



International
Labour
Organization

Emerging Issues in Governance of Labour Migration in Asia Pacific

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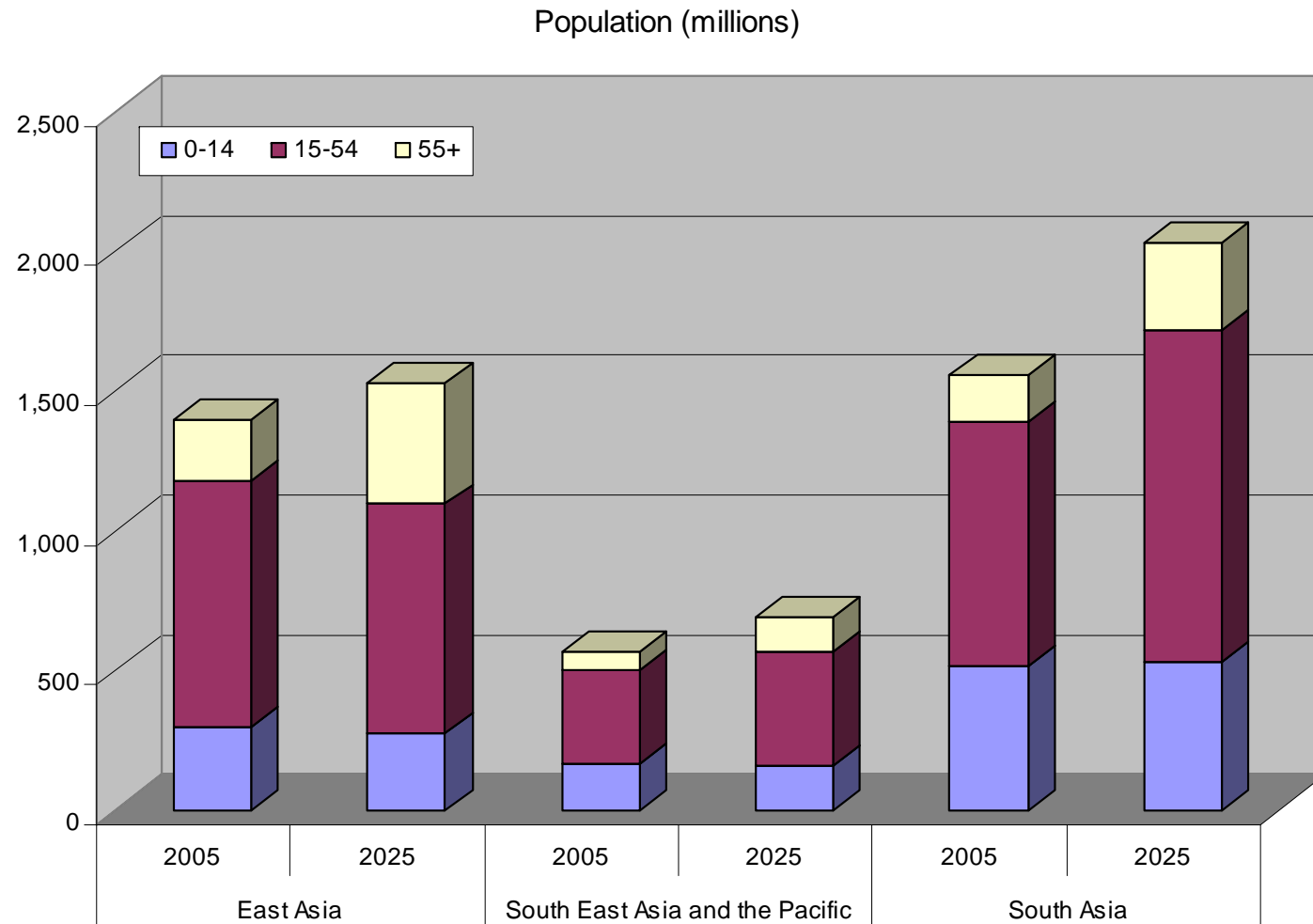
Decent Work for All

