



SOUTH-SOUTH MIGRATION: PERSPECTIVES FROM THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION



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Presentation Outline

1. What Do We Know about South-South Migration from the Asia-Pacific Region?: Three Observations
1. Is South-South Migration Distinctly Different from South-North Migration?
2. Managing Emigration beyond the “North-South” Paradigm: Policy Insights from the Philippines



PART I

What Do We Know about South-South Migration from the Asia-Pacific Region:

Three Observations



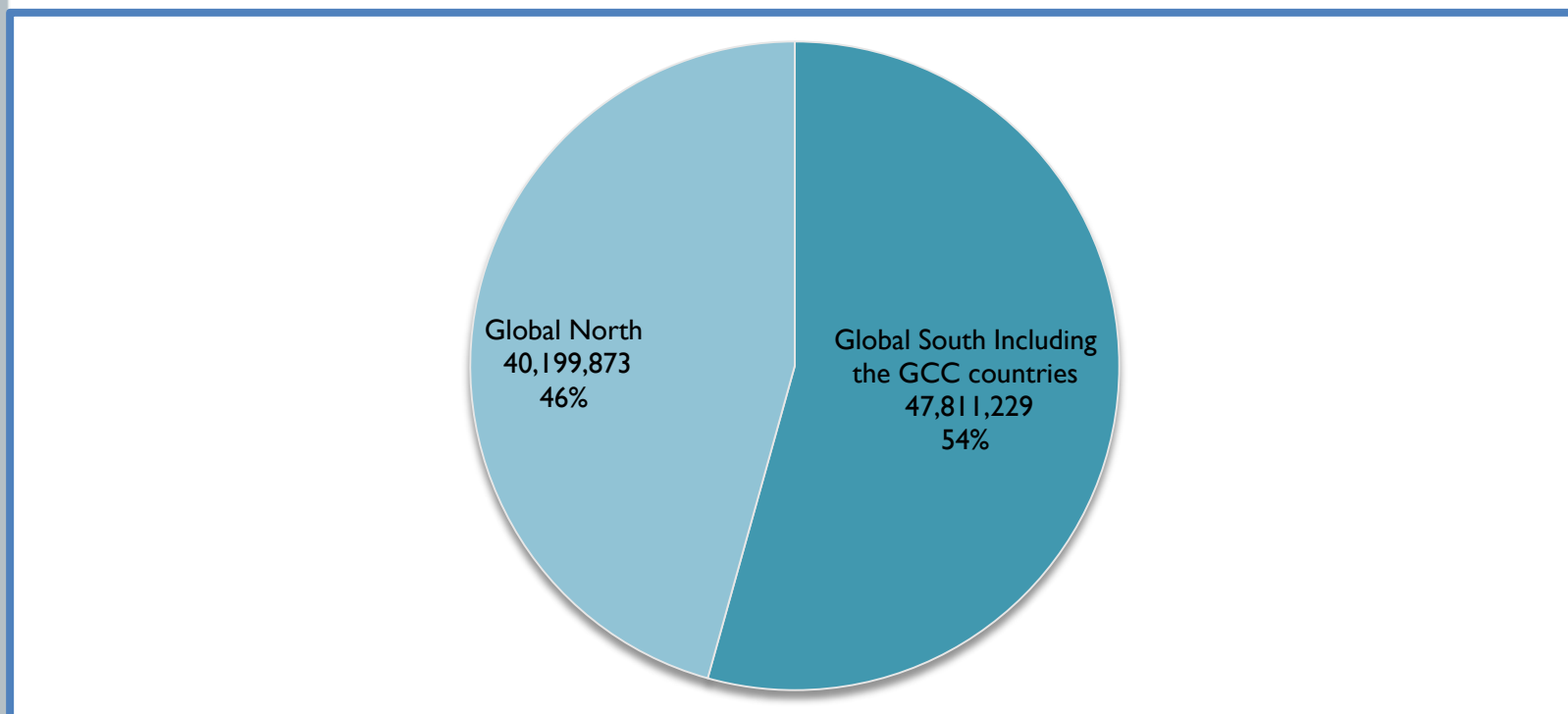
South-South Migration from the Asia-Pacific Region is:

