

Migration Policy, Net Migration Rates, & The Gross Domestic Product of ASEAN Member States (2012 – 2022)

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ABSTRACT

Over the past 10 years, the ASEAN region has experienced robust economic growth, driven by several factors including increasing foreign investment, growing domestic consumption, and favorable demographics. Statistics show that migration of workers make up a significant portion of the labor force in the ASEAN region. Asia has a long history of international migration, but in recent years it has grown in scope, diversity, and significance. Several factors have contributed to ASEAN's economic development, including government initiatives to improve the business environment, investment in infrastructure, and efforts to promote trade and regional economic integration. Migration-development discourse and existing studies recognize the potential role of migrants in boosting economic situations. The average annual growth rate of ASEAN's GDP was around 5% between 2011 and 2019, with some countries such as Vietnam and the Philippines growing at a much faster pace. Despite comprising only about 1.5% of the global economy, there is no denying that the contribution of countries like Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand is still highly significant in the context of East Asia. The objective of this study is to describe the intricate relationship between migration and domestic development. This paper took notes on the changes in ASEAN nations' immigration policies over the past ten years and observed how these have affected the patterns of net migration and economic performance. Understanding the linkages between migration and economic performance becomes crucial for understanding how sustainable development, social harmony, and long-term prosperity is affected by human movement.

KEYWORDS

Migration, Economic Growth, Gross Domestic Product

Introduction

Over the past decade, there has been an increasing interest in how migration can boost economic growth in countries. Migration refers to the relocation of people, whatever it is within the same country or across international borders. Migration can be driven by various factors including economic opportunities or socio-political conditions (UN Network on Migration, 2019). There are various

reasons of migration, each having its own significant effect on both the migrants and the community they leave or join. The impact of migration is social, and cultural transformation (Simpson, 2022). Net migration, the difference between the number of people entering and leaving a country (World Bank, 2023), has significantly impacted the domestic development of ASEAN countries from 2012 to 2022. Based on the World Bank, net migration is calculated by subtracting the number of emigrants from the number of

immigrants. Emigrants are people who leave their country of origin to settle permanently in another country and immigrants are people who move to a new country to settle permanently. It can be positive, negative, or zero. A positive net migration rate indicates that more people are entering the country than leaving it. A negative net migration rate indicates that more people are leaving the country than entering it. A zero net migration rate indicates that the number of people entering the country is equal to the number of people leaving the country. Net migration is a complex phenomenon that is influenced by a variety of factors, including: (1) Economic conditions; (2) Political conditions; (3) Social conditions; and (4) Family ties. Net migration can have a significant impact on the development of a country. Countries with high rates of net migration may experience labor shortages, social unrest, and environmental problems and countries with low rates of net migration may experience an aging population and a decline in economic growth (Azhari & Mazidah, 2017).

The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is a metric that calculates the total worth of all goods and services generated within the country's boundaries over a set timeframe, typically a year (Kramer, 2023) and is a commonly employed economic gauge that offers an overview of a country's economic performance and development. GDP encompasses all finished products and services produced by residents, enterprises, and the government, regardless of their nationality, within the country's borders. However, it does not account for the immediate goods and services utilized in the production process. This will also explore the challenges and opportunities arising from the changing immigration landscape in the ASEAN region and present recommendations to policymakers for maximizing the benefits of immigration while minimizing its potential drawbacks. This is essential since this gives the information about the size of the economy and how an economy is performing. The growth rate of real GDP is often used as an indicator of the general health of the economy. In broad terms, an increase in real GDP is interpreted as a sign that the economy is doing well (Marcellino, Sivec, 2021).

Migration-development discourse and existing studies recognize the potential of migrants' remittances - which refers to the money that migrants send back to their home countries. The remittances migrants across regional and international scales have been growing in magnitude and have become a significant source of foreign exchange and capital for many developing countries (Ilka, 2019). The pragmatic connection between migration and other aspects of economic globalization, such as the movement of goods, services, and capital, is the first aspect. This linkage is based on the possibility of a mutually beneficial arrangement between governments, whereby wealthier countries may allow more immigrants from poorer nations in exchange for those countries' relaxing their import policies or foreign investment regulations (Trachtman, 2017).

According to statistics, migrant workers make up a significant portion of the labor force in the ASEAN region. Asia has a long history of international migration, but in recent years it has grown in scope, diversity, and significance. In the last ten years, there have been significant alterations to immigration policies in ASEAN countries that have had a deep impact on the level of domestic and international development (Nankervis, Will, 2020).