ASIAN DECENT WORK DECADE 2006-
2015

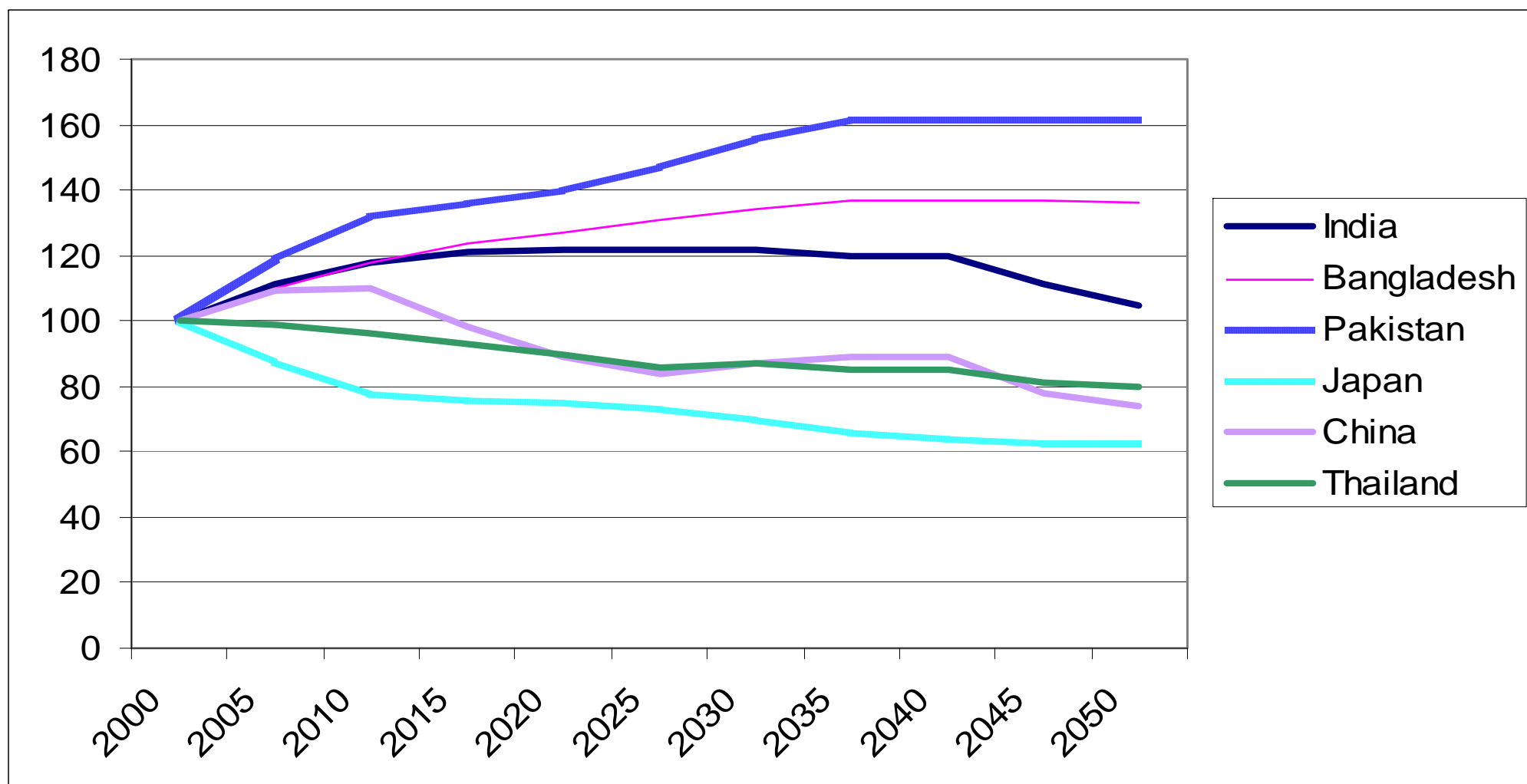
Key issues

- Absorbing educated work force
- Controlling borders – regulating market
- Protecting migrant workers
- Growing xenophobia