(I)
Substantial



Proportion of Migrants from the Asia-Pacific "South" by Destination

Total Number of Asia-Pacific Migrants from the South: 88 million



Source: Migration Policy Institute tabulation of data from the United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2013). Trends in International Migrant Stock: Migrants by Origin and Destination, 2013 Revision (United Nations database, POP/DB/MIG/Stock/Rev.2013). Available here: <http://esa.un.org/unmigration/TIMSO2013/migrantstocks2013.htm>.

In the United Nations, the term "North" refers to countries or regions traditionally classified for statistical purposes as "developed," while the term "South" refers to those classified as "developing." The developed regions include Europe and Northern America plus Australia, New Zealand and Japan.



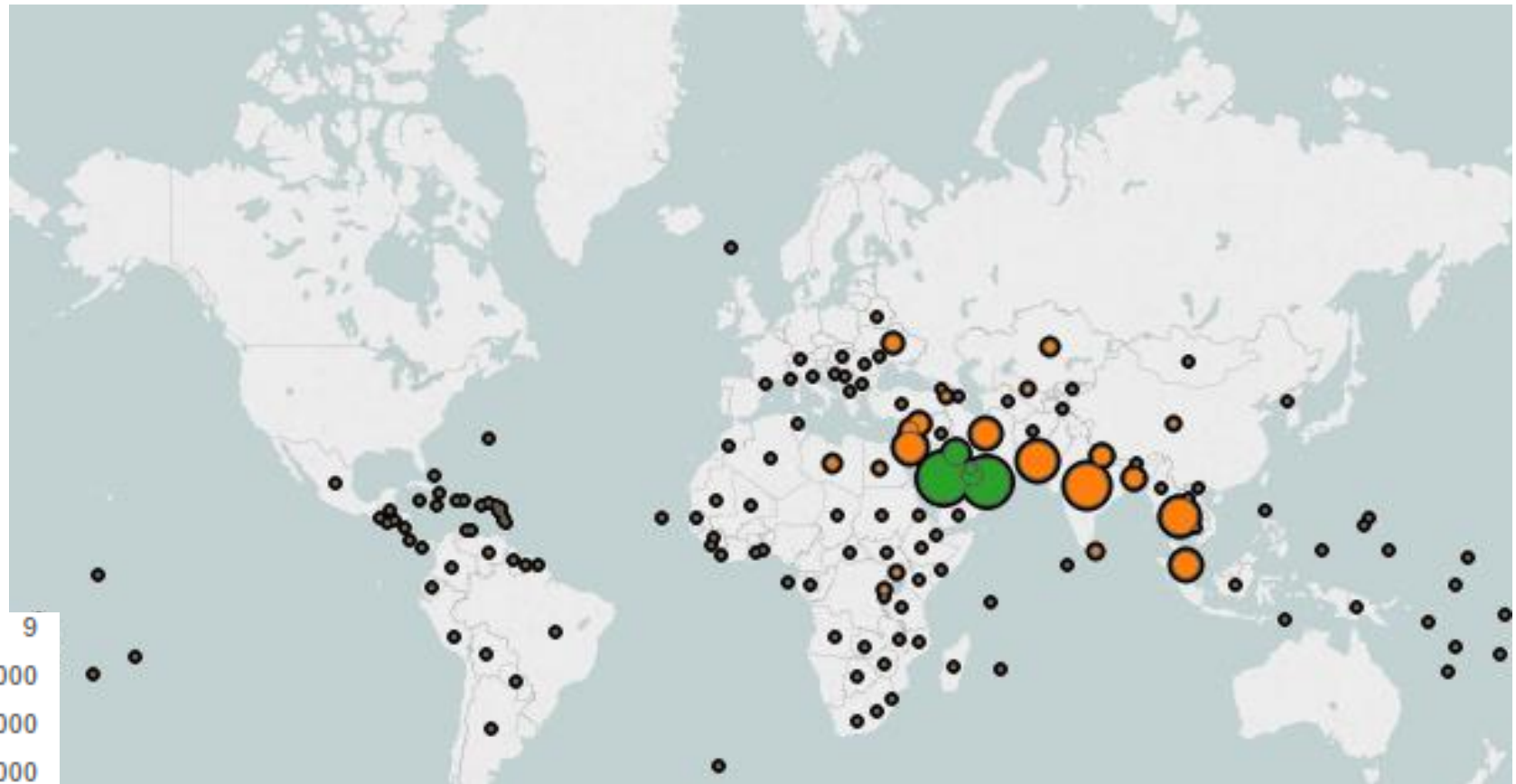
South-South Migration from the Asia-Pacific Region is:

