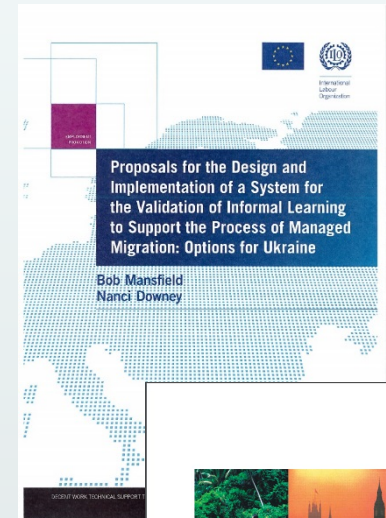
# Identifying skills demand in both countries of origin and destination

- No systemic approach to data collection and analyses on labour migration, also when it comes to the skill levels of migrants;
- The 20<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Labour Statisticians addressed the above issues and adopted: *Guidelines concerning statistics on international labour migration & Guidelines concerning measurement of qualifications and skills mismatches of persons in employment*;
- Tools for labour migration evidence-policy making:
  - *ILO Global International Labour Migration Statistics Database*
  - *ILO Labour Migration Module in Labour Force Surveys*



# Strengthening national systems of skills recognition

- Skills recognition systems should be developed and further enhanced, including recognition of prior learning;
- Engaging social partners to better understand labour market demands and update national skills training programs;
- Improving access to training and life-long learning;
- Examples of good practice include:
  - *ILO Regional Model Competency Standards piloted in the Asia-Pacific region*
  - *ILO technical assistance in Ukraine for the design and implementation of a system of recognition of prior learning to support managed migration*
  - *ILO Guide on Facilitating the recognition of skills of migrant workers: Guide for employment services providers,*
  - *The ILO collaboration with the African Union on skills development and mobility*



# Including and effectively implementing skill recognition in bilateral or regional labour agreements

<b>Good practice description</b>	<b>Africa</b> No. of agreements	<b>% of total</b> (n=32)	<b>Asia</b> No. of agreements	<b>% of total</b> (n=65)	<b>Europe &amp; Americas</b> No. of agreements	<b>% of total</b> (n=47)	<b>Total</b> No. of agreements	<b>% of total</b> (n=147)
<b>Provision for recognition of skills and qualifications in the destination country</b>	0	0	6	9	4	9	10	7



# Including and effectively implementing skill recognition in bilateral or regional labour agreements

- Passage from an agreement on principles to transposition of obligations into the national legal framework of the countries concerned;
- Priority is often given to skilled workers;
- Heterogeneous education systems, language barriers and cultural differences constitute a hurdle;
- Lack of involvement of social partners;
- Countries' different political priorities;
- Scarce statistical information on skill needs and gaps;
- Who pays the cost of recognition?;
- Many initiatives and potential risk of overlaps and gaps in technical support.

# Thank You

ILO Labour Migration Branch  
[www.ilo.org/labourmigration](http://www.ilo.org/labourmigration)