Asia's working age population

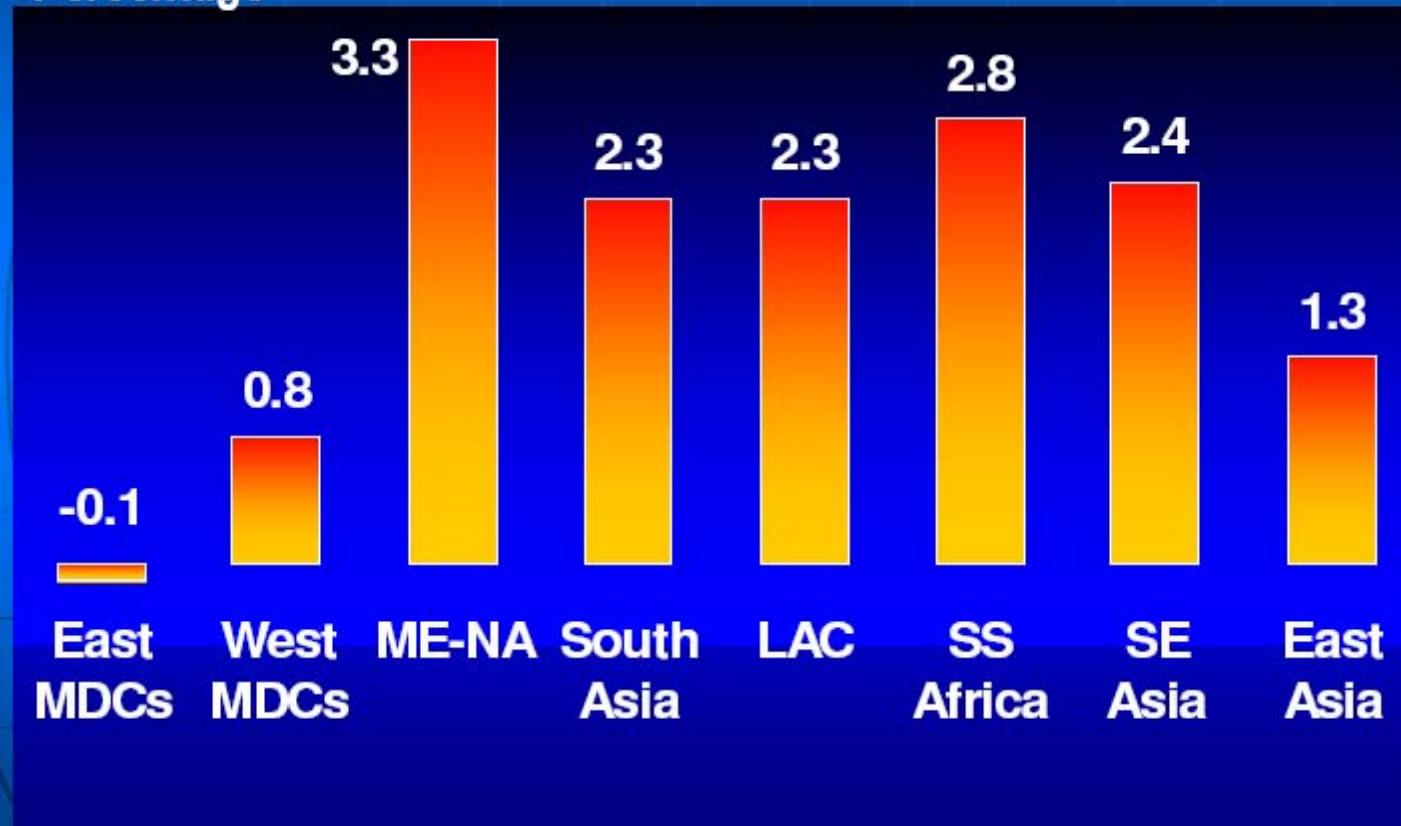


Index of growth of young population (15-24)



Annual growth rate of the labour force 1993-2003 (ILO)