(1)
Substantial

(2)
Concentrated to
a few countries



Nearly 90% of South-South* Migrants from the Asia-Pacific are Concentrated in 15 Countries



* "South" includes countries in the Gulf Cooperation Council

Source: Migration Policy Institute tabulation of data from the United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2013). Trends in International Migrant

Stock: Migrants by Origin and Destination, 2013 Revision (United Nations database, POP/DB/MIG/Stock/Rev.2013). Available here:

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South-South Migration from the Asia-Pacific Region is:

(1)
Substantial

(2)
Concentrated to
a few countries

(3) Driven by
relatively open
borders to low
skilled workers,
relatively lower
recruitment cost
and porous
borders in key
migration
corridors



PART II

Is South-South Migration from the Asia-Pacific Region Distinctly Different from South-North Migration?

....Not really especially if our concern is the well-being of migrants



More than the country of destination, migrants' wellbeing depends largely on:

- their skill level
- the type of work they do
- the sectors they work in and;
- their legal status

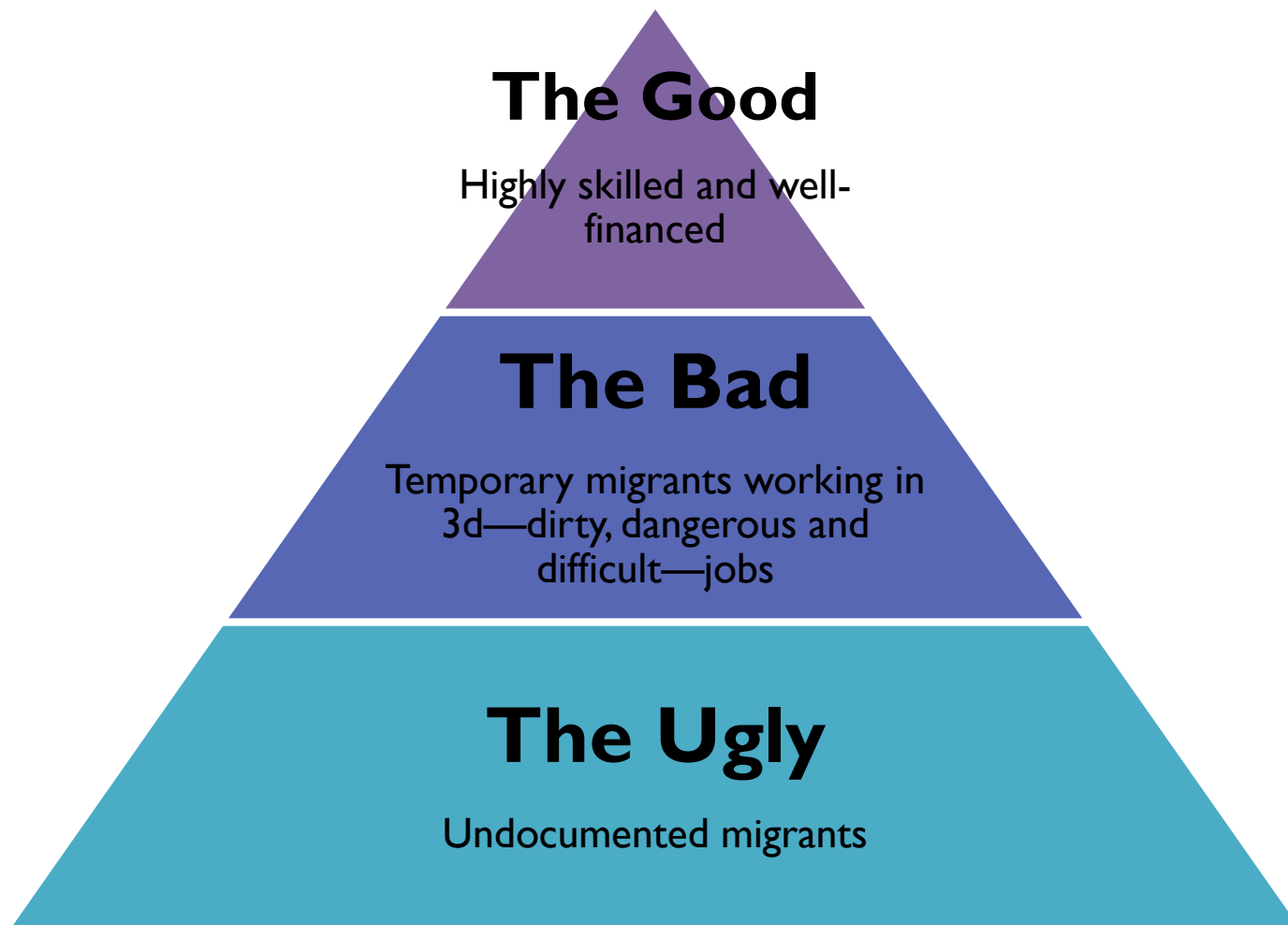


Policies in the “South” are converging with those common in the “North”

- Many countries do not place specific obstacles to the recruitment of skilled workers, and several have specific policies to support their immigration
- Policies towards low-skilled workers are generally restrictive, with limited duration of stay and measures to discourage their employment



In general, a three level hierarchy of sorts exists in both the “North” and the “South”





Case Study:

Domestic Workers and Seafarers: In Leagues of their Own?

- In high demand, domestic work is the most common occupation among Asia-Pacific women, and arguably, one of the most unprotected sectors in both the North and South.



Countries who have ratified the ILO Convention on Domestic Workers (C189, 2011)

Global “North”	Global “South”
Belgium*	Argentina
Chile*	Bolivia
Finland*	Colombia
Germany	Costa Rica
Ireland	Dominican Republic*
Italy	Ecuador
Portugal*	Guyana
South Africa	Mauritius
Switzerland**	Nicaragua
Uruguay	Panama*
	Paraguay
	Philippines

• The Convention will enter into force in 2016

** The Convention will enter into force in November 2015



Case Study:

Domestic Workers and Seafarers: In Leagues of their Own?

- In high demand, domestic work is the most common occupation among Asia-Pacific women, and arguably, one of the most unprotected sectors in both the North and South.
- On the other hand, seafarers are arguably the most protected migrant workers largely in part because they fall outside the North-South paradigm. Seafarers are neither in the North or South.