Migration, mobility & economy in the ASEAN. The ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) is a collection of ten (10) member states, the richest being Singapore, Malaysia, Brunei Darussalam, and Thailand, to the

poorer nations being, Indonesia, Philippines, Vietnam, Myanmar, Lao PDR, and Cambodia (Kampan, Tanielian, 2017). One of their regional objectives according to U-wen Lee (2013) is to seek economic integration that would open countries to a single market. This would help the region become freer through ways such as: (a) economic productivity; (b) improved ability to compete with other markets; and (c) attract greater investments which would help lower the costs for initiating businesses, yet an increase in economic activities and more employment opportunities would better develop and integrate the economy. In 2013, the idea of a single market took shape, evolving into the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) in 2015, as introduced by Koichi (2021). This community aimed to create a more modern and open environment. It's crucial to understand that these policies operate regionally, focusing on fostering the free flow of goods and services, skilled workers, and the liberalization of capital. The goal is to boost economic growth, enhance regional security, and promote stability within the ASEAN region.

Studies have examined the relationship between migration and trade in ASEAN, and they have found evidence that suggests a positive impact on imports due to the presence of low-skilled ASEAN immigrant workers who have limited integration in the labor market. This is likely due to a lack of exports of these workers and a decrease in their ability to support such exports (Ekakkarakunroj et al., 2022). The migration status during the past ten years in the ASEAN region became large in number as more intra-regional initiatives were being implemented. In 2015, intra-ASEAN migration increased to 6.5 million (UNDESA, 2015) and will continue to grow as more individuals decide to migrate because of better economic opportunities from other countries. Second of the most sending countries in the ASEAN region is Indonesia with a number of 4.1 million migrant workers and 1.2 million settled migrants living in ASEAN (World Bank, 2015). Most of these labor forces are low-skilled or semi-skilled workers, given that most of the easiest or common, and available intra-regional jobs do not necessarily need high-skilled workers, such as: maids, caregivers, construction workers or plantation workers, etc. (Arisman, Ratnawati, 2021). Moreover, the ASEAN has continuously been very adamant in controlling the settlement of migrant workers in host countries and have established limitations, particularly concerning nationality and residency status, for factors concerning the: social implications, and cultural implication of these migrants to their local workers (Nodzanski et al., 2016).

Immigration policies were implemented in the ASEAN region for the same reason of promoting economic integration and development that would best benefit every sovereign state. Such policies would enable the movement of people across borders, leading to improved productivity, trade, and investment as countries benefit from the skills, and labor, of their neighbors (Wignaraja, 2022). This study examines and identifies patterns to the economic growth and domestic development of ASEAN countries because of their immigration policies, particularly in relation to changes in migration rates, GDP, and the inflow and outflow of foreign national migrants. It must be noted that the relationship between immigration policies and economic development is intricate and has many different aspects to consider.

ASEAN and the hints of neoclassical migration. Migration and development can be substantiated through the neoclassical migration theory. The first scholarly contribution to migration consisted of two articles by the nineteenth

century geographer Ravenstein, in which he formulated his "laws of migration". For Ravenstein, he saw migration as an inseparable part of development, and he asserted that the major causes of migration were economic. This perspective, people are expected to move from low income to high income areas, and from densely to sparsely populated areas, that is, the general notion that migration movements tend towards a certain spatial-economic equilibrium (*cited by Haas, 2021*)

In a study conducted by Rajendra (2015), the researcher examined the relationship of immigration policies and economic development interpreted through the neo-classical migration theory. In the study, Rajendra asserts that economic migration and development is driven by an individual decision as a migrant through voluntary migration. Furthermore, Rajendra examines the work of migration theorist George Borjas wherein Borjas compares the process of a migrant seeking a new country to a worker searching for a job. He suggests that, like job seekers, potential migrants enter a market, receive offers from various host countries and their home country, and then make a decision on where to migrate after comparing the offers. The migrant's decision is based on their personal preferences and the opportunity that will maximize their satisfaction. Borjas also states that wage differences between countries play a significant role in increasing immigration from low-wage countries to high-wage countries.

