
CIFAL Jeju- SDGs and migration

People

Type:	Conference
Location:	Jeju, Republic of Korea
Date:	26 Jun 2018 to 29 Jun 2018
Duration:	4 Days
Programme Area:	Decentralize Cooperation Programme
Website:	http://cifaljeju.org
Price:	\$0.00
Event Focal Point Email:	cifaljeju.jitc.1@gmail.com
Partnership:	CIFAL Philippines, international IDEA

BACKGROUND

Over the past few decades, globalization and technological advancements have significantly boosted human mobility. As of 2017, UN DESA estimates that 258 million people – 3.3 percent of the global population – are international migrants. While the proportion of migrants to those who remain in their country of birth is relatively small, the total number of people who cross international borders to live, work, study or seek refuge has grown by 49 percent since 2000, and experts predict that migrant flows will continue to increase in the years to come.

Migration has thus become a major issue on the international agenda. In September 2016, the UN General Assembly convened to develop a comprehensive approach to matters involving migrants and refugees – a first in the forum’s history, underscoring the growing importance of international cooperation on migration governance. All 193 UN member states signed the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, signifying global solidarity and commitment to addressing all aspects of international migration, including humanitarian, development and human rights issues.

The UN is now developing a Global Compact for Migration to facilitate safe, orderly and regular diaspora and protect the human rights of migrants. However, since the signing of the New York Declaration, negotiations on the agreement have faced several challenges, including the withdrawal of the United States in December 2017. US Ambassador to the UN Nikki Haley said the declaration is “not compatible with US sovereignty,” and that the country’s “decisions on immigration policies must always be made by Americans and Americans alone.”

This withdrawal from a landmark international agreement illustrates the tensions brought about by migration, especially in policy areas that represent core components of state and sovereignty. Migration governance has become a balancing act of protecting migrants’ rights while also protecting borders. According to International IDEA’s Global State of Democracy, large migration flows strain democratic institutions’ capacity to effectively integrate migrants into society, and call into question the extent to which governments can and should enable migrants’ political participation. Migration also affects democratic institutions and processes in migrants’ countries of origin as citizens abroad seek to influence policies at home.

The figures and political and social developments are impetus for CIPAL Philippines, CIPAL Jeju and the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA) to jointly convene a workshop on the nexus of migration and democracy, specifically, the challenges to protecting migrants’ rights.

EVENT OBJECTIVES

- Identify and articulate through multi-stakeholder discussions and work group activities the notable challenges of migration as a matter of global

development, multiculturalism and human rights;

- Outline and compare the migration governance strategies of various countries in the Asia-Pacific as a way to gain a holistic and comparative perspective on migration and citizenship, so that the comparisons may serve as mutually beneficial learning exercises (ensuring to have representation from) for both migrant origin and destination countries ; and
- Tackle the inter-relationships among migration, gender and sustainable development, particularly towards aligning migration policies with the targets of the 2030 Agenda;

CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

Session 1: Migration data for sustainable development

Session 2 [Jeu forum]: Implementation of safe, orderly, and regular migration (SDGs. Target 10.7) in the region

Session 3: Civil rights with a strong gender component (focus will be on marriage migrants and children of interracial relationships)

Session 4: Political rights, focusing on political participation and voting rights

Session 5: Economic rights, focusing on labor migrants and social protection mechanisms

Session 6: Prevention and combatting human trafficking in persons in the context of international migration

Session 7: Empowerment of migrants and societies to realize full inclusion and social cohesion

Session 8: International Cooperation for migrants

Session 9: CityShare

METHODOLOGY

- Lectures and presentations by experts
- Practical exercises and group discussion
- UNITAR CityShare Methodology
- Action plan presentation
- Study Visit

TARGETED AUDIENCE

This training is open to local government officials and other related personnel from civil society organizations and institutions who directly work in the field of migration in the Asia Pacific countries.