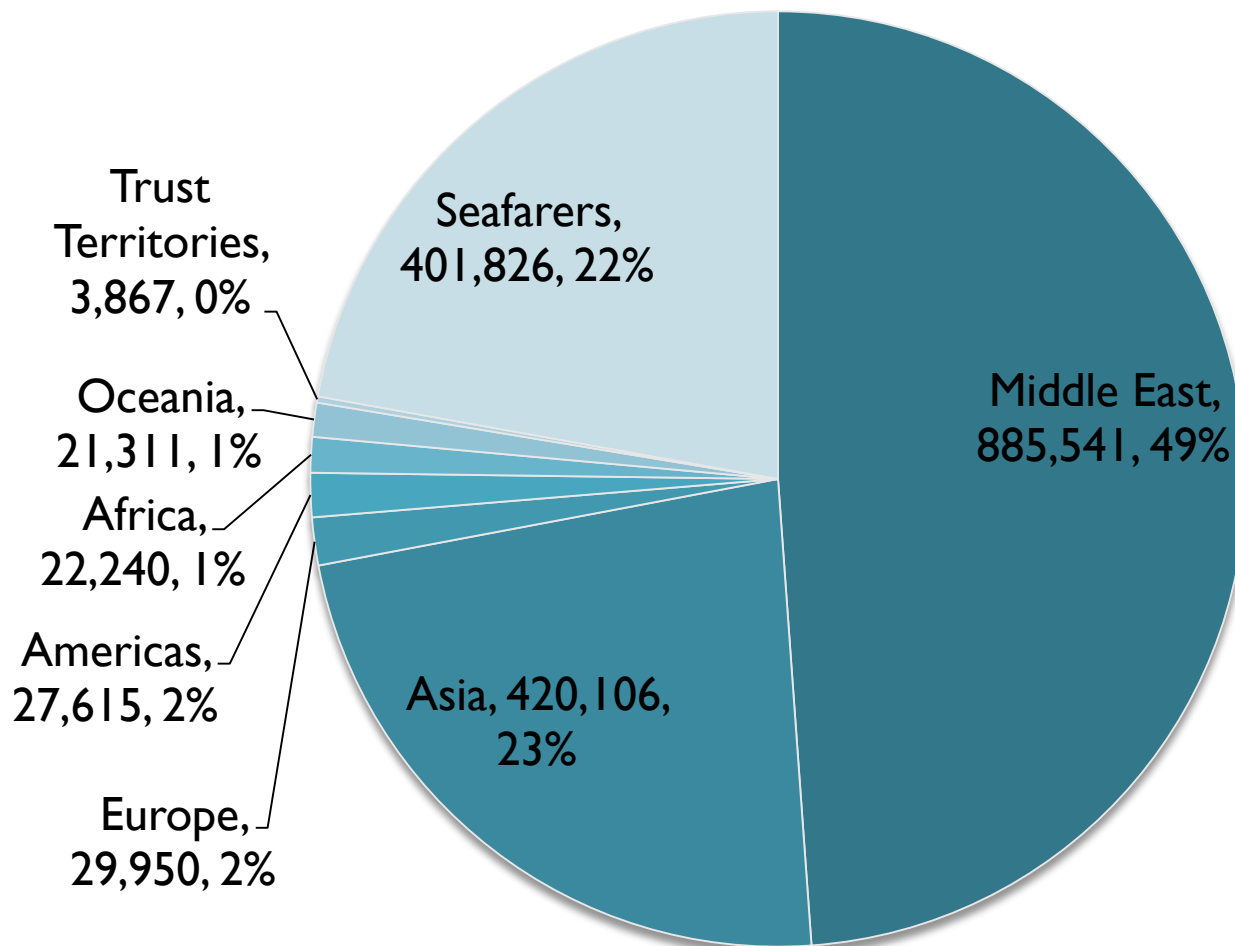


PART III

Managing Emigration beyond the North-South Paradigm: Insights from the Philippines



