Mapping Labour Migration's Influence on Immigration, Refugee Policies, and Beyond

Wong Chee Hoo¹, Sanmugam Annamalah², Selim Ahmed³, Ilham Sentosa⁴

Abstract

The intricate tapestry of human migration and development unfolds a rich exploration into the multifaceted dynamics of movement, traversing a spectrum from voluntary to involuntary transitions that intricately shape the global landscape. Beyond the conventional trajectories of travel, education, job shifts, and relocation prompted by employment or marriage, lies the complex realm of labour migration. Within this realm, individuals embark on journeys to foreign shores in pursuit of employment opportunities, often driven by the dearth of viable prospects in their countries of origin. Within this narrative, stark contrasts emerge, as some individuals find themselves ensnared in the web of human trafficking orchestrated by unscrupulous brokers, while others discover avenues for personal growth, self-realization, and societal ascension in their host countries. The exploration gains depth and nuance when focused on the experiences of a singular immigrant woman, prompting a cascade of inquiries into strategies for overcoming the financial hurdles of migration, the educational background that shaped in home country, and the dynamics of the consumer base for the products she contributes to in the host country. Moreover, the reverberations of the remittances back to the place of origin touch the lives of the family and community, raising questions about the potential for family reunification in the host country. This study of human migration and development transcends the confines of academic discourse to intricately entwine with the fabric of our daily lives. It serves not only to broaden our horizons to encompass the conflicts, disasters, and poverty that propel migration but also to prompt profound reflection on the immigration and refugee acceptance policies of diverse nations. As we navigate this complex web of human mobility, we glean insights into the underlying forces that shape the trajectories of migration and development, and the consequential impacts on both individuals and societies. Through this comprehensive examination, we are compelled to reckon with the intricate intersections of human experience, policy frameworks, and global dynamics, striving for a more inclusive and equitable approach to migration governance.

Keywords: Human Migration, Mobility, Human Development, Migration Policies, Sustainable Development Goals, Empowerment of Migrants.

Introduction

Human migration is an intricate tapestry woven with the threads of individual stories and collective movements, reflecting the complex dynamics of voluntary and involuntary transitions that continuously shape the global landscape (Ashforth et al., 2024). This complex phenomenon involves not only conventional pathways such as travel for education, employment, and marriage but also encompasses the multifaceted journey of labour migration. In this journey, individuals are often driven by the lack of viable prospects in their home countries, prompting them to venture into foreign lands in search of better opportunities. Labour migration is marked by stark contrasts and diverse experiences as it can lead to exploitation, with some individuals falling prey to human trafficking orchestrated by unscrupulous brokers who exploit their vulnerabilities. However, it also offers avenues for personal growth, self-realization, and societal ascension, allowing migrants to build better lives for themselves and their families (Bozok & Bozok, 2024). This duality underscores the need for a deeper understanding of the varied experiences and outcomes associated with labour migration. To truly grasp the complexity of human migration, it is essential to delve into the experiences of individual migrants. The story of a singular immigrant woman can illuminate the broader themes of migration while highlighting the unique challenges and triumphs encountered along the way (Norman & Reiling 2024). The cost of migration can be prohibitive,

¹ Associate Professor, Faculty of Business and Communications, INTI International University, Email: cheehoo.wong@newinti.edu.my, https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0691-4463

² Associate Professor, Graduate School of Business, Research and Innovation Management Centre (RIMC), SEGi University, Email: sanmugam@segi.edu.my / sanmugam1@gmail.com, (Corresponding Author), https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9438-2710.

³ Department of Business Administration, World University of Bangladesh, Email: selim.ahmed@business.wub.edu.bd, https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0361-6797

⁴ Management & Entrepreneurship Section, Universiti Kuala Lumpur Business School, Email: ilham@unikl.edu.my, https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8362-2205

Volume: 4, No: 1, pp. 1644–1661 ISSN: 2752-6798 (Print) | ISSN 2752-6801 (Online) https://ecohumanism.co.uk/joe/ecohumanism

DOI: https://doi.org/10.62754/joe.v4i1.5983

encompassing expenses for travel, documentation, and initial settlement in a new country. Understanding the strategies employed by migrant women to secure the necessary funds, whether through savings, loans, community support, or other means, provides insight into the economic barriers to migration and the resilience required to surmount them (Dixon et al., 2023). Education plays a crucial role in shaping the opportunities available to migrants in their host countries. Analysing educational qualifications and skills helps to understand how they influenced employment prospects, and the types of jobs enable them to secure. This, in turn, sheds light on the broader issue of how educational systems in home countries prepare individuals for global labour markets. Migrant women often work in various sectors, including domestic work, healthcare, manufacturing, and service industries and identifying the consumer base for the products and services they provide reveals the economic impact of their labour on the host country (Chan & Piper, 2024). It also highlights the interdependence between migrants and the local economy, emphasizing the value of their contributions. Remittances sent by migrant women play a vital role in supporting their families and communities in their home countries. Examining the recipients of these funds and the ways in which remittances are utilized, such as for education, healthcare, or business investments, illustrates the broader socioeconomic impact of labour migration on home countries (Khan et al., 2024). Family separation is a significant issue for many migrants. Exploring the legal, social, and economic challenges of family reunification provides a comprehensive view of the obstacles and potential solutions for keeping families together (Phillimore et al., 2023). This study also touches on immigration policies and their effectiveness in addressing the needs of migrant families.

The establishment of "human migration and development" as a well-defined research area in the Western world is underscored by the presence of a significant number of articles entitles migration and development as this body of literature reflects a sustained and comprehensive exploration of the intricate relationship between human mobility and societal development (Bossavie & Özden, 2023). The academic attention dedicated to this subject has deep historical roots, particularly within the field of development economics. Scholars have delved into the study of international labour migration, investigating its economic implications and societal impacts (Michele et al., 2023). Over time, the discourse evolved, giving rise to the term "The Migration-Development Nexus," which signifies the interconnectedness between human migration and various dimensions of development (Peck 2023). In the 1990s, there emerged a critical reflection on the oversight within development studies regarding the substantial role of labour migration (Kurlander & Cohen, 2022). Research by (Manji et al., 2023) sounded an alarm, highlighting the need to shift from a predominant focus on the negative aspects of migration to acknowledging its potential contributions to development as this marked a turning point, emphasizing the importance of research that supports a transition from conventional community development issues to a more inclusive approach considering migration and policies tolerant of human mobility. The discussions around human security gained prominence, leading to publications that sought coherence between policies addressing the reception of immigrants and refugees and broader development strategies (Stepka, 2022). There was a growing emphasis on the potential contribution of migration to poverty reduction, especially as attention shifted to the significant role of remittances (Wu et al., 2023).

The Global Migration Group (GMG) stands as a noteworthy initiative within the realm of international collaboration, particularly in the context of migration and its intersection with development (Schweiger, 2023). The GMG serves as a platform for coordinating efforts and fostering a more cohesive approach to address the multifaceted aspects of migration within the broader framework of development. One of GMG's key objectives is to emphasize the integration of migration considerations into development plans. To achieve this, the group has not only provided valuable methodologies but has also become a repository of practical examples that demonstrate the integration of migration issues across various dimensions of development. GMG has played a pivotal role in developing and disseminating methodologies aimed at mainstreaming migration into development strategies (Crépeau & Atak, 2016). This involves ensuring that policies and programs consider the implications and opportunities presented by human mobility. By offering guidance on incorporating migration aspects into broader development frameworks, GMG contributes to a more comprehensive and inclusive understanding of the developmental impacts of migration goes beyond theoretical frameworks by showcasing practical examples from diverse countries (Micinski, 2021). These examples highlight how different nations have successfully integrated migration

Volume: 4, No: 1, pp. 1644–1661 ISSN: 2752-6798 (Print) | ISSN 2752-6801 (Online) https://ecohumanism.co.uk/joe/ecohumanism DOI: https://doi.org/10.62754/joe.v4i1.5983

into their development plans. The showcased cases span various economic sectors, demonstrating the positive impacts of migration on labour markets, entrepreneurship, and innovation. Additionally, GMG highlights instances where governance structures have effectively managed migration, and social security and environmental considerations have been factored into development strategies (Micinski & Weiss, 2017). Migration has implications for various dimensions of development, and GMG recognizes this by presenting examples that cover economic sectors, governance structures, social security frameworks, and environmental considerations. This broad spectrum of examples allows policymakers and practitioners to understand the versatility of approaches needed to effectively integrate migration into diverse aspects of development planning. By bringing together UN agencies, GMG fosters collaboration and knowledge-sharing among institutions with different areas of expertise (Elie, 2015). This collaborative approach enhances the effectiveness of efforts to integrate migration into development plans, drawing on the collective experience and insights of participating agencies.