Additionally, Borjas through Rajendra's study examined the impact of immigration policies through neoclassical migration theory. In his two books on immigration policy, *Friends or Strangers* and *Heaven's Door*, Borjas argues that the United States must instantiate policies that attract more skilled and educated migrants. Borjas asserts that the problem with U.S. immigration is not the number of immigrants, either undocumented or legally admitted; rather, Borjas argues that the U.S. has an immigration problem because of the type of immigrants who come to the U.S.: unskilled migrants with low levels of education. Borjas argues that these low-skilled immigrants drive down average per capita income because of their low wages, burden the welfare system, and lower the wages of the immigrants already in the U.S. With this, Borjas uses neoclassical economic models to describe how the U.S. might attract higher skilled migrants.

The existing studies conducted by Rajendra and Borjas suggest that neoclassical migration theory discusses factors that involve labor and employment migration and its

relationship to economic growth and immigration policies. Such studies propound that the migrant workers moving in and out of their countries contribute to the economic performance of a country. In this study, the researchers identified immigration policies and its effect on the net migration that strengthens and reduces the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of a country. Therefore, we are given the following variables: immigration policies, net migration, and Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

Methodology and design

The study employs both qualitative desk research and descriptive analysis of secondary data. Chali, M.T., et al. (2022) shares that research issues can be effectively addressed by utilizing a mixed-methods approach, which involves combining both qualitative and quantitative data. By interweaving these two or more types of data, researchers can gain comprehensive insights into the topic being studied. This study used a table tallying method for data collection where there will be separate tables categorized into three (3) which are the: (1) identified changes in immigration policies; (2) net migration; and (3) gross domestic product. The data collected and empirical observations can be seen in the tables appended.

Results and Discussion

Careful consideration of the immigration policy, economic and socio-political landscape changes that occurred among ASEAN member states in the last years, the study provides the tables below as reference for the discussion that follows. The graphs show and overlaying of the GDP and net migration rates while also identifying the years when migration policies in each of the countries were altered, as indicated by years that are encircled. By doing so, the study can observe how net migration rates behave alongside the changes in policy. Likewise, it also shows how net migration rates due to policy change impacts GDP.