Percentage



United Nations Population Division, 2007

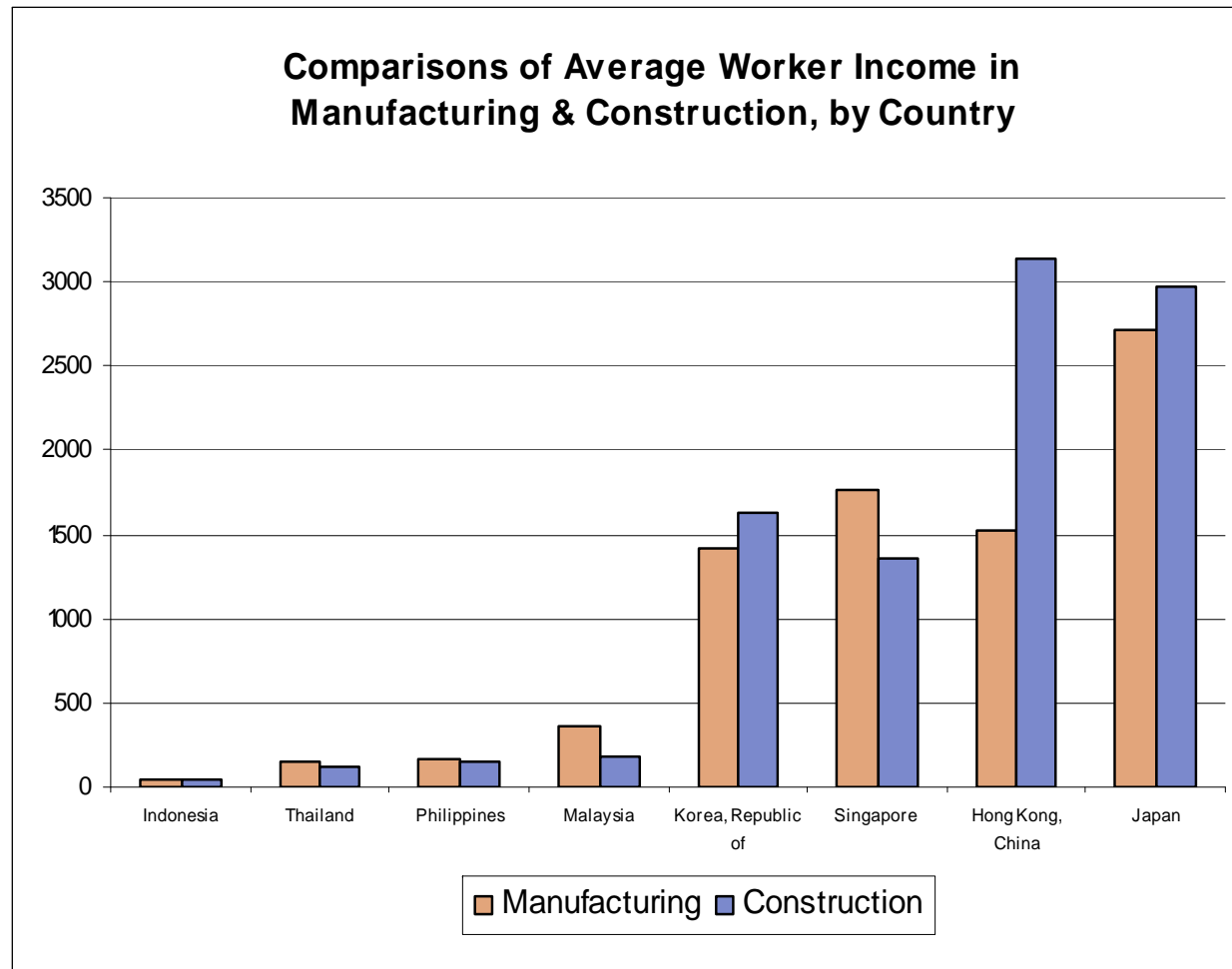
Huge supplies of educated workforce

Country	Enrollment rate 1990	Enrollment rate 2000	Enrollments 1990 (million)	Enrollments 2000 (million)	Ratio of enrollments 2000/1990
Indonesia	45	57	11.7	14.9	1.27
Thailand	32	82	2.3	5.6	2.37
Philippines	73	77	6.4	7.9	1.23
India	44	49	47	61.8	1.31
Bangladesh	19	46	3.1	8.9	2.9
Japan	96	100	9.4	8.4	0.9
Korea	87	91	4.3	3.8	0.89

How will rising emigration pressures be absorbed?

- Cooperation (G to G agreements?)
- Regional free movement agreement?
- Clandestine movements to rise?
- Growth of domestic employment
- Slowing LF growth?

Income differentials



Improving connections



Managing migration starts with
managing the demand for labour

Off-shoring these jobs?



Foreign workforce in GCC

Country	Population^a		Labor force	
	Total (000s)	% expatriates	Total (000s)	% expatriate
BAHRAIN	727	40.7	272^c	61.9
KUWAIT	2,867	65.1	1,727^d	81.8
OMAN	2,567	24.4	859^d	64.3
QATAR	813	78.3	120^c	81.6
SAUDI ARABIA	24,573	25.9	7,176^d	55.8
UAE	4,496	71.4	1,356^d	89.8
All GCC countries	35,862	35.7	11,103	About 70.0

Measures for managing demand foreign workers in GCC countries

1. **Creating job opportunities for nationals**

- Vocational training for nationals
- Enhancing private sector benefits

2. **Encouraging nationalization through market based measures**

- Fees for employing expatriates
- Cash benefits for employing nationals

3. **Restrictions on visa trading**

4. **Stricter regulation of visa issuance in sending countries**

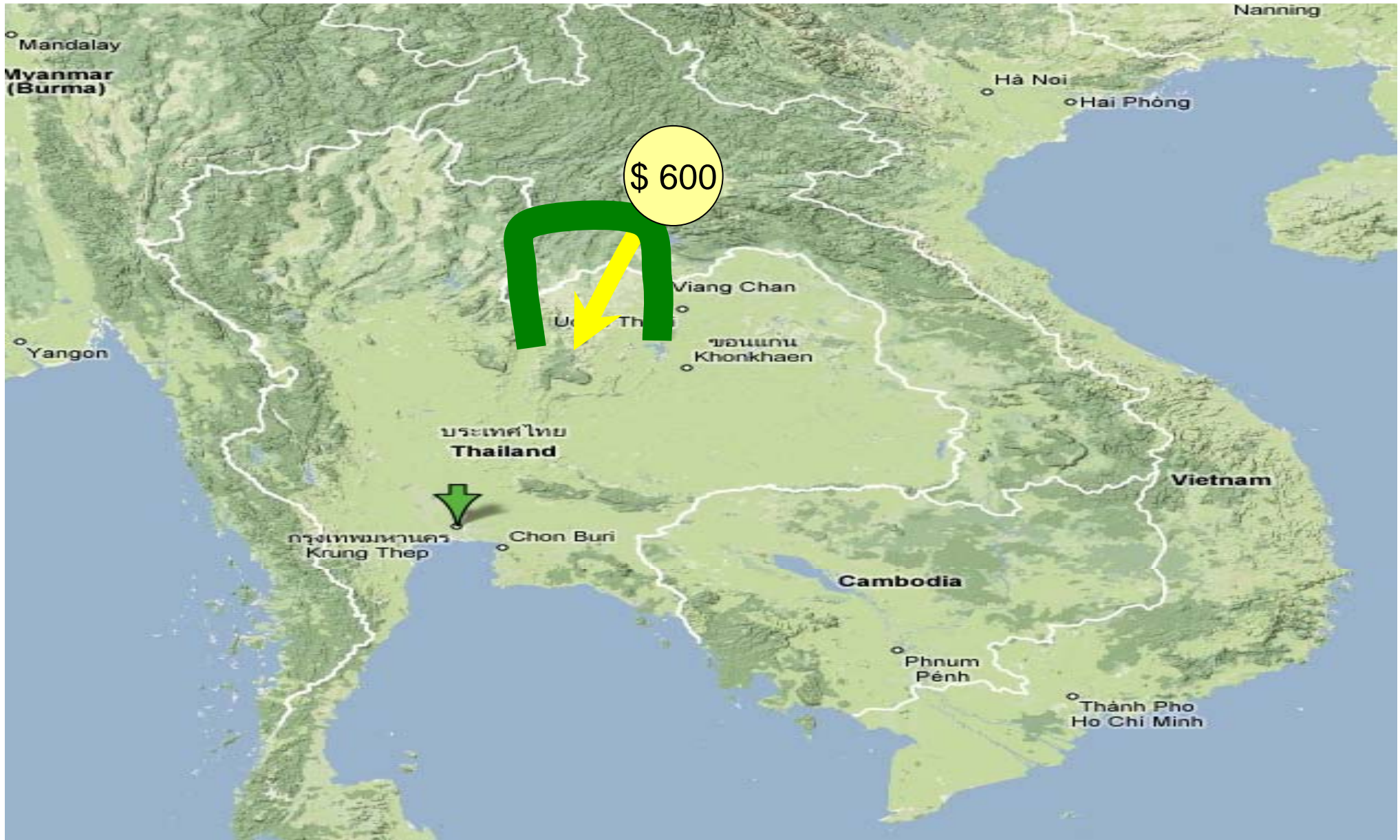
5. **Forcing nationalization of labour force through administrative measures**