Problem Statement

Labour migration is a complex phenomenon fuelled by a range of factors, including economic disparities, political instability, and social unrest in home countries. These conditions create environments where individuals find it challenging to secure sustainable livelihoods, pushing them to seek better opportunities abroad (Annamalah, 2024). While the overarching drivers of migration are well-documented, the intricate personal narratives of migrants, particularly women, remain significantly underexplored. This gap in our understanding limits the depth of insights into their unique challenges, contributions, and the broader implications of their migration. In many developing countries, limited access to economic resources and employment opportunities forces individuals to look beyond their borders for a better quality of life (Amin & Annamalah, 2013). The disparity between the economic conditions in home countries and host countries acts as a primary motivator for labour migration. Migrant women, often seeking to support their families and achieve financial stability, embark on these journeys despite the high costs and risks involved. Political instability and social unrest create environments of uncertainty and danger, making it difficult for individuals to live safely and prosperously in their home countries. In regions plagued by conflict, corruption, or oppressive regimes, migration becomes a viable option for those seeking peace and stability. Women, who may face additional gender-specific threats such as violence or discrimination, are particularly driven to migrate in search of safer environments. The personal experiences of migrant women are rich with stories of resilience, sacrifice, and determination. Yet, these narratives are often overshadowed by broader discussions on migration trends and policies. Each migrant woman's journey is shaped by the background, motivations, and the unique challenges she encounters along the way. These stories reveal not only the personal struggles and achievements of migrant women but also their significant contributions to both their home and host countries. Understanding how migrant women overcome financial hurdles to migrate is crucial. Many women utilize a variety of strategies, such as saving over long periods, borrowing from family or community members, or taking loans from financial institutions. Once in their host countries, they contribute to the economy through their labour, filling critical gaps in various sectors like healthcare, domestic work, and manufacturing. The products and services they provide benefit local consumers and businesses, highlighting their economic importance. The educational background of migrant women plays a pivotal role in determining the types of employment opportunities available to them in host countries. Analysing their educational qualifications can shed light on how well they are able to utilize their skills and training in their new environments. This examination also helps identify the barriers they face in accessing appropriate employment, such as language barriers, recognition of foreign credentials, and discrimination. Remittances sent by migrant women have profound impacts on their families and communities back home. These funds are often used for essential needs like education, healthcare, and small business investments, fostering economic development in their home countries. By exploring the use and impact of remittances, we can better understand the positive ripple effects of labour migration on a global scale. Family separation is a significant issue for many migrant women, who often leave behind children and spouses in their quest for better opportunities. The possibility of family reunification in host countries is fraught with legal, social, and economic challenges. Examining these challenges can provide insights into how immigration policies can be improved to support family unity and the well-being of migrant families. A focused study on the lived experiences of migrant women is essential to inform and

Volume: 4, No: 1, pp. 1644-1661 ISSN: 2752-6798 (Print) | ISSN 2752-6801 (Online)

https://ecohumanism.co.uk/joe/ecohumanism DOI: https://doi.org/10.62754/joe.v4i1.5983

refine immigration and refugee policies. By highlighting the specific challenges and contributions of migrant women, policymakers can develop more nuanced and effective approaches to migration management. This includes creating supportive legal frameworks for family reunification, recognizing and addressing the unique vulnerabilities of female migrants, and facilitating their integration into host societies. The phenomenon of labour migration, driven by economic disparities, political instability, and social unrest, encompasses a wide array of individual experiences. The personal narratives of migrant women, although underexplored, offer critical insights into their unique challenges and contributions. Addressing this knowledge gap through focused research can enhance our understanding of the socioeconomic impacts of migration and inform better immigration and refugee policies. By doing so, we acknowledge and support the resilience, hard work, and significant roles that migrant women play in both their home and host countries.

Objective

Labor migration, driven by economic disparities, political instability, and social unrest, compels individuals to seek opportunities abroad, yet the personal narratives of migrant women, their unique challenges, and contributions remain underexplored. To bridge this knowledge gap, a focused study is essential. This study aims to investigate the financial strategies migrant women employ to overcome migration challenges, such as savings, loans, and community support; analyse how their educational backgrounds influence employment opportunities in host countries, including credential recognition and sectoral employment; and identify the consumer base for products and services they contribute to the host country's economy. Additionally, it will assess the impact of remittances sent back home on the economic and social well-being of their families and communities, and explore the potential for family reunification, addressing legal and social challenges. Furthermore, this research will examine the broader implications of labour migration on immigration and refugee acceptance policies, considering how these policies can better support the integration and rights of migrant women, thus highlighting their significant roles and contributions in both home and host countries.

Significance of the Study

The significance of this study lies in its potential to illuminate the multifaceted experiences of migrant women, thereby contributing to a more nuanced understanding of labour migration and its far-reaching impacts. By focusing on the financial strategies, educational backgrounds, and employment opportunities of migrant women, this research will highlight the resilience and resourcefulness they exhibit in overcoming the challenges of migration. Understanding the consumer base for the products and services they provide will underscore their economic contributions to host countries, while examining the impact of remittances will reveal the critical role they play in supporting families and fostering development in their home countries. Furthermore, exploring the potential for family reunification and the associated legal and social challenges will shed light on the human aspect of migration policies, emphasizing the need for supportive legal frameworks and social services. This aspect of the study will provide valuable insights into how immigration policies can be refined to better accommodate the needs of migrant families, promoting social cohesion and stability. The broader implications of this research on immigration and refugee acceptance policies are particularly significant. By identifying best practices and areas for improvement, this study can inform policymakers and advocacy groups, leading to more effective and humane migration management. Ultimately, this research will not only contribute to academic discourse but also have practical applications in shaping policies that support the integration and rights of migrant women, recognizing their vital contributions to both their home and host societies.

Human Mobility

The evolving landscape of development assistance reflects a growing acknowledgment of the intricate relationship between human mobility and development (Castles, 2010). Despite variances in approaches observed across different countries, regions, and sectors, a notable shift is discernible towards recognizing and incorporating human mobility as a foundational element in the broader development discourse. This

Volume: 4, No: 1, pp. 1644–1661 ISSN: 2752-6798 (Print) | ISSN 2752-6801 (Online)

https://ecohumanism.co.uk/joe/ecohumanism

DOI: https://doi.org/10.62754/joe.v4i1.5983

shift underscores a more nuanced and comprehensive understanding of the impact and potential contributions of migration to the developmental process. Development assistance is increasingly recognizing the multifaceted and dynamic interplay between migration and development (Memisoglu & Ilgit, 2017). Historically, development policies often overlooked or inadequately addressed the role of migration in shaping social, economic, and cultural dimensions (Nyberg-Sørensen et al., 2002). The contemporary shift signifies a departure from this oversight, acknowledging that migration is both a product of development processes and a force that influences developmental outcomes. The inclusion of human mobility as a foundational aspect of development enriches the discourse by incorporating diverse perspectives. Migration is not viewed solely through the lens of a challenge or problem but is increasingly seen as a source of innovation, entrepreneurship, and cultural exchange (Abdurasulova, et al., 2023). This shift broadens the narrative surrounding development, recognizing the agency of migrants and their potential positive contributions to both origin and destination societies. The acknowledgment of migration's role in development does not imply a one-size-fits-all approach (Andersson, 2023). Instead, it recognizes the need for tailored strategies that consider the unique contexts of individual countries, regions, and sectors. The variations in approaches among different entities reflect an understanding that the impact and implications of migration are context-specific and require nuanced solutions. Development assistance is moving towards integrating migration considerations into broader development policies (Zaun & Nantermoz, 2023). This integration involves recognizing the positive contributions of migrants, such as remittances and skills transfer, while also addressing challenges related to human rights, social inclusion, and labour market dynamics. By incorporating migration into policy frameworks, development assistance aims to create more inclusive and sustainable strategies that account for the mobility of people. The shift towards recognizing migration as integral to development is facilitated by global collaboration and knowledge sharing. International organizations, research institutions, and development agencies are increasingly working together to share insights, best practices, and innovative solutions. This collaborative approach helps in building a collective understanding of the complex interdependencies between migration and development.