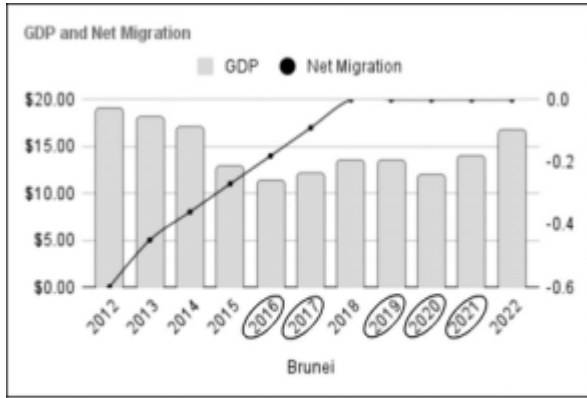


Figure 1. Brunei GDP and Net Migration Rate from 2012 - 2022

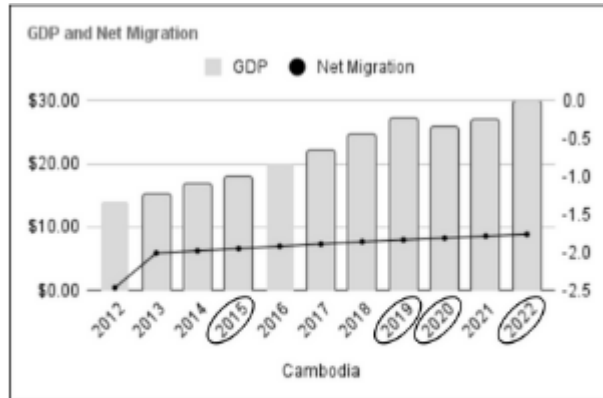


Figure 2. Cambodia GDP and Net Migration Rate from 2012 - 2022

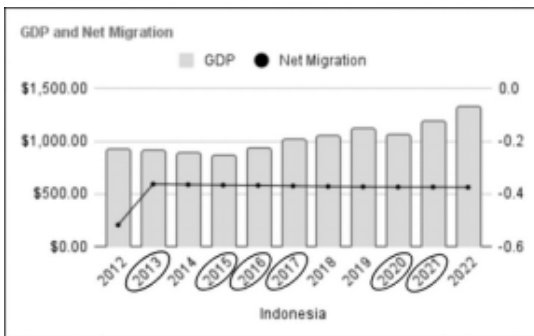


Figure 3. Indonesia GDP and Net Migration Rate from 2012 - 2022

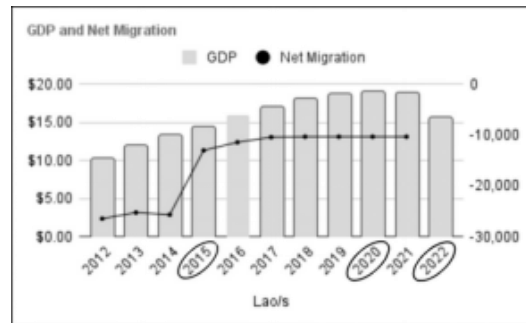


Figure 4. Laos' GDP and Net Migration Rate from 2012 - 2022

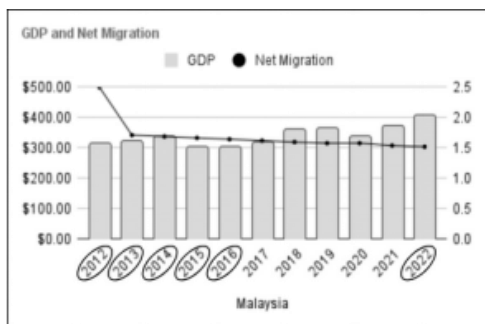


Figure 5. Malaysia GDP and Net Migration Rate from 2012 - 2022

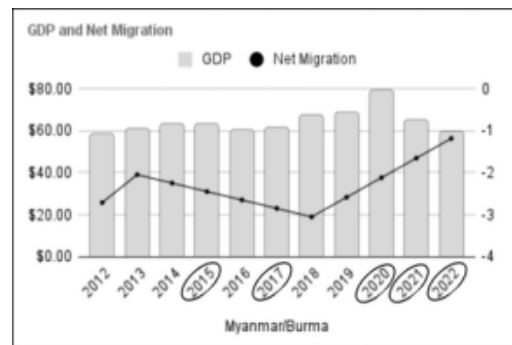


Figure 6. Myanmar GDP and Net Migration Rate from 2012 - 2022

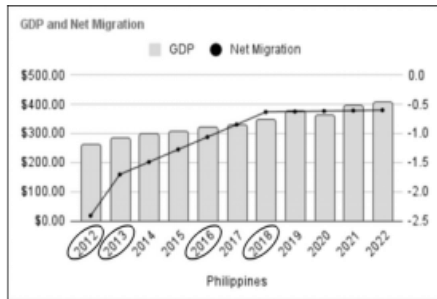


Figure 7. Philippines GDP and Net Migration Rate from 2012 - 2022

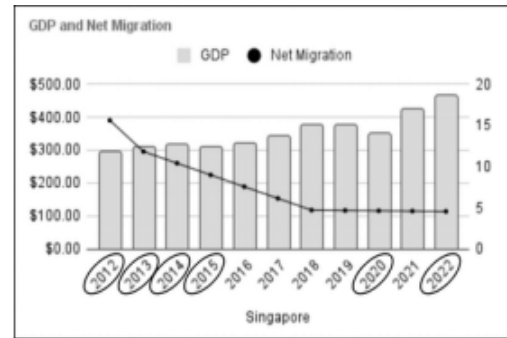


Figure 8. Singapore GDP and Net Migration Rate from 2012 - 2022

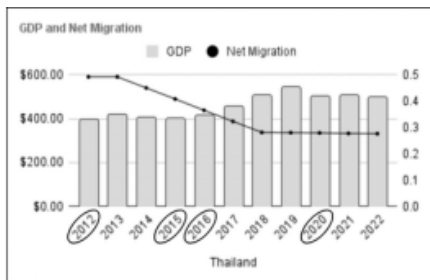


Figure 9. Thailand GDP and Net Migration Rate from 2012 - 2022

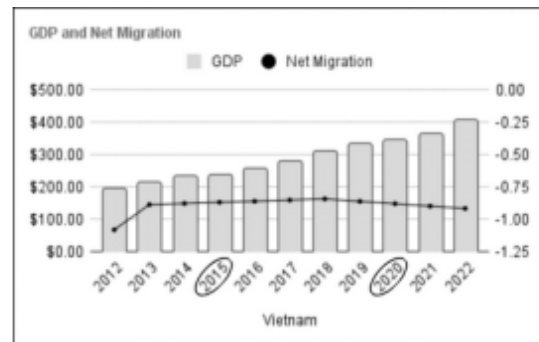


Figure 10. Vietnam GDP and Net Migration Rate from 2012 - 2022

The study shares an empirical observation of an apparent connection between changes in migration policies and economic performance through net migration and that the introduction of various legislative changes and regulations appears to have influenced both the inbound and outbound migration patterns, as well as the country's economic growth as observed by their GDP; this will be further discussed through common threads identified which are: (a) Population rate influences GDP; (b) Visa and Citizenship Regulations; (c) Shifts in Political Landscape; (d) Skills-Based Immigration System and High Net-worth Individual Prioritization; (e) Foreign Worker Remittances to Sending Countries; and (f) Balance between Foreign and Local Worker Ratio.

