



# Labour Migration Policies in Destination Countries

Launch Seminar on the Mediterranean  
edition of the Handbook on  
Establishing Effective Labour  
Migration Policies

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# Presentation outline

- Issues underlying policy responses in destination countries
- Foreign labour admission policies
  - Assessing the demand for foreign workers
  - Designing the admission policy
  - Temporary labour migration programmes
- Post-admission policies
  - Protecting migrant workers
  - Social cohesion, integration, social welfare

# Issues underlying policy responses in destination countries



- Detection and assessment of current labour shortages and projection of future labour shortages
- Analysis of labour market taking into account demographic factors
- Prevention of exploitation of migrants in the workplace and society in general
- Addressing irregular migration
- Dealing with concerns of host society
  - Protection for national workforce in the event of increases in labour migration
  - Education of host population

# Foreign labour admission policies

- Step 1 Detecting current labour shortages, projecting future shortages and assessing the demand for foreign labour
  - Identifying labour shortages in O & H skilled e.g. health professionals, I & and lower-skilled e.g. domestic work household employment, agriculture, construction sectors
- Step 2 Designing the admission policy
  - Admission of foreign nationals is essentially a matter for States in exercise of their sovereignty
  - Destination countries have to decide on the types of admission to support
    - employment-based immigration for settlement
    - temporary labour migration

# □ools regulating admission of foreign workers

- Points systems □usually with a view to settlement□
  - e.g. □ustralia, Canada, □ □ □ □
- □uotas or ceilings
  - in consultation with other □ertinent stakeholders □regional authorities, em□loyers and trade unions□
  - e.g. □numerical □uotas □Italy, Spain□
- Labour market □resident worker tests
- Occu□ational shortages lists
  - facilitate admission of migrant workers into certain sectors
  - no labour market test is re□uired



# Making temporary labour migration programmes feasible

## Three policy issues

### 1 Preventing labour market distortions

- Structural dependence on the employment of migrants in certain sectors e.g. agriculture, construction, food-processing, domestic work

### 2 Ensuring return

- Enabling temporary workers to come back for another period of employment e.g. Canada-Guatemala, Spain-Ecuador
- Circular labour migration and co-development e.g. ni de Pagesos

### 3 Ensuring equitable treatment and protection of rights of temporary migrant workers

# Post-admission policies and protection of migrant workers



## ➤ Labour market regulation

- access to employment
- changing employers
- recognition of diplomas and qualifications and avoiding brain waste

## ➤ Protection in employment

- terms and conditions of employment and labour inspection
- vocational and language training
- trade union rights

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