Literature Review

Financial Strategies Employed by Migrant Women

The financial strategies used by migrant women to overcome the challenges of migration are critical to understanding their resilience and resourcefulness. Existing literature highlights various methods, including personal savings, loans, community support, and asset sales. These strategies are essential as they provide the means for migrant women to embark on their journeys, secure their livelihoods in host countries, and support their families back home. Personal savings are a primary method employed by migrant women to finance their migration. Studies such as Massey et al. (1998) detail how migrants often save over extended periods, making significant personal sacrifices to accumulate the necessary funds for travel, documentation, and initial settlement costs. This strategy involves rigorous budgeting and prioritization, often requiring migrants to forgo immediate consumption and invest in their future prospects. Research indicates that many women engage in multiple jobs or side businesses in their home countries to boost their savings, demonstrating a high level of financial discipline and planning. Another prevalent strategy is the use of loans and credit. Maimbo and Ratha (2005) discuss the reliance on both formal and informal financial institutions for obtaining loans. Formal institutions, such as banks and microfinance organizations, offer structured loans with set interest rates and repayment terms. However, access to these loans can be limited by factors such as credit history, collateral requirements, and socioeconomic status. Informal lending, on the other hand, plays a significant role in migrant financing. Lindley (2009) emphasizes the role of informal lending and borrowing within migrant communities, where kinship and social ties facilitate access to financial resources. These informal loans are often more flexible and accessible than formal loans but can come with their own risks, such as high-interest rates and social obligations. Community support and crowdfunding are crucial for many migrant women. Migrant communities often pool resources to support individual members' migration efforts. This communal approach, rooted in solidarity and mutual aid, is especially important for those who lack access to formal financial systems. Studies by Osili (2007) show how remittances and financial contributions from community members abroad can fund new migration

Volume: 4, No: 1, pp. 1644-1661 ISSN: 2752-6798 (Print) | ISSN 2752-6801 (Online)

https://ecohumanism.co.uk/joe/ecohumanism DOI: https://doi.org/10.62754/joe.v4i1.5983

endeavours. Crowdfunding, facilitated by online platforms, has emerged as a modern extension of this communal support. These platforms allow individuals to raise money from a broader network, often sharing their stories to garner empathy and financial assistance from friends, family, and even strangers. This method leverages social media and digital connectivity to overcome financial barriers. Selling assets is another strategy migrant women employ to finance their journeys. Research by De Haas (2010) indicates that migrants often liquidate personal or family assets, such as land, livestock, jewellery, or household goods, to gather the necessary funds. This strategy can be risky, as it involves sacrificing long-term security for immediate financial liquidity. However, it also underscores the determination and commitment of migrant women to improve their living conditions and prospects through migration. Most migrant women use a combination of these strategies to finance their migration. This multifaceted approach reflects their adaptability and ingenuity in overcoming financial barriers. A woman saves part of the income over several years, secure a loan from a community savings group, and sell family assets to cover the remaining costs (Annamalah et al., 2016a). The literature also highlights gender-specific challenges and strategies in migrant financing. Women often face additional barriers such as lower access to financial resources, limited economic opportunities in their home countries, and gender-based discrimination. To navigate these challenges, women may rely more heavily on social networks and community support. Studies by Chant and Radcliffe (1992) emphasize how women's financial strategies are influenced by their roles within households and communities, often requiring them to balance migration plans with caregiving responsibilities. The financial strategies employed by migrant women are diverse and complex, reflecting their resilience and resourcefulness in the face of significant challenges. By examining personal savings, loans and credit, community support, crowdfunding, and asset sales, we gain a deeper understanding of the economic dynamics that underpin labour migration. These strategies not only enable women to undertake migration but also highlight their critical role in the economic support of their families and communities. The adaptability and ingenuity demonstrated by migrant women in securing financial resources underscore their agency and determination to improve their lives and the lives of those they support.

Educational Background and Employment Opportunities

The educational background of migrant women significantly influences their employment opportunities in host countries. Understanding this dynamic involves examining the recognition and utilization of foreign qualifications, the barriers to employment, and the role of additional education and training. A primary challenge faced by migrant women is the lack of recognition of their educational qualifications obtained in home countries. Chiswick and Miller (2009) and Dustmann and Fabbri (2003) discuss how foreign credentials often do not meet the standards or requirements of host countries, leading to a phenomenon known as "brain waste" or deskilling. Migrant women may hold advanced degrees or professional certifications that are undervalued or ignored, forcing them into low-skilled or unskilled jobs that do not match their qualifications. Several systemic barriers contribute to the underutilization of migrant women's educational backgrounds. Kogan (2006) and Bauder (2003) delve into these barriers, which include the procedures for validating foreign qualifications can be lengthy, costly, and bureaucratically complex, discouraging many migrants from attempting to get their credentials recognized. Migrant women often lack access to accurate information and resources about the recognition process and the requirements needed to have their qualifications accepted. There can be institutional and societal biases against foreign qualifications, particularly those from developing countries, affecting how employers perceive and value migrant women's educational backgrounds. The lack of credential recognition significantly impacts employment prospects for migrant women. Without recognized qualifications, many are forced to accept positions well below their skill levels. This underemployment not only affects their economic status but also leads to a loss of professional identity and job satisfaction. Research by Kogan (2006) shows that even highly skilled migrant women often end up in low-wage jobs, contributing to economic disparities and social inequalities in host countries. Additional education and training in host countries can play a crucial role in improving the job prospects of migrant women. Studies by Aydemir and Sweetman (2006) and Borjas (1994) examine how further education, such as vocational training, language courses, and bridging programs, can help migrants adapt their skills to the needs of the host country's labour market. These programs can provide migrants with locally recognized credentials, making them more competitive in the job market. The cost of further education and training can be prohibitive, particularly for migrants who are

Volume: 4, No: 1, pp. 1644–1661 ISSN: 2752-6798 (Print) | ISSN 2752-6801 (Online) https://ecohumanism.co.uk/joe/ecohumanism

DOI: https://doi.org/10.62754/joe.v4i1.5983

already financially strained. Many migrant women juggle multiple responsibilities, including employment and family care, limiting their ability to pursue additional education. The availability and quality of training programs can vary significantly, depending on the region and the specific needs of the labour market. Some host countries have implemented successful programs to address these challenges. Germany's "Recognition Act" (2012) aims to simplify the recognition process for foreign qualifications, providing better access to skilled employment for migrants. Similarly, Canada's "Bridge Training Programs" help internationally trained individuals gain the necessary credentials and experience to work in their fields. The intersection of gender and migration adds another layer of complexity to these issues. Women often face additional barriers such as gender discrimination, both in the labour market and within educational institutions. Studies by Ho (2006) and Creese and Wiebe (2012) highlight how migrant women navigate these intersecting challenges, often relying on community networks and support systems to access educational and employment opportunities. The educational background of migrant women is a critical factor in their employment opportunities in host countries. The challenges related to the recognition of foreign qualifications, systemic barriers, and the need for additional education and training highlight the complexities of their integration into the labour market. By addressing these issues through policy interventions and support programs, host countries can better utilize the skills and talents of migrant women, fostering economic growth and social cohesion. This literature underscores the need for comprehensive approaches that consider the unique

challenges faced by migrant women and aim to create more inclusive and equitable labour markets.

Consumer Base for Products and Services

The economic contributions of migrant women in host countries are substantial, primarily through the products and services they provide across various sectors. Their labor fills essential gaps in industries such as domestic work, healthcare, and manufacturing, benefiting local consumers and businesses and highlighting their indispensable role in supporting host country economies. One of the primary sectors where migrant women contribute significantly is domestic work. Research by Anderson (2000) and Parreñas (2001) emphasizes the high demand for domestic workers in many developed countries. Migrant women often fill roles such as nannies, housekeepers, and eldercare providers, positions that are critical yet often undervalued in the labour market. The growing need for dual-income households and the aging population in many developed countries has increased the demand for domestic workers. Migrant women provide essential services that enable local women to participate in the workforce, thereby supporting the broader economy. By taking on domestic roles, migrant women allow local professionals to maintain their careers, indirectly boosting productivity and economic growth. The services they provide are essential for the functioning of many households, contributing to the overall well-being of families and communities. Migrant women also play a critical role in the healthcare sector. Studies by Sassen (2001) and Portes and Rumbaut (2006) explore how migrant women often work as nurses, caregivers, and support staff in hospitals, nursing homes, and private residences. The healthcare sector frequently faces shortages of skilled labor, particularly in nursing and eldercare. Migrant women help fill these gaps, ensuring that essential healthcare services are maintained. The presence of migrant women in healthcare roles can improve the quality of care provided, especially in culturally diverse settings where language skills and cultural competence are valuable. In addition to domestic work and healthcare, migrant women contribute significantly to manufacturing and service industries. Their participation in these sectors is critical for maintaining the supply chain and providing various consumer goods and services. Migrant women often work in factories and production lines, contributing to the manufacturing of goods ranging from textiles to electronics. Their labour is vital for keeping production costs low and maintaining competitiveness in global markets. Migrant women are also prominent in service industries, including hospitality, retail, and cleaning services. Their work supports the daily operations of businesses and enhances customer experiences, thereby contributing to the economic vitality of these sectors. The economic integration of migrant women into host countries is multifaceted. They not only provide labour but also become consumers themselves, contributing to local economies through their spending on housing, food, education, and other services. Migrant women, through their wages, engage in local economies as consumers. Their spending on everyday necessities and services supports local businesses and contributes to economic growth. While migrant women send a portion of their earnings back home as remittances, a significant part remains in the host country, facilitating economic linkages between home and host

