

LABOUR MIGRATION FLOWS IN THE GREATER MEKONG SUBREGION

The GMS is home to more than 240 million people, including an estimated 3 million migrants. Thailand is the major receiving country for migrants in the region, hosting around 2 to 2.5 million migrants, while Cambodia and the Yunnan province of China also host a number of migrants, including long-term residents.

While much of the migration from within the GMS to outside the GMS takes place within the context of labour exportation schemes or through recruitment agencies, most of the migration flows within the GMS are spontaneous and through informal channels. Through the implementation of the MOU on Cooperation in Employment of Migrant Workers, Thailand and its neighbouring countries, particularly Lao PDR and Cambodia, are attempting to establish a legal migration channel. There is also increased policy dialogue among the GMS governments with the goal of expanding cooperation on migration management. Despite some developments, newly established legal migration channels are currently not affordable or accessible to most of the migrants, and the majority of people continue to cross the border through informal channels.



From Burma	
To Thailand	614,590
To Malaysia	102,781
To Bangladesh	21,053
To United States	6,793
To Japan	5,914
To South Korea	3,374
To China	>1,500
To India	1,471

From China	
To Russia	
To Japan	588,439
To South Korea	503,427
To North Korea	
To Thailand	
To Lao PDR	
To Singapore	
To Cambodia	
To Burma	

From Thailand	
To Taiwan	98,322
To Singapore	
To Japan	48,078
To South Korea	47,813
To Israel	30,100
To Malaysia	22,835
To Brunei	
To Hong Kong	4,060
To U.A.E.	
To United States	

From Cambodia	
To Thailand	82,251
To Malaysia	6,620
To South Korea	2,464
To Japan	2,353

From Lao PDR	
To Thailand	76,459
To Japan	2,478
To United States	183,265
To France	
To Australia	
To Canada	

From Vietnam	
To Cambodia	
To China	
To Malaysia	>100,000
To Taiwan	90,000
To South Korea	50,000
To Japan	19,000
To U.A.E.	1,000
To United Kingdom	400
To Saudi Arabia	200
To United States	10

LEGEND	
From Burma	Blue arrow
From Cambodia	Pink arrow
From China	Green arrow
(Yunnan)	
From Lao PDR	Dark green arrow
From Thailand	Red arrow
From Vietnam	Yellow arrow