a. Population Rate Influences GDP. Countries such as Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Brunei are facing economic challenges driven by their large populations. Indonesia, with a population exceeding 270 million and a growth rate of 1.09%, is straining its resources and environment (World Bank, 2023; United Nations Population Fund [UNFPA], 2023). Malaysia, home to over 32 million people and a growth rate of 1.25%, is experiencing pressure on its healthcare and education systems (World Bank, 2023). The Philippines, with a population surpassing 110 million and the highest growth rate in ASEAN at 1.62%, struggles to provide adequate employment opportunities for its citizens (World Bank, 2023; Philippine Statistics Authority [PSA], 2023). Similarly, Brunei, with a population of over 460,000 and a growth rate of 1.74%, faces social welfare and healthcare challenges (World Bank,

2023; Brunei Darussalam Statistics Department [BSDD], 2022).

The influence of population size on a country's GDP is a multifaceted issue. Quality determinants, such as access to high-quality education and a skilled workforce, play a pivotal role in shaping economic outcomes (Mankiw et al., 1992). Vietnam and Cambodia offer compelling examples of countries that have effectively leveraged their population size by investing in education and healthcare. These investments have cultivated a well-educated and highly skilled workforce, which has significantly contributed to their robust economic growth (World Bank, 2023; Asian Development Outlook, 2023). As a result, they have seen a positive correlation between their large populations and economic development, showcasing the importance of both quantity and quality in the context of population's impact on GDP.

b. Visa and Citizenship Regulations. In both Indonesia and Thailand, visa and citizenship regulations have had a notable impact on GDP through their influence on net migration. In Indonesia, the implementation of the Law on Immigration in 2011, followed by detailed guidelines introduced in 2013, was associated with a decline in net migration and a decrease in GDP. However, in 2016, legislative changes in citizenship regulations led to a remarkable economic upswing (State Gazette of The Republic of Indonesia No. 52, 2011)

Similarly, Thailand's introduction of the Visa Exemption Program in 2012, aimed at promoting tourism, had a posi-

tive impact on the country's GDP by attracting more tourists. This program streamlined entry for citizens of 50 countries, resulting in an economic boost through increased tourism revenue. Moreover, Thailand's initiatives, such as the Digital Work Permit program in 2019, signaled a commitment to attracting and retaining high-skilled foreign workers, which can contribute to the economy through job creation, tax revenue, and knowledge transfer (*UNWTO, 2012*). These instances highlight the intricate interplay of visa and citizenship regulations, migration, and their ultimate impact on the GDP of these nations.

c. Shifts in Political Landscape. Myanmar's political landscape, characterized by a history of military junta rule until 2011 and subsequent political transitions, has a profound impact on the nation's net migration patterns and, consequently, its Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The shift from military dictatorship to quasi-civilian governance in 2011 brought about notable changes in migration trends. During the military junta era from 2012 to 2014, the net migration rate was relatively lower, indicating restrictions imposed by the authoritative regime. However, with the transition to quasi-civilian governance, the net migration rate surged, reaching a peak of -3.05 in 2018, reflecting increased mobility and potentially greater economic uncertainties associated with political changes (*Ebbighausen, 2016*).

The subsequent political developments, including the military coup in 2021 and the suspension of key legal protections, marked a setback for Myanmar's democratic aspirations. This political turmoil, combined with disruptions to COVID-19 vaccination programs and a crisis in the health system, has intensified challenges for the people of Myanmar and has implications for the country's GDP. The intricate interplay between political conditions, migration dynamics, and economic stability is evident in the shifting patterns of net migration. The absence of a nationwide lockdown or emergency law, along with the imposition of curfews and quarantines in response to the coup, further underscores the complex relationship between the political landscape, migration, and its consequences for Myanmar's economic well-being (*Human Rights Watch, 2021; Wittekind, 2021*).

d. Skills-Based Immigration System and High Net-worth Individual Prioritization. The points system embeds an economic approach to migration policy that has its origins in the 1950s, when insufficient inflows of temporary immigrants to sustain persistently high employment growth in the years of reconstruction that followed World War II raised calls for the introduction of migration policies addressing the needs of the labor market, rather than meeting population size targets (*Tani, 2018*).