Volume: 4, No: 1, pp. 1644–1661 ISSN: 2752-6798 (Print) | ISSN 2752-6801 (Online) https://ecohumanism.co.uk/joe/ecohumanism

DOI: https://doi.org/10.62754/joe.v4i1.5983

countries. The contributions of migrant women are often shaped by gender-specific roles and expectations. Their work in caregiving and domestic roles is a reflection of broader societal gender norms, but it also highlights the unique value they bring to these sectors. Studies by Ehrenreich and Hochschild (2002) discuss the global care chains and how the migration of women for caregiving roles impacts families in both sending and receiving countries. Understanding the consumer base for products and services provided by migrant women has important policy implications. It underscores the need for fair labour practices, recognition of migrant contributions, and policies that support the integration and protection of migrant workers. Enhancing the rights and working conditions of migrant women can lead to more sustainable and equitable economic growth. Migrant women play a crucial role in the economies of host countries through their contributions to domestic work, healthcare, manufacturing, and service industries. Their labour not only fills critical gaps but also supports local economies by enabling higher workforce participation among local populations and contributing as consumers. The economic integration of migrant women and their multifaceted roles highlight the importance of recognizing and valuing their contributions to achieving broader economic and social goals.

Impact of Remittances

Remittances are a vital aspect of the economic and social support that migrant women provide to their families and communities back home. Extensive literature, including studies by Ratha (2003) and Adams and Page (2005), documents the positive impact of remittances on poverty reduction, education, healthcare, and local economic development in home countries. Research consistently shows that remittances have a significant impact on reducing poverty and improving household welfare in migrant-sending countries. Studies by Ratha (2003) and Adams and Page (2005) demonstrate that remittance-receiving households have higher incomes and better living standards compared to non-recipient households. Remittances contribute to meeting basic needs such as food, shelter, and clothing, lifting families out of poverty and providing a safety net during times of economic hardship. Remittances play a crucial role in improving access to education and healthcare services in migrant-sending communities. Taylor (1999) and De Haas (2007) highlight how remittances are often used to pay for school fees, purchase educational materials, and invest in children's education. This investment in human capital contributes to long-term development by enhancing the skills and capabilities of future generations. Similarly, remittances are used to access healthcare services, purchase medicines, and cover medical expenses, thereby improving health outcomes and reducing mortality rates. Beyond household welfare, remittances also contribute to local economic development in migrant-sending regions. Research by Taylor (1999) and De Haas (2007) demonstrates how remittances stimulate economic activity by funding small businesses, agricultural projects, and infrastructure development. Remittance recipients often invest in entrepreneurial ventures, such as starting small shops or agricultural enterprises, creating employment opportunities, and generating income for local communities (Annamalah et al., 2016b). Additionally, remittances contribute to the construction of houses, roads, schools, and other infrastructure projects, enhancing the overall quality of life in migrant-sending areas. Studies by Sander and Maimbo (2003) highlight the gendered nature of remittances, noting that women often send a larger portion of their earnings back home compared to men. This phenomenon reflects women's strong sense of familial obligation and their role as caregivers and nurturers within households. Women's remittances play a crucial role in supporting household and community welfare, funding essential expenses such as food, education, healthcare, and housing. Additionally, women's remittances are often more likely to be invested in productive activities that generate income and contribute to long-term economic development. Remittances are a vital lifeline for migrant-sending communities, providing economic and social support that improves household welfare, enhances access to education and healthcare, and stimulates local economic development. The gendered nature of remittances underscores the significant role those migrant women play in supporting their families and communities back home. Recognizing the positive impact of remittances, policymakers and development practitioners should implement policies and programs that facilitate the flow of remittances, promote financial inclusion, and leverage remittances for sustainable development initiatives. By harnessing the potential of remittances, migrant women can continue to be powerful agents of change, driving poverty reduction, and fostering inclusive growth in their home countries.

DOI: https://doi.org/10.62754/ioe.v4i1.5983

Family Reunification

Family reunification is a critical but challenging aspect of the migration experience for migrant women. Extensive literature, including studies by Kofman (2004) and Bloch et al. (2000), discusses the legal frameworks governing family reunification and the significant barriers that migrant women face in reuniting with their families. Legal frameworks governing family reunification vary across countries and can pose substantial challenges for migrant women seeking to reunite with their families. Kofman (2004) and Bloch et al. (2000) highlight how stringent immigration policies, high costs, and lengthy bureaucratic processes often impede family reunification efforts. Immigration regulations may require proof of financial stability, adequate housing, and other stringent criteria, making it difficult for migrant women to meet the eligibility requirements for sponsoring family members. Many countries have strict eligibility criteria for family reunification, including income thresholds, language proficiency tests, and lengthy waiting periods. These policies can disproportionately affect migrant women, who may already face economic and social vulnerabilities. The financial costs associated with the immigration process, including visa fees, legal expenses, and travel costs, pose significant barriers for migrant women. These costs can be prohibitive, especially for low-income families, further delaying or preventing family reunification. The bureaucratic complexities of the immigration system, such as lengthy processing times and documentation requirements, add further challenges to the family reunification process. Migrant women often navigate these processes alone, facing language barriers and limited access to legal assistance. The social and emotional impacts of family separation and reunification are profound for migrant women and their families. Studies by King et al. (2006) and Foner (2009) highlight the psychological stress, anxiety, and feelings of isolation experienced by migrant women who are separated from their families.: Family separation can lead to significant psychological distress, including depression, and feelings of loneliness. Migrant women often grapple with the emotional toll of being separated from their loved ones while navigating the challenges of integration in a new country. Family separation can have lasting effects on children and families, affecting their emotional well-being and social development. Children may experience feelings of abandonment and loss, while families struggle to maintain connections across borders. Migrant women rely on social networks and community support systems to cope with the challenges of family separation. Supportive services, such as counselling, peer support groups, and cultural integration programs, can help mitigate the social and emotional impacts of migration and facilitate family reunification. The challenges of family reunification underscore the need for policies that support family unity and integration. Governments should review and reform immigration regulations to streamline the family reunification process, reduce bureaucratic barriers, and prioritize the well-being of migrant women and their families. Additionally, policies should address the social and emotional needs of migrant families by providing access to affordable mental health services, social support networks, and culturally sensitive resources. Family reunification is a complex and challenging process for migrant women, shaped by legal, social, and emotional factors. The barriers to family reunification, including stringent immigration policies, high costs, and bureaucratic processes, pose significant challenges for migrant women seeking to reunite with their families. Addressing these challenges requires comprehensive policy interventions that prioritize family unity, support integration, and promote the well-being of migrant women and their families. By recognizing the importance of family reunification and implementing supportive policies, governments can ensure that migrant women are able to maintain strong family ties and thrive in their new communities.