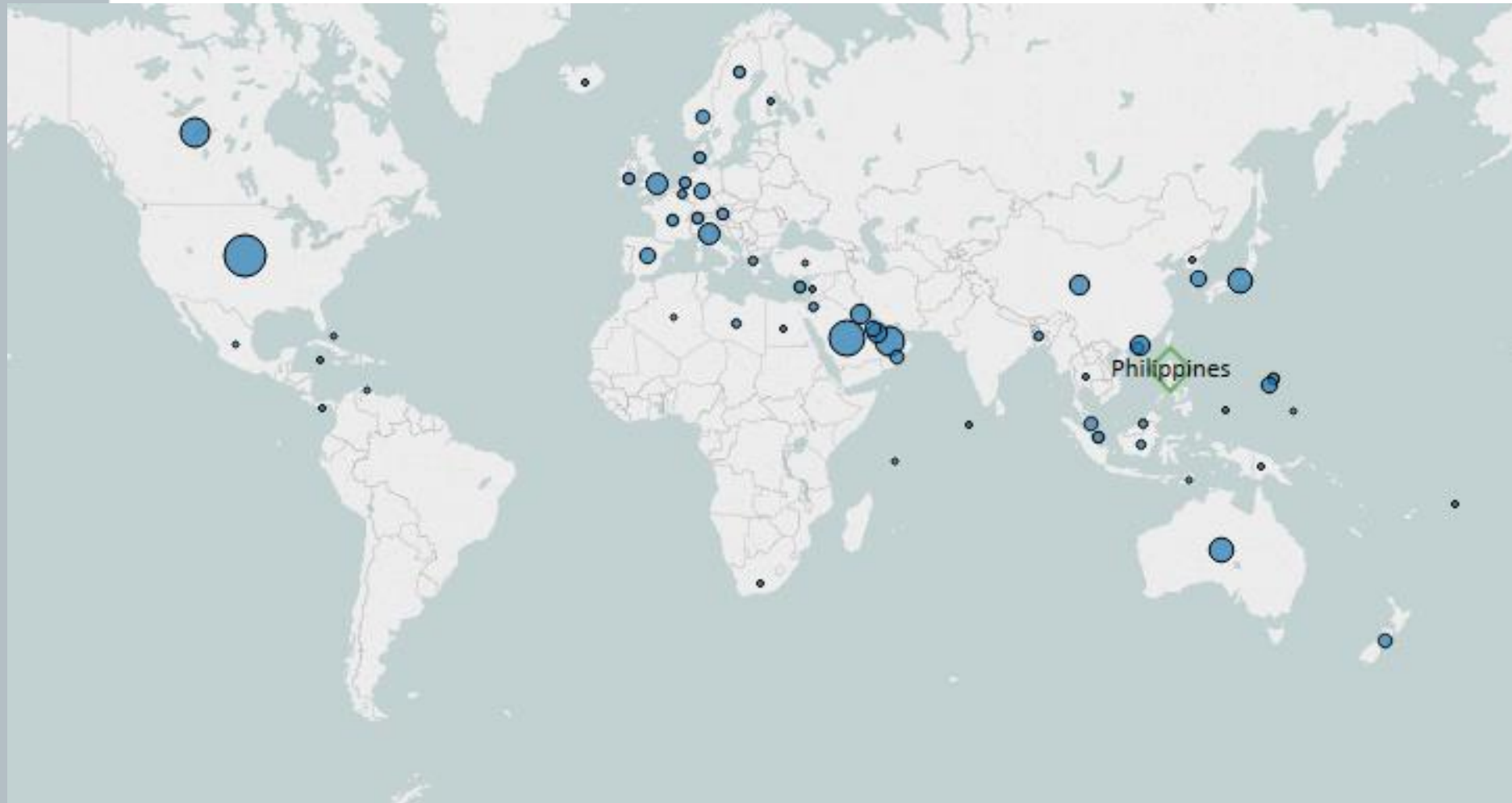
In 2014 alone, the Philippines sent 2.4 million workers in over 190 countries



Source: Philippine Overseas Employment Administration



The Filipino Diaspora: Over 10 Million and Counting



Source: Migration Policy Institute tabulation of data from the United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (2013). Trends in International Migrant Stock: Migrants by Origin and Destination, 2013 Revision (United Nations database, POP/DB/MIG/



Managing “South-South” and “South-North” Migration: Three Policy Insights from the Philippine Experience

(1)

Focus on skill
upgrading

(2)

Focus on
certification and
mutual recognition of
qualifications

(3)

Opening up of legal
and safer migration
channels through
bilateral agreements,
MOUs, and other
arrangements




Running in Circles:

Progress and Challenges in Regulating Recruitment of
Filipino and Sri Lankan Labor Migrants to Jordan

By Dovelyn Rannveig Agunias

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