Since then, migration policies have started to take into account employers' calls for migrants able to satisfy their production requirements. This was initially addressed by opening up the set of countries from which potential immigrants could be drawn. A point-based system to select immigrants is an approach based on scoring a set of observable determinants of productivity like age and education, which lead an immigrant applicant to qualify for permanent residence when a minimum threshold, set by the host country's immigration authorities, is reached. (*Tani, 2018*) Thus, a points-based system for assessing visa applications is a system that gives priority to foreign workers who have the skills and experience that are in high demand in the country. The system is designed to attract and retain high-skilled foreign workers who can contribute to the country's economic growth.

e. Foreign Worker Remittances to Sending Countries. This study identifies those remittances from foreign workers play a vital role in boosting the GDP of countries like Cambodia and the Philippines. In Cambodia, these remittances constituted around 5.8% of the GDP in 2018 (*OECD, 2018*). Notably, the COVID-19 pandemic temporarily impacted Cambodia's GDP, with the return of migrant workers resulting in a decrease in remittances (*World Bank, 2023*). However, Cambodia's rapid economic recovery in 2022, driven by strong services and eased domestic prices, highlights the enduring importance of remittances (*World Bank, 2023*). In the Philippines, responsible migration governance and the protection of overseas Filipino workers have been pivotal in ensuring economic stability. Policies emphasizing gender equality and women's participation in the workforce not only advanced social justice but also boosted productivity, fostering economic growth. Furthermore, the establishment of the National Reintegration Center for Overseas Filipino Workers facilitated the reintegration of returnees, potentially leading to a more productive workforce and positively impacting the Philippines' GDP and overall economic prosperity (*Ang and Tiongson, 2023*).

f. Balance Between Foreign and Local Worker Ratio. In the context of countries with relatively small populations, Brunei and Singapore place a strong emphasis on regulating the ratio between foreign and local workers, driven by specific motives outlined in their policies. In Brunei, the transition towards local-centered employment policies, notably the Foreign Workers License (LPA) and the Local and Foreign Workforce Ratio (NTA). The underlying motivation is rooted in the pursuit of augmenting social cohesion, safeguarding the interests of local jobseekers, and diminishing the dependency on foreign workers.

Similarly, Singapore places significant emphasis on regulating its employment pass framework and enforcing measures like the Comprehensive Test for Employment Pass (EP) and S Pass Applications (COMPASS) to maintain social cohesion, manage the growth of the foreign workforce, and protect the interests of its citizens and permanent residents (Ministry of Manpower, Singapore, 2013). In doing so, Singapore aims to address potential issues such as wage suppression, mitigate the strain on social services, and facilitate smoother cultural integration. By carefully balancing the foreign-to-local worker ratio, these sparsely populated countries not only safeguard the job opportunities and economic well-being of their local populations but also contribute to the long-term economic stability, sustainable growth, and overall prosperity of the nation.

Positive net migration resulting to high GDP.

It can be seen that countries like Thailand (Figure 9), Singapore (Figure 8), and Malaysia (Figure 5) display a positive net migration rate, indicating a significant inward flow of people from these countries. Intriguingly, their GDPs remain high. This means that countries with higher net migration rates tend to have higher GDP per capita. All three countries have relatively strong economies, with low unemployment rates and high wages. This attracts migrants from other countries, who are looking to improve their economic prospects (*International Monetary Fund, 2020*). Here are the similar key factors for this relationship among the three countries: First, positive net migration can lead to an increase in the labor force. A larger labor force can lead to higher productivity and economic growth (*J. Hunt, 2010*). Second, positive net migration can bring in

new skills and ideas, which can help to boost innovation and economic growth. G.Peri & C.Sparber (2009) Third, positive net migration can help to reduce labor costs, which can make businesses more competitive and lead to higher economic growth. G. J. Borjas (2003).