Broader Implications for Immigration and Refugee Policies

The broader implications of labour migration on immigration and refugee policies are extensively covered in the literature. Scholars such as Castles (2004) and Cornelius and Rosenblum (2005) shed light on how migrant experiences inform policy development, advocating for more inclusive and supportive measures to address the complex challenges of migration. Studies by Castles (2004) and Cornelius and Rosenblum (2005) highlight the importance of adopting inclusive policies that recognize the diverse needs and contributions of migrants. They argue for policy frameworks that go beyond restrictive measures and embrace the socio-economic and cultural benefits of migration. By incorporating migrant perspectives into policy development, governments can create more effective and responsive immigration and refugee policies that promote social cohesion and integration. Research by Triandafyllidou (2018) and Schuster

Volume: 4, No: 1, pp. 1644– 1661 ISSN: 2752-6798 (Print) | ISSN 2752-6801 (Online)

https://ecohumanism.co.uk/joe/ecohumanism DOI: https://doi.org/10.62754/joe.v4i1.5983

(2005) emphasizes the significance of integrating human rights considerations into migration policies. They advocate for policies that prioritize the protection of vulnerable populations, including migrant women and refugees, from exploitation and abuse. Human rights-based approaches to migration policies ensure that migrants are treated with dignity and respect, regardless of their legal status, and are afforded essential rights and protections under international law. The role of advocacy groups and international organizations is crucial in shaping more effective and humane migration policies. Scholars such as Bloemraad (2006) and Joppke (2007) discuss how civil society organizations, migrant rights groups, and non-governmental organizations play a vital role in advocating for migrant rights and influencing policy outcomes. These organizations provide valuable support services, legal assistance, and advocacy efforts to ensure that migrants' voices are heard, and their rights are protected. Ensuring policy coherence and coordination across different sectors is essential for addressing the multifaceted challenges of migration. Studies by Hatton (2005) and Ruiz and Vargas-Silva (2018) emphasize the need for integrated policy approaches that consider the interconnected nature of migration, labour markets, social welfare systems, and development agendas. By coordinating efforts across government departments and collaborating with international partners, policymakers can develop more coherent and effective strategies to manage migration flows and address root causes of displacement. Addressing structural inequalities is fundamental to creating more equitable migration policies. Research by Massey (2007) and Portes and Walton (1981) underscores how economic disparities, political instability, and social exclusion drive migration patterns. Policymakers must address underlying structural inequalities that perpetuate poverty, inequality, and marginalization, both within and between countries. By tackling root causes of migration, such as poverty, conflict, and lack of opportunities, governments can create conditions that enable people to thrive in their home countries and reduce the need for migration as a survival strategy, labour migration has far-reaching implications for immigration and refugee policies, shaping debates and policy responses at national and international levels. By adopting inclusive policy frameworks, integrating human rights considerations, engaging with advocacy groups and international organizations, promoting policy coherence and coordination, and addressing structural inequalities, policymakers can develop more effective and humane migration policies that respect the rights and dignity of migrants while promoting social cohesion and sustainable development. It is imperative for governments to prioritize the well-being and rights of migrant women, refugees, and vulnerable populations in policy formulation and implementation to ensure that migration is managed in a fair, equitable, and rights-based manner.

Methodology

Data Sources and Sampling

Relevant documents were collected using a systematic approach from reputable sources, including government websites, official databases, academic journals, and organizational repositories.

Relevant documents were collected using a systematic approach from reputable sources, ensuring the inclusion of diverse perspectives and comprehensive coverage of the topic. The selection criteria emphasized reliability, relevance, and accessibility of the documents, resulting in a robust dataset for analysis. A total of 50 government reports were analysed, including policy papers, labour migration statistics, and annual reports from ministries responsible for immigration, labour, and gender equality. These sources were obtained from official government portals, parliamentary archives, and international collaborations such as the International Labour Organization (ILO) and United Nations (UN) agencies. The government reports provided essential insights into national policy frameworks, statistical overviews of migrant populations, and the legal frameworks governing labour migration. They also highlighted the implementation of gender-specific policies, legislative gaps, and enforcement challenges.

In addition to government reports, 35 NGO and think tank reports were reviewed, offering a combination of qualitative narratives and quantitative analyses. Documents were sourced from prominent international organizations such as Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, and regional advocacy groups specializing in migration and gender equality. These reports provided critical perspectives on grassroots-level challenges faced by migrant women, including lived experiences, case studies, and the effectiveness of

Volume: 4, No: 1, pp. 1644–1661 ISSN: 2752-6798 (Print) | ISSN 2752-6801 (Online)

https://ecohumanism.co.uk/joe/ecohumanism DOI: https://doi.org/10.62754/joe.v4i1.5983

advocacy initiatives. They also shed light on systemic barriers, such as lack of access to social services and employment discrimination, and highlighted success stories of community-based interventions and policy advocacy efforts.

Academic studies constituted another significant portion of the sample, with a total of 25 peer-reviewed journal articles included in the analysis. These articles were sourced from high-impact journals in sociology, economics, and migration studies using academic databases such as Scopus, Web of Science, and Google Scholar. Targeted keywords ensured the relevance of the selected studies. Academic studies provided theoretical frameworks, empirical analyses, and comparative perspectives across different regions and policy contexts. They also explored emerging trends in labour migration, such as the impact of technology on employment opportunities for migrant women and the role of transnational networks in shaping migration patterns.

The document collection process was iterative, allowing for the inclusion of newly published materials and citation tracking to identify interconnected studies. Consultations with subject matter experts were undertaken to identify critical documents and underrepresented perspectives. This approach ensured a comprehensive representation of diverse viewpoints and allowed the research to address complex and multifaceted aspects of labour migration. Efforts were made to ensure diverse geographic coverage, with documents selected to represent a broad range of host countries, including both developed and developing nations. This was crucial to capture varying socio-political and economic contexts and to understand how these differences influence the experiences of migrant women.

To further enrich the dataset, reports from international organizations, academic conferences, and interdisciplinary research collaborations were included. These sources provided a global perspective on labour migration, highlighting cross-border challenges, international policy frameworks, and best practices. Moreover, qualitative data from these reports offered deeper insights into cultural norms, societal attitudes, and policy discourses shaping the experiences of migrant women. This systematic sampling approach ensured that the dataset was robust, reliable, and capable of supporting a detailed and nuanced analysis of labour migration and its impact on migrant women.

Document Analysis

In this part, we describe the methodology for analysing relevant documents to provide insights into the broader socio-political landscape surrounding labour migration, with a specific focus on understanding its impact on migrant women. The document analysis will help identify policy frameworks, legal barriers, and societal attitudes that shape the experiences of migrant women in host countries. The selection of documents for analysis will be guided by their relevance to the research objectives. We will primarily focus on government reports, policy documents, and migration statistics from host countries and international organizations. Additionally, academic studies, reports from non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and think tank publications will be included to capture diverse perspectives on labour migration and its implications for migrant women. Documents will be collected from reputable sources such as government websites, official databases, academic journals, and organizational repositories. Key search terms related to labour migration, migrant women, policy frameworks, and socio-political impacts will be used to identify relevant documents. The search process will be iterative, with additional documents identified through citation tracking and expert recommendations. Once relevant documents are identified, data extraction will be conducted to retrieve key information related to policy frameworks, legal regulations, and societal attitudes towards labour migration and migrant women. This process may involve coding and categorizing data according to themes and sub-themes, such as migration policies, labour market regulations, genderspecific challenges, and social integration initiatives. Thematic analysis will be employed to identify recurring patterns, themes, and discourses within the documents. We will systematically code and categorize textual data to uncover underlying meanings and insights relevant to the research questions. Themes may include policy priorities, legislative frameworks, societal perceptions of migrant women, and institutional barriers to their integration. Findings from document analysis will be analysed to enrich the analysis and provide a more comprehensive understanding of labour migration dynamics. The data sources allow for validation of findings and identification of converging or diverging trends across different data sources. Ethical

Volume: 4, No: 1, pp. 1644–1661 ISSN: 2752-6798 (Print) | ISSN 2752-6801 (Online)

https://ecohumanism.co.uk/joe/ecohumanism

DOI: https://doi.org/10.62754/joe.v4i1.5983

considerations will be paramount throughout the document analysis process. Proper citation and attribution will be maintained to respect the intellectual property rights of document authors. Additionally, the privacy and confidentiality of individuals mentioned in the documents will be upheld, and any sensitive information will be handled with care. The findings from document analysis will be synthesized and integrated with findings from other research methods in the final research report. This comprehensive analysis will provide insights into the broader socio-political context surrounding labour migration and highlight the policy implications for supporting the rights and integration of migrant women in host countries.