- Nationalization of the public-sector work force
- Quotas on expatriates
- Quotas on employment of nationals
- Ban to hire expatriates in certain sectors
- Tightening of immigration legislation

6. **Taxation** Direct and indirect taxes on migrant workers (e.g. health fees)

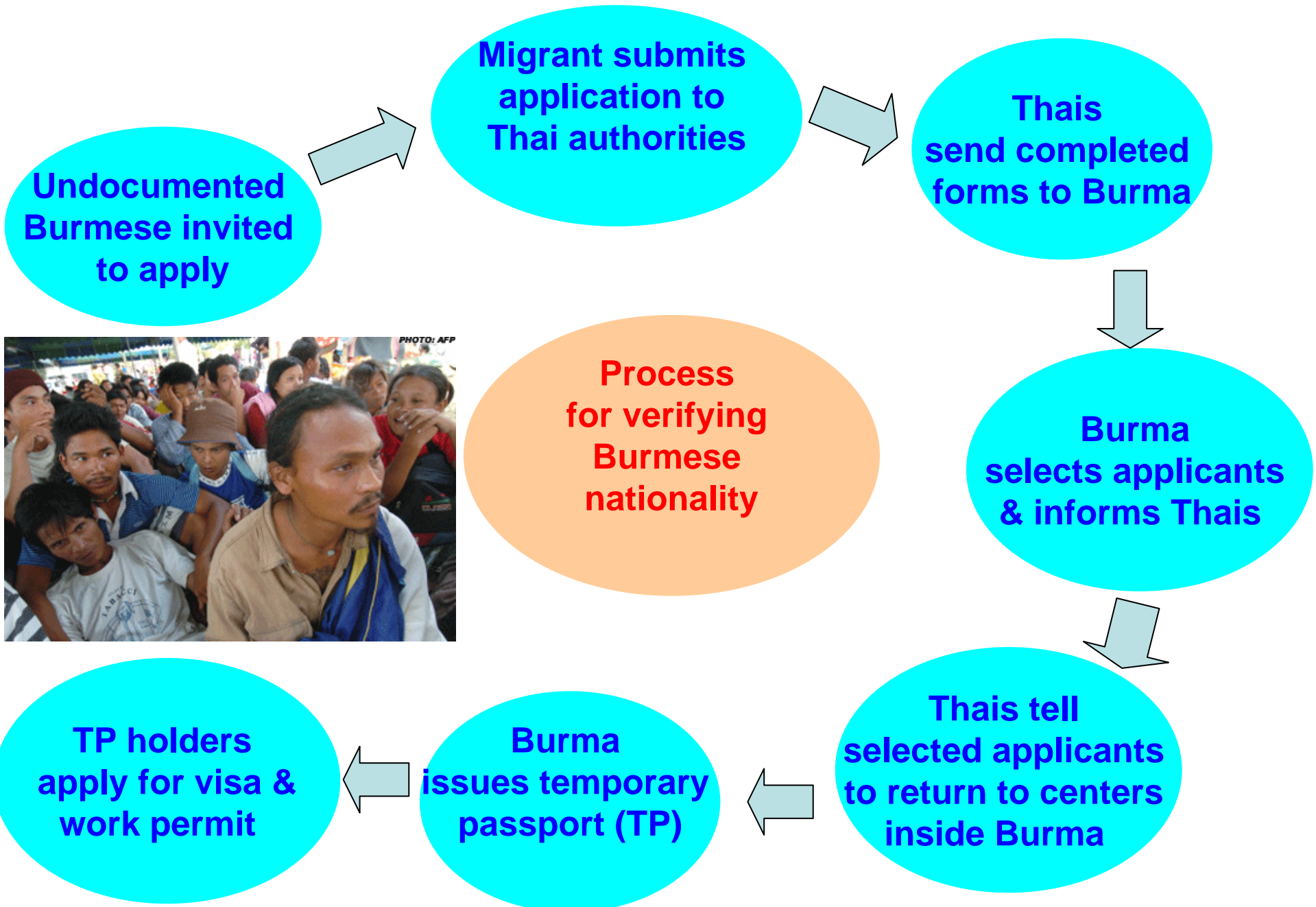
7. **Periodic amnesties**

Pay for inefficient governance?