In the case of Thailand, Singapore, and Malaysia, all three countries have experienced positive net migration in recent years. This has helped to fuel their economic growth and raise their GDP per capita. While positive net migration can have many benefits, it is important to manage it carefully. Too much immigration can strain infrastructure and social services. It is also important to ensure that immigrants have the skills and education necessary to contribute to the economy. The positive relationship between positive net migration and high GDP per capita in Thailand, Singapore, and Malaysia suggests that immigration can be a force for economic growth. However, it is important to manage immigration carefully to ensure that it is beneficial for both the immigrants and the host country, according to UNDESA in 2023.

Negative net migration resulting to high GDP

In this category, Vietnam (Figure 10), Indonesia (Figure 3), and the Philippines (Figure 7) display a negative net migration rate, indicating a significant outward flow of people from these countries. Intriguingly, their GDPs remain resilient. To unravel the complexities of this relationship, it is essential to assess the significance of immigration policies and their implications for the socioeconomic impact of overseas worker migration in these nations, with specific emphasis on: a) Remittances; and b) the Availability of Benefits and Welfare Programs for expatriate laborers.

A common thread among these countries is the practice of remittances, where individuals living and working abroad send money back to support their friends and family members in their home countries. This is a primary reason why a substantial portion of their populations work abroad – to contribute to the well-being of their families and, in turn, benefit their home country's economy. For instance, Indonesia had a per capita income of \$4,580 in 2022, Vietnam's per capita income was \$4,010, and the Philippines had a per capita income of \$3,950 in the same year (World Bank, n.d.). These relatively low per capita incomes make even modest remittances significant.

On the other hand, there is a notable focus on the availability of benefits and welfare programs for overseas workers. The governments of Indonesia, the Philippines, and Vietnam provide social protection and dispute resolution mechanisms for their overseas workers. In Indonesia, the BP2MI offers health insurance and pension benefits to overseas workers, and they are eligible for other social security benefits like workers' compensation and unemployment insurance. (ILO, 2011) The Philippines has PhilHealth and SSS for health insurance and pension benefits, with similar social security benefits available. Vietnam's VSS provides similar benefits.

In addition to social protection, there are dispute resolution mechanisms in place. In Indonesia, the BP2MI is responsible for resolving disputes between overseas workers and their employers. (AICHR, 2023) The same applies to the POEA in the Philippines and the VIMMA in Vietnam. These organizations investigate complaints related to salaries, working conditions, and other employment-related

issues, attempting to resolve them through mediation, and may refer cases to labor courts if needed.

These social protection and dispute resolution mechanisms play a crucial role in safeguarding the rights and well-being of overseas workers. By providing these services, the governments of Indonesia, the Philippines, and Vietnam are contributing to the safe and equitable migration of their citizens.

Negative net migration resulting to low GDP.

In this category, Brunei (Figure 1), Cambodia (Figure 2), Laos (Figure 4), and Myanmar (Figure 6) all have a pattern of low GDP and have consistent negative net migration from 2012 to 2022. While the GDP of the indicated countries here is small compared to other ASEAN countries, it is worth noting that their GDP changes whenever there is a change in immigration policy. This is evident in the figures presented above. The increase or decrease in the GDP of these countries depends on the effects of migration policies on the country's net migration.

In addition to these implications, these countries have one common factor: they have a low GDP relative to other ASEAN countries. However, it is important to consider that these countries also have a relatively smaller population compared to other countries in the region. Therefore, the immensity of the GDP would depend on the country's population - but this does not apply to all cases; according to Peterson (2017), population growth can be a double-edged sword for economic growth. On the one hand, it can provide a larger labor force and a larger market for goods and services, which can lead to increased economic growth. However, on the other hand, population growth can also put a strain on resources and infrastructure, which can slow economic growth. Ultimately, the impact of population growth on economic growth depends on a number of factors, including the country's level of development, its institutions, and its policies (Peterson, 2017). For example, Singapore's data from this study shows that it has a small population just like the countries in this pattern category, yet it has a large GDP that catches up with the larger countries and it also has a consistent positive net migration.

Conclusion

This study reveals a coherent pattern across ASEAN countries, affirming the alternative hypothesis that changes in immigration policies have discernible effects on migration trends and, subsequently, Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The observed correlations between changes in immigration policies and shifts in migration rates offer valuable insights for policymakers and researchers alike. It is evident that the decisions made by governments regarding immigration have a profound impact on the movement of people, which, in turn, influences the economic landscape.