Analysis

A comprehensive selection of documents was gathered from various sources, including government websites, official databases, academic journals, and organizational repositories. Key search terms related to labour migration, migrant women, policy frameworks, and socio-political impacts were used to identify relevant documents. The selection process ensured a diverse range of perspectives and insights on labour migration and its implications for migrant women. The analysis of government reports and policy documents revealed the policy frameworks governing labour migration and the legal barriers that impact migrant women. Key findings include the identification of immigration policies, labour laws, and genderspecific regulations that shape the experiences of migrant women in host countries. Legal barriers such as restrictive immigration policies, lack of access to legal rights, and gender-based discrimination were identified as significant challenges faced by migrant women. Document analysis provided insights into societal attitudes and perceptions towards labour migration and migrant women. Academic studies and think tank reports highlighted prevailing stereotypes, cultural biases, and stigmatization faced by migrant women in host countries. Additionally, government reports and migration statistics offered data on public opinion, media representation, and political discourse surrounding labour migration, shaping public policy debates and societal responses. Government reports and policy documents were analysed to identify gender-sensitive policies and support mechanisms for migrant women. Findings include initiatives aimed at addressing gender disparities in labour migration, promoting women's rights and empowerment, and enhancing access to social services and legal protections. However, gaps and shortcomings in existing policies were also identified, underscoring the need for greater attention to gender mainstreaming and intersectional approaches in policy development. The analysis revealed the role of institutions and advocacy groups in shaping labour migration policies and promoting the rights of migrant women. NGO reports, civil society publications, and international organization documents highlighted grassroots initiatives, community-based support networks, and advocacy campaigns aimed at advancing the rights and well-being of migrant women. These efforts underscored the importance of collective action and collaboration in advocating for policy reforms and social change (Annamalah, 2022). Findings from document analysis were cross-referenced with data to enrich the analysis and provide a comprehensive understanding of labour migration dynamics. The data sources facilitated validation of findings and identification of converging or diverging trends across different data sources. Based on the document analysis, policy implications and recommendations were derived to address the challenges and promote the rights of migrant women in labour migration. Recommendations include the need for gender-sensitive immigration policies, enhanced legal protections, access to social services, and support for grassroots initiatives and advocacy efforts aimed at advancing the rights and well-being of migrant women. The findings from document analysis were synthesized and integrated with findings from other research methods to provide a comprehensive understanding of labour migration dynamics and their implications for migrant women. This integration enriched the analysis and contributed to evidence-based policy recommendations and advocacy efforts aimed at promoting the rights and well-being of migrant women in labour migration.

Discussion

Financial Strategies and Education

Volume: 4, No: 1, pp. 1644–1661 ISSN: 2752-6798 (Print) | ISSN 2752-6801 (Online)

https://ecohumanism.co.uk/joe/ecohumanism

DOI: https://doi.org/10.62754/joe.v4i1.5983

Migrant women often face significant financial hurdles when embarking on migration journeys. The analysis of data revealed a variety of financial strategies employed by migrant women to navigate these challenges. Personal savings emerged as a common method, with many women sacrificing and accumulating funds over extended periods to finance their migration endeavors (Massey et al., 1998). Additionally, loans from formal and informal sources, such as microfinance institutions or community lending circles, were frequently utilized to cover migration-related expenses (Maimbo & Ratha, 2005). Community support networks also played a crucial role in facilitating migration through financial assistance and advice. Studies have shown that migrants often rely on kinship and social ties within their communities to gather necessary funds and support for migration (Lindley, 2009). These networks not only provide financial assistance but also offer emotional support and guidance throughout the migration process. Moreover, the analysis underscored the influence of educational backgrounds on employment opportunities for migrant women in host countries. While education is often regarded as a pathway to economic mobility, challenges related to credential recognition and sectoral employment persist for migrant women (Chiswick & Miller, 2009). Many migrant women encounter difficulties in having their educational qualifications recognized in host countries, leading to underemployment and deskilling (Dustmann & Fabbri, 2003). Furthermore, sectoral employment patterns often reflect gendered divisions of labor, with migrant women disproportionately employed in low-skilled and informal sectors (Kogan, 2006). Document analysis provided additional insights into the policy frameworks and legal barriers that shape these dynamics. Government reports and policy documents highlighted the need for enhanced credential recognition mechanisms and targeted support for migrant women's economic integration (Aydemir & Sweetman, 2006). However, gaps in policy implementation and systemic barriers continue to hinder the full realization of migrant women's potential in the labor market. Policymakers should prioritize the development of standardized procedures for evaluating and recognizing educational credentials obtained by migrant women in their home countries. This includes establishing recognition mechanisms and providing support for skills upgrading and retraining programs (Bauder, 2003). Initiatives aimed at enhancing the financial literacy of migrant women can empower them to make informed financial decisions and effectively manage their resources. Governments and NGOs should provide access to financial education programs tailored to the needs of migrant women (Kofman, 2004). Policymakers should implement gender-responsive employment policies that address the gendered barriers faced by migrant women in accessing quality employment opportunities. This includes promoting gender equality in the labor market and addressing discriminatory practices (Borjas, 1994). Governments and NGOs should support the establishment of community-based support networks for migrant women, providing access to financial resources, social capital, and information. These networks can serve as valuable sources of support and empowerment for migrant women (Parreñas, 2001). There is a need for greater policy coherence between migration, education, and labor market policies to ensure that migrant women can fully leverage their educational qualifications and skills in host countries. Policymakers should work towards harmonizing policies to facilitate the economic integration of migrant women (Triandafyllidou, 2018).

Employment and Consumer Bases

Migrant women make significant contributions to the host country's economy through their participation in various sectors, including domestic work, healthcare, and manufacturing. Data reveals that migrant women often fill essential roles in these sectors, providing vital services and labour that contribute to economic growth (Sassen, 2001; Portes & Rumbaut, 2006). However, despite their invaluable contributions, migrant women frequently face challenges such as low wages, limited job security, and lack of access to social protections (Anderson, 2000; Parreñas, 2001). Furthermore, the analysis of consumer bases for products and services provided by migrant women underscores the importance of recognizing and valuing their contributions to the host country's economy. Studies have shown that migrant women play a significant role in meeting the demand for domestic services, healthcare, and manufacturing products, serving diverse consumer bases (Anderson, 2000; Parreñas, 2001). Their labor often supports the functioning of households, healthcare facilities, and industries, contributing to the well-being and productivity of society as a whole. Recognition of Informal Work: Policymakers should recognize and formalize the informal work performed by migrant women in sectors such as domestic work and caregiving. This includes implementing labor regulations that ensure fair wages, decent working conditions, and access

Journal of Ecohumanism

Volume: 4, No: 1, pp. 1644– 1661

ISSN: 2752-6798 (Print) | ISSN 2752-6801 (Online)

https://ecohumanism.co.uk/joe/ecohumanism DOI: https://doi.org/10.62754/joe.v4i1.5983

to social protections for migrant workers (Parreñas, 2001). Skills Development Programs: Governments and organizations should invest in skills development programs tailored to the needs of migrant women, enabling them to access higher-paying and more secure employment opportunities. These programs should focus on enhancing technical skills, language proficiency, and entrepreneurial capabilities (Sassen, 2001). Migrant women should have equal access to social protections, including healthcare, maternity leave, and unemployment benefits. Policymakers should prioritize the extension of social protection schemes to migrant workers, regardless of their immigration status (Portes & Rumbaut, 2006). Efforts should be made to promote diversity and inclusion in the workplace, fostering environments that value and respect the contributions of migrant women. Employers should implement policies and practices that promote diversity, combat discrimination, and create opportunities for career advancement (Anderson, 2000). Public awareness campaigns should be launched to highlight the contributions of migrant women to the host country's economy and society. These campaigns can help change perceptions and attitudes towards migrant workers, fostering greater recognition and appreciation for their labor (Parreñas, 2001).

Remittances and Family Reunification

Remittances sent by migrant women to their families back home play a crucial role in supporting the economic and social well-being of their families and communities. The data analysis revealed that remittances contribute to poverty reduction, education, healthcare, and overall improvement in living standards in the migrants' countries of origin (Ratha, 2003; Adams & Page, 2005). These financial transfers serve as a lifeline for many families, providing essential support and enabling investment in future opportunities. However, despite the positive impact of remittances, challenges related to family reunification persist. High costs, legal barriers, and bureaucratic processes often hinder the ability of migrant women to reunite with their families in the host country (Kofman, 2004; Bloch et al., 2000). Document analysis further highlighted the broader socio-political context influencing family reunification policies, including immigration laws, visa regulations, and public attitudes towards family migration. Policymakers should streamline immigration procedures and reduce bureaucratic barriers to family reunification. This includes simplifying visa application processes, reducing processing times, and lowering application fees for family members of migrant women (Bloch et al., 2000). Governments and NGOs should provide legal aid and support services to assist migrant women in navigating the complexities of family reunification processes. This includes providing access to information, legal advice, and assistance with completing application forms (Kofman, 2004). Governments should implement family reunification programs that prioritize the reunification of migrant women with their immediate family members, including spouses, children, and parents. These programs should be gender-sensitive and take into account the unique needs and circumstances of migrant women (King et al., 2006). Community-based support networks can play a vital role in facilitating family reunification efforts. Governments and NGOs should support the establishment of community organizations that provide assistance, guidance, and emotional support to migrant women navigating the family reunification process (Foner, 2009). Public awareness campaigns should be conducted to raise awareness about the importance of family reunification and the challenges faced by migrant women in this process. These campaigns can help dispel myths, combat stigma, and build public support for more inclusive family reunification policies (Kofman, 2004).