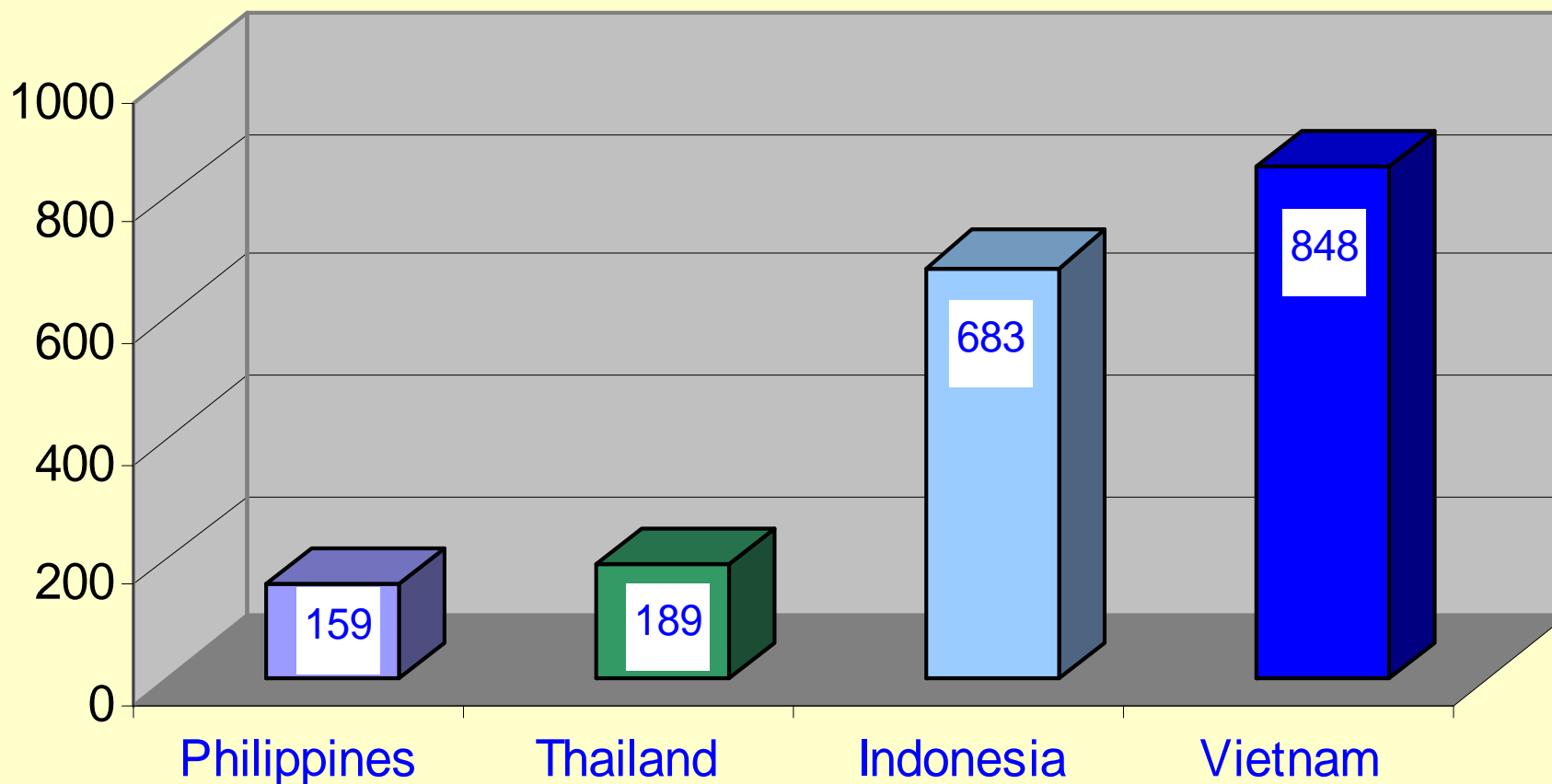
Or cross border clandestinely?