Notable policy shifts in Brunei, such as the implementation of the Foreign Workers License (LPA), led to positive impacts on GDP. Cambodia's consistent out-migration, influenced by policies like the Cambodia Industrial Development Policy, coexists with robust GDP growth. In Indonesia, legislative changes in immigration and citizenship regulations corresponded with fluctuations in both net migration and GDP. Laos demonstrated commitment to economic and social development through proactive labor-related policies, including amendments to the Labor Law and Order No. 06/PM. Malaysia's evolving migration policies, initiated through the TRIANGLE II Project, influenced both migration patterns and GDP growth. Myanmar's political transitions

and migration policy developments shaped fluctuating migration patterns and GDP, reflecting the intricate realities faced by the nation. The Philippines showcased commitment to international migration policies through bilateral agreements, impacting both migration trends and GDP. Singapore's adjustments in immigration policies, including Employment Pass enhancements and the Global Investor Program (GIP), correlated with nuanced shifts in migration and GDP. Thailand's multifaceted immigration policies, such as visa exemption programs and the Thailand Digital Work Permit (D-WP) program, played a role in influencing migration trends and GDP. Vietnam's immigration policies, including the 2015 Immigration Law, revealed a dynamic relationship between migration patterns and GDP.

Framed within the neoclassical migration theory, the study emphasizes the interdependence of immigration policies, labor migration, and economic development across diverse nations in the ASEAN region. A study entitled Population and Migration authored by Lopez - Carlos, A., Dahl, A., & Groff, M., (2020) finds that many of humanity's social challenges stem from population and migration issues. While globalization has progressed significantly in various areas, free movement of people has not. Inequality has led to rapid population growth in certain regions, while in others, a decline in birth rates has caused an aging population. To support an anticipated global population of up to 11 billion people in this century, significant changes in lifestyles, consumption patterns, social relationships, institutions, and value systems towards social justice and equity are necessary. The study also asserts that we must also respect regional and global carrying capacities. Rather than viewing migration as a threat, it should be seen as an opportunity for both migrants and receiving communities. We should anticipate and plan for large-scale, environmentally induced migrations to reduce human suffering.

This emphasizes the pivotal role of immigration policies in shaping the socioeconomic fabric of ASEAN nations. As the global landscape continues to evolve, understanding these linkages becomes paramount for fostering sustainable development, promoting social harmony, and ensuring the long-term prosperity of these countries. Further research in this area, informed by the findings presented here, holds the promise of uncovering even more nuanced insights, guiding future policy decisions, and contributing to the collective advancement of the ASEAN community.

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Протягом останніх 10 років у регіоні АСЕАН спостерігалось потужне економічне зростання, яке було зумовлене декількома факторами, зокрема збільшенням іноземних інвестицій, зростанням внутрішнього споживання та сприятливою демографією. Статистика показує, що трудова міграція становить значну частину робочої сили в регіоні АСЕАН. Азія має довгу історію міжнародної міграції, але в останні роки вона зросла в масштабах, різноманітності та значенні. Декілька факторів сприяли економічному розвитку АСЕАН, включаючи урядові ініціативи щодо покращення бізнес-середовища, інвестиції в інфраструктуру та зусилля щодо сприяння торгівлі та регіональній економічній інтеграції. Дискурс міграції та розвитку, створений провідними фахівцями та дослідниками, містить визнання потенційної ролі мігрантів у покращенні економічної ситуації. Показано, що середні річні темпи зростання ВВП АСЕАН становили близько 5% між 2011 і 2019 роками, причому деякі країни, такі як В'єтнам і Філіппіни, зростали набагато швидше. Незважаючи на те, що вони складають лише близько 1,5% світової економіки, не можна заперечувати, що внесок таких країн, як Бруней, Індонезія, Малайзія, Філіппіни, Сингапур і Таїланд, все ще є дуже значним у контексті Східної Азії. Метою цього дослідження є опис складного зв'язку між міграцією та внутрішнім розвитком. Автори статті узагальнили та зафіксували зміни в імміграційній політиці країн АСЕАН за останні десять років і показали, як вони вплинули на моделі чистої міграції та економічні показники. Доведено, що розуміння зв'язків між міграцією та економічною ефективністю стає вирішальним для розуміння того, як переміщення людей впливає на сталий розвиток, соціальну гармонію та довгострокове процвітання.

Ключові слова: міграція, економічне зростання, валовий внутрішній продукт.

Received (Надійшла до редакції): 11.06.2024,

Accepted (Прийнята до друку): 01.08.2024,

Available online (Опубліковано онлайн) 30.09.2024