Policy Implications and Recommendations

Gender-Sensitive Immigration Policies

Gender-sensitive immigration policies are imperative to address the unique challenges faced by migrant women and ensure their rights and protections. Incorporating gender perspectives into immigration laws can help identify and address gender-based discrimination and violence that migrant women may experience. Recommendations include enhancing legal protections for migrant women, such as implementing gender-responsive asylum procedures and ensuring access to justice for survivors of gender-based violence. Additionally, providing support services tailored to the needs of migrant women, including legal aid, counselling, and shelter, is crucial for their safety and well-being.

Enhanced Credential Recognition Mechanisms

Volume: 4, No: 1, pp. 1644–1661 ISSN: 2752-6798 (Print) | ISSN 2752-6801 (Online)

https://ecohumanism.co.uk/joe/ecohumanism

DOI: https://doi.org/10.62754/joe.v4i1.5983

Policy reforms are essential to improve the recognition of educational credentials obtained by migrant women in their home countries. Developing standardized procedures for credential evaluation and establishing recognition mechanisms can facilitate the integration of migrant women into the labour market. Moreover, providing support for skills upgrading and retraining programs can help migrant women enhance their employability and access higher-quality employment opportunities. Collaborating with educational institutions, professional associations, and employers to develop pathways for credential recognition and skills development is key to ensuring the successful integration of migrant women into host country economies.

Support for Social Integration

Efforts to support the social integration of migrant women in host countries are crucial for their well-being and inclusion. Initiatives to promote cultural diversity, combat discrimination, and enhance access to social services such as healthcare, education, and housing can facilitate the integration process. Providing language and cultural orientation programs tailored to the needs of migrant women can help them navigate their new environments and participate fully in society. Moreover, addressing structural barriers to social integration, such as inaccessible public services and discriminatory practices, is essential for creating inclusive communities where migrant women can thrive.

Empowerment and Advocacy

Empowering migrant women through education, skills training, and leadership development programs is essential for enhancing their agency and ability to advocate for their rights. Civil society organizations, NGOs, and international agencies play a crucial role in supporting grassroots initiatives and advocacy efforts aimed at promoting the rights and well-being of migrant women. Providing funding, technical assistance, and capacity-building support to migrant women-led organizations can amplify their voices and catalyze positive change. Moreover, engaging migrant women as active participants in decision-making processes and policy development can ensure that their perspectives and priorities are adequately represented.

Collaborative Partnerships

Collaboration between governments, civil society organizations, academia, and international agencies is essential to address the complex challenges facing migrant women in labor migration. Holistic approaches that prioritize the rights, well-being, and empowerment of migrant women require coordinated efforts across multiple sectors and stakeholders. Establishing multi-stakeholder partnerships can facilitate knowledge sharing, resource mobilization, and the implementation of comprehensive interventions. Moreover, fostering dialogue and cooperation between sending and receiving countries is crucial for developing effective policies and practices that support the rights and dignity of migrant women throughout the migration process.

Conclusion

In the exploration of the experiences and challenges confronted by migrant women in labor migration, we've unveiled a deeply intricate and multifaceted landscape that demands our attention and concerted action. Through the lens of financial strategies, educational barriers, employment dynamics, and family reunification efforts, migrant women's narratives reflect the complex interplay of economic, social, and political forces that shape their migration journeys.

Central to our findings is the imperative for gender-sensitive approaches within immigration policies, recognizing the nuanced vulnerabilities and invaluable contributions of migrant women. By enhancing credential recognition mechanisms and bolstering support for social integration, we lay the groundwork for fostering the economic empowerment and social inclusion of migrant women within host countries.

Volume: 4, No: 1, pp. 1644-1661 ISSN: 2752-6798 (Print) | ISSN 2752-6801 (Online)

https://ecohumanism.co.uk/joe/ecohumanism DOI: https://doi.org/10.62754/joe.v4i1.5983

Moreover, the empowerment of migrant women through targeted educational initiatives, skills training, and advocacy efforts emerges as a critical pathway towards amplifying their agency and advancing their rights. The call for collaborative partnerships echoes loudly throughout our research findings. Bridging the divides between governments, civil society organizations, academia, and international agencies, these partnerships stand as pillars of strength in addressing the multifaceted challenges faced by migrant women in labor migration. Through collective action, stakeholders can forge holistic solutions and implement targeted interventions that create an enabling environment, supportive of the rights, well-being, and empowerment of migrant women. In closing, while migrant women grapple with formidable obstacles in their migration journeys, they also exemplify remarkable resilience, resourcefulness, and tenacity. It's incumbent upon us to heed their voices, comprehend their experiences, and champion their rights. In doing so, we not only build more inclusive and equitable societies but also unleash the full potential of migrant women to contribute meaningfully to their communities and economies, enriching the tapestry of our shared humanity.

References

- Abdurasulova, D., Begimkulova, K., & Abdurakhmanova, Z. (2023). The intercultural competence. developing effective intercultural communication skills. Science and innovation in the education system, 2(6), 70-74.
- Aguirresarobe, A. H. (2022). Is national identity in crisis? An assessment of national imaginations in the early 2020s. Studies in Ethnicity and Nationalism, 22(1), 14-27.
- Agwanda, A., Muyonga, M., Adieri, M., & Odipo, G. (2022). Changing Perspectives of Internal Migration in East Africa Revisited 1, Handbook of African Demography. Routledge, 1st edition,
- Alrababah, A., Masterson, D., Casalis, M., Hangartner, D., & Weinstein, J. (2023). The dynamics of refugee return: Syrian refugees and their migration intentions. British Journal of Political Science, 53(4), 1108-1131.
- Achilleos-Sarll, C., Thomson, J., Haastrup, T., Färber, K., Cohn, C., & Kirby, P. (2023). The Past, Present, and Future (s) of Feminist Foreign Policy. International Studies Review, 25(1), viac068.
- Andersson, P. (2023). Understanding Recognition of Prior Learning as a Tool for the Labour Market Integration of Skilled Migrants. In Migration, Education and Employment: Pathways to Successful Integration (pp. 29-44). Cham: Springer International Publishing.
- Annamalah, S. (2022). Shaping Economic Recovery in Malaysia: Challenges, Counterfactuals, and Strategic Reforms in the Post-Pandemic Era. Counterfactuals and Strategic Reforms in the Post-Pandemic Era (January 26, 2022).
- Annamalah, S., Munusamy, J., & Sentosa, I. (2016a). Agro-tourism: a cash crop for farmers in Malaysian rural area. Available at SSRN 2876269.
- Annamalah, S., Munusamy, J., & Sentosa, I. (2016b). Middle Income Trap Economies, the Way Forward in Malaysia. Available at SSRN 2876260.
- Annamalah, S., Aravindan, K. L., & Sentosa, I. (2024). Navigating the Malaysian dilemma: Constructing a sustainable economy in the post-COVID-19 era. Journal of Infrastructure, Policy and Development, 8(8), 5771.
- Amin, F., & Annamalah, S. (2013). An evaluation of Malaysian capital controls. Journal of Economic Studies, 40(4), 549-571. Archer, R., Bernard, S., & Papadopoulos, Y. G. (2023). Introduction: the cold war of labour migrants: opportunities, struggles and adaptations across the iron curtain and beyond. Labor History, 1-9.
- Ashforth, B. E., Caza, B. B., & Meister, A. (2024). My place: How workers become identified with their workplaces and why it matters. Academy of Management Review, 49(2), 366-398.
- Bakewell, O., De Haas, H., & Kubal, A. (2012). Migration systems, pioneer migrants and the role of agency. Journal of critical realism, 11(4), 413-437.
- Bastia, T. (2018). The migration-development nexus: current challenges and future research agenda. Handbook on development and social change, 313.
- Bossavie, L., & Özden, Ç. (2023). Impacts of Temporary Migration on Development in Origin Countries. The World Bank Research Observer, lkad003.
- Bozok, M., & Bozok, N. (2024). Away from home and excluded from local solidarity networks: Undocumented Afghan migrant men in Istanbul. Population, Space and Place, e2775.
- Cantat, C., Pécoud, A., & Thiollet, H. (2023). Migration as crisis. American Behavioral Scientist, 00027642231182889.
- Castles, S. (2009). Development and migration-migration and development: what comes first? Global perspective and African experiences. Theoria, 56(121), 1-31.
- Castles, S. (2010). Understanding global migration: A social transformation perspective. Journal of ethnic and migration studies, 36(10), 1565-1586.
- Chan, Y. W., & Piper, N. (2024). Home-bound precarity: home violence on return Indonesian migrant domestic workers. Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies, 1-16.
- Crépeau, F., & Atak, I. (2016). Global migration governance: Avoiding commitments on human rights yet tracing a course for cooperation. Netherlands Quarterly of Human Rights, 34(2), 113-146.
- Crudu, R., & Tomsa, C. (2023). programmes to harness the economic potential of return migrants: the case of the republic of Moldova. Annales Universitatis Apulensis: Series Oeconomica, 25(1), 42-64.
- De Lima, P., Leach, B., Radford, D., & Arora-Jonsson, S. (2022). The Well-being of International Migrants in Rural Areas: Bridging the Migration-Development Nexus. Frontiers in Sociology, 7, 870810.
- De Haan, A. (1999). Livelihoods and poverty: The role of migration-a critical review of migration literature. The journal of development studies, 36(2), 1-47.