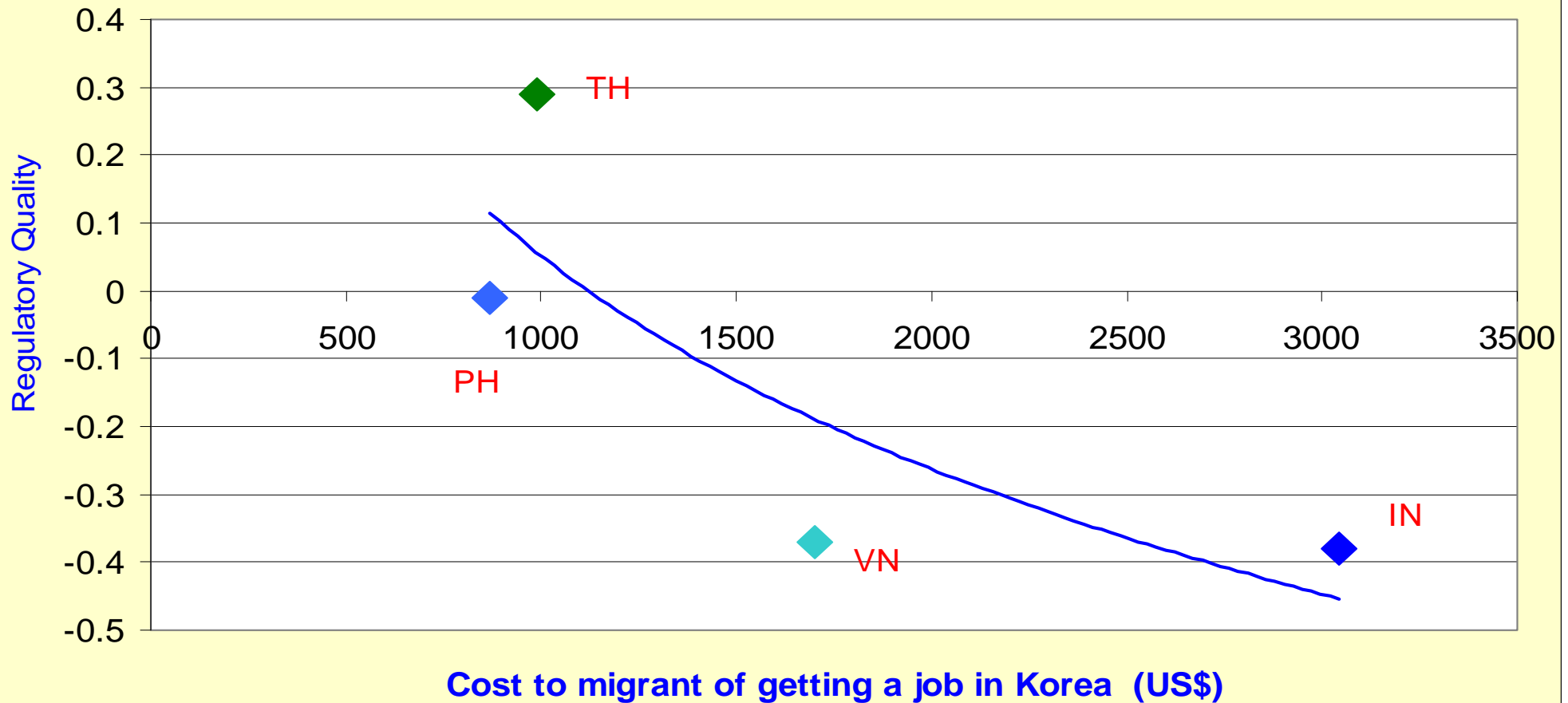


Large differences in transactions cost

No. of Days Potential Migrant Worker **must Work at Home** at Minimum Wage to Pay for Cost of getting job in Korea, 2007



Quality of governance affects cost of migration



Complaints received from migrant workers by SLBFE

Nature of Complaint	2003	2004	2005	2006
Non Payment of Agreed Wages	1768	1626	1709	1989
Lack of Communication	2158	2165	1755	2511
Sickness	470	610	653	662
Harassment (Physical and Sexual)	1454	1753	1949	1766
Breach of Employment	1302	1144	1792	1152

RISKS FACED BY MIGRANTS

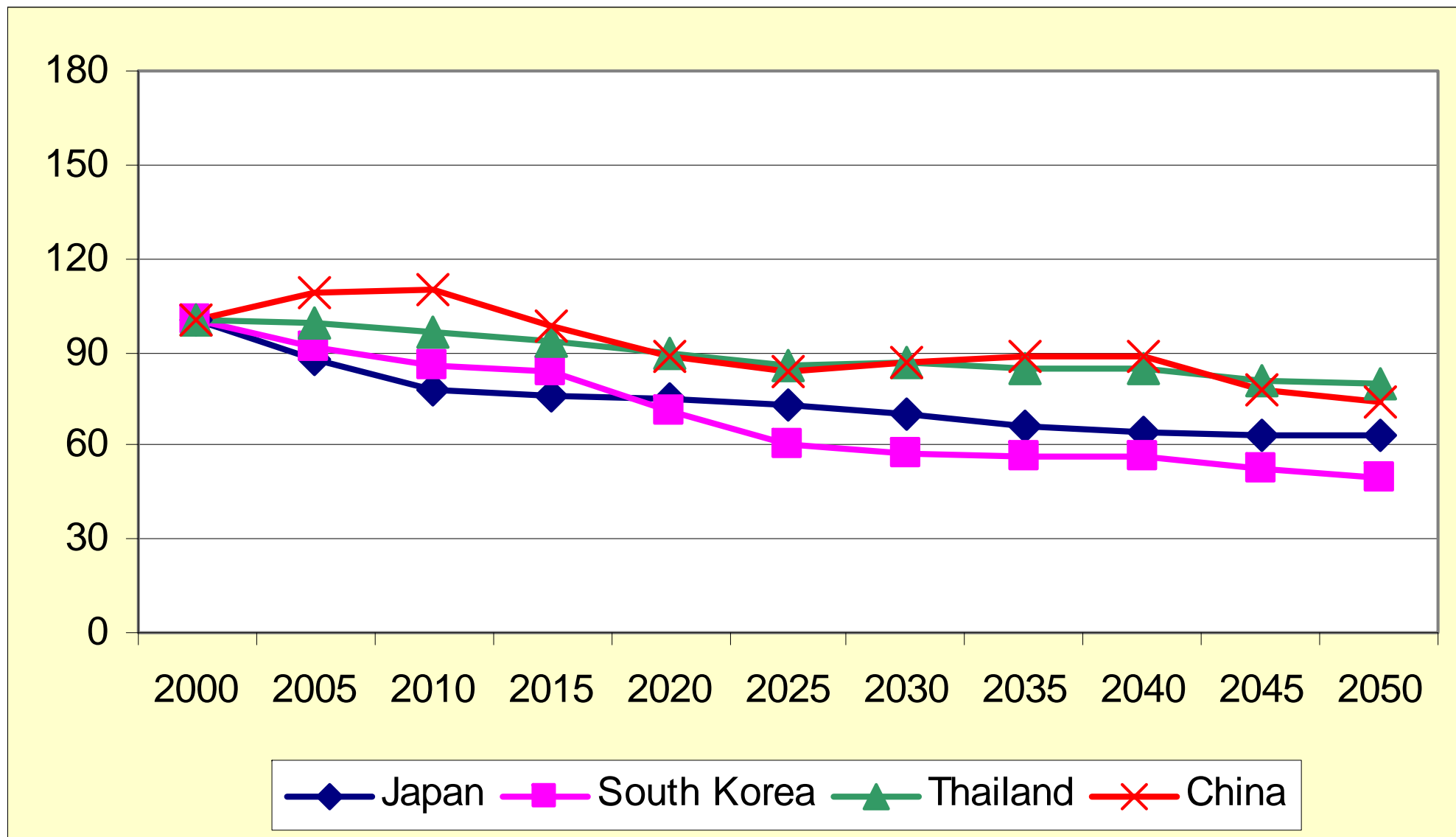
**Reported deaths of Sri Lankan migrant workers
abroad**