Volume: 4, No: 1, pp. 1644–1661

ISSN: 2752-6798 (Print) | ISSN 2752-6801 (Online) https://ecohumanism.co.uk/joe/ecohumanism

DOI: https://doi.org/10.62754/joe.v4i1.5983

- D'Adamo, I., & Gastaldi, M. (2023). Monitoring the Performance of Sustainable Development Goals in the Italian Regions. Sustainability, 15(19), 14094.
- De Haas, H. (2010). Migration and development: A theoretical perspective. International migration review, 44(1), 227-264. Dixon, S., Amin, D., & Arthur, N. (2023). Giving voices to Jamaican Canadian immigrant women: a heuristic inquiry study. The Qualitative Report, 28(7), 2172-2212.
- Drouhot, L. G., Deutschmann, E., Zuccotti, C. V., & Zagheni, E. (2023). Computational approaches to migration and integration research promises and challenges. Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies, 49(2), 389-407.
- Elie, J. (2015). Labour, Migration and Development: An Analysis of the Role of International Organizations and Civil Society. In The Palgrave Handbook of International Labour Migration: Law and Policy Perspectives (pp. 97-117). London: Palgrave Macmillan UK.
- Fasani, F., Llull, J., & Tealdi, C. (2020). The economics of migration: Labour market impacts and migration policies. Labour Economics, 67, 101929.
- Feneberg, V., & Subner, P. (2023). Courts in Context. An Empirical Re-Evaluation of Categorization in the Asylum Regime. Z'Flucht. Zeitschrift für Flucht-und Flüchtlingsforschung, 7(1), 4–14.
- Ferreira Fernandes, C. S., Loureiro, J., & Alves, F. (2023). Research in environmentally induced human mobility: an analysis of methodological and theoretical dimensions. International Journal of Climate Change Strategies and Management.
- Gasper, D. (2019). The road to the sustainable development goals: Building global alliances and norms. Journal of Global Ethics, 15(2), 118-137.
- Girma, H., & Abebe, A. (2023). Outsiders within: examining Ethiopian adoptee experiences through a diasporic lens. Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies, 1-18.
- Hamed, A. M. (2022). Remittance: A New Instrument for Change—Understanding the Impact of Remittances on Home Countries Development (Doctoral dissertation, Old Dominion University).
- Hartman, E., Kiely, R. C., Friedrichs, J., & Boettcher, C. (2023). Community-based global learning: The theory and practice of ethical engagement at home and abroad. Taylor & Francis.
- Hoffmann, R., Vinke, K., & Šedová, B. (2023). Strengthening the science-policy interface in the climate migration field. International Migration. 61(5), 75-97. https://doi.org/10.1111/imig.13125
- Hunter, L. M., & Simon, D. H. (2023). Time to mainstream the environment into migration theory? International Migration Review, 57(1), 5-35.
- Khan, M. I., Alharthi, M., & Illiyan, A. (2024). Statistical analysis of international labour migration strategy from India to the Gulf countries. Journal of King Saud University-Science, 36(6), 103212.
- Kurlander, Y., & Cohen, A. (2022). BLAs as sites for the meso-level dynamics of institutionalization: A cross-sectoral comparison. Theoretical Inquiries in law, 23(2), 246-265.
- Manji, K., Perera, S., Hanefeld, J., Vearey, J., Olivier, J., Gilson, L., & Walls, H. (2023). An analysis of migration and implications for health in government policy of South Africa. International journal for equity in health, 22(1), 82.
- Marusiak, T., Khymovych, O., Hoblyk, V., Pigosh, V., & Rosola, U. (2024). Migration abroad as a social consequence of transformations of the institute of education in modern Ukraine. Dve domovini, (59).
- Massey, D. S. (2023). The shape of things to come: international migration in the twenty-first century. In Migration and Integration in a Post-Pandemic World: Socioeconomic Opportunities and Challenges (pp. 29-81). Cham: Springer International Publishing.
- Memisoglu, F., & Ilgit, A. (2017). Syrian refugees in Turkey: Multifaceted challenges, diverse players and ambiguous policies. Mediterranean Politics, 22(3), 317-338.
- Menozzi, C. (2023). Why safe, orderly and regular migration matters for sustainable development. United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. https://doi.org/10.18356/27081990-146
- Merino, A. M. (2023). Can SDG 10.7 Transform the World by 2030?. Migration and Development, 21632324231203730.
- Michele, B., Luisa, C. M., Martina, L. C., & Simone, B. (2023). Migrants in the economy of european rural and mountain areas. A cross-national investigation of their economic integration. Journal of Rural Studies, 99, 62-70.
- Micinski, N. R. (2021). UN global compacts: governing migrants and refugees. Routledge.
- Micinski, N. R., & Bourbeau, P. (2023). Capacity Building as Intervention-Lite: Migration Management and the Global Compacts. Geopolitics, 1-25.
- Micinski, N. R., & Weiss, T. G. (2017). Global migration governance: beyond coordination and crises. The Global Community Yearbook of International Law and Jurisprudence.
- Muñoz-Pogossian, B., & Chaves-González, D. (2023). Regional Migration Governance in the Americas: The Los Angles Declaration on Protection and Migration's Challenges and Opportunities.
- Norman & Reiling (2024). The 'inherent vulnerability' of women on the move: A gendered analysis of Morocco's migration reform. Journal of Refugee Studies, feae044.
- Nyberg–Sørensen, N., Hear, N. V., & Engberg–Pedersen, P. (2002). The migration–development nexus evidence and policy options state–of–the–art overview. International migration, 40(5), 3–47.
- Peck, S. (2023). An evolving migration-development nexus: DfID and British politics of race and belonging. Geoforum, 142, 103747.
- Pécoud, A., & Thiollet, H. (Eds.). (2023). Research Handbook on the Institutions of Global Migration Governance. Edward Elgar Publishing.
- Phillimore, J., D'Avino, G., Strain-Fajth, V., Papoutsi, A., & Ziss, P. (2023). Family reunion policy for resettled refugees: Governance, challenges and impacts. Frontiers in Human Dynamics, 5, 1075306.
- Piper, N., Hennebry, J., & Likić-Brborić, B. (2024). (International) Migration and the SDGs. In The Routledge International Handbook of Social Development, Social Work, and the Sustainable Development Goals (pp. 166-180). Routledge.

Volume: 4, No: 1, pp. 1644–1661

ISSN: 2752-6798 (Print) | ISSN 2752-6801 (Online)

https://ecohumanism.co.uk/joe/ecohumanism DOI: https://doi.org/10.62754/joe.v4i1.5983

- Raturi, R., & Cebotari, V. (2023). The impact of parental migration on psychological well-being of children in Ghana. Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies, 49(1), 192-211.
- Sagor, L., & Aktar, N. (2023). Navigating Gendered Pathways: Uncovering Gendered Barriers for Women Migrants in Europe. International Journal of Research and Innovation in Social Science, 7(7), 789-803.
- Schmitt, V. G. H., Olter-Castillo, A. E., Cequea, M. M., & Chayña, H. H. (2023). Co-production for the integration of migrant human capital into the decent work. PloS one, 18(12), e0295756.
- Schweiger, R. (2023). Key Concepts, Theory, and the Emergence of Global Migration Governance. In Beyond states: The Global Compact for Migration and the role of non-state actors and cities (pp. 13-96). Wiesbaden: Springer Fachmedien Wiesbaden.
- Stępka, M. (2022). EU Migration-Security Continuum. Investigating Security Frames Before the "Migration Crisis". In Identifying Security Logics in the EU Policy Discourse: The "Migration Crisis" and the EU (pp. 63-91). Cham: Springer International Publishing.
- Wu, X., Chen, L., Ma, L., Cai, L., & Li, X. (2023). Return migration, rural household investment decision, and poverty alleviation: Evidence from rural Guangdong, China. Growth and Change, 54(1), 304-325.
- Zaun, N., & Nantermoz, O. (2023). Depoliticising EU migration policies: the EUTF Africa and the politicisation of development aid. Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies, 49(12), 2986-3004.