Estimated no. abroad in 2006 1,448,000

	2003	2004	2005	2006
NATURAL	127	153	115	172
ACCIDENTAL	63	75	62	77
SUICIDE	4	8	4	1
WAR (LEBANON)	23	9	22	7

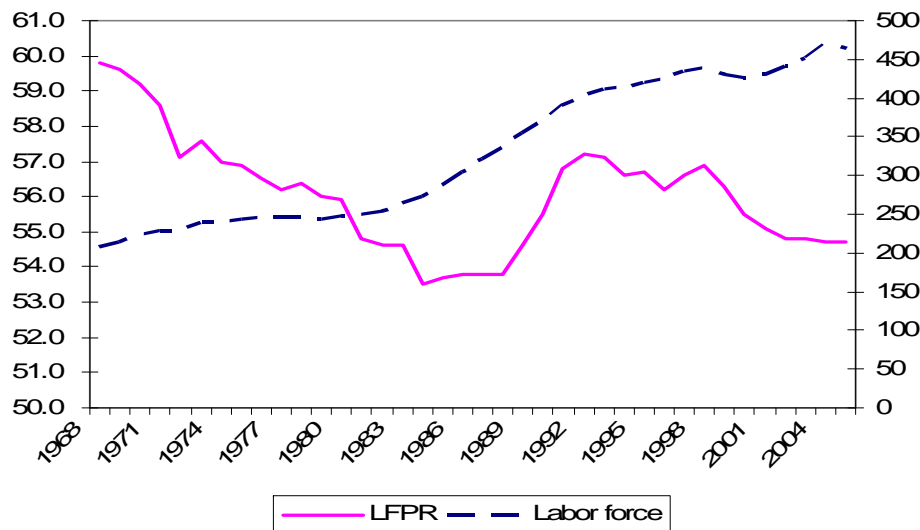
Declining 15-24 yr old population

Index 2000 = 100



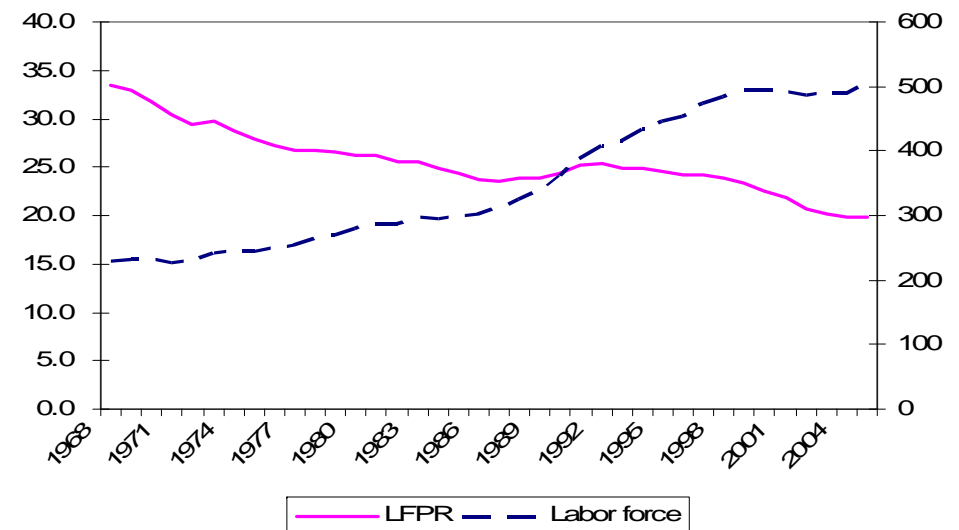
Declining participation of elderly in Japan's labour force

Labor Force and LFPR Population 60-64



Source: Japan LFS.
 Note: Left hand side axis is in percent while right hand side axis is in 10,000s.

Labor Force and LFPR Population, 65+



Source: Japan LFS.
 Note: Left hand side axis is in percent while right hand side axis is in 10,000s.