Profile of Labour Migrant Women

Demographic characteristics of labour migrant women

- Every 3rd migrant is a woman
- Every 13th woman aged 15 and over migrates for work purpose
- 7 are young women or women in fertile age (15-44 years old)
- 7 are from villages and 3 are from towns
- Out of 10 migrant women
  - 4 are from the Centre, 3 from the South and 3 from the North regions of the country
  - 5 migrate to Russia and 3 migrate to Italy

Education level of labour migrant women

- 1 in 2 migrant women have higher education, secondary specialized or vocational education
- 6 out of 10 women left for work to Italy
- 5 out of 10 women left for work to Russia

Health conditions of labour migrant women

- Over 1/3 of returned women assessed their health condition to be better than before leaving (35.3%)
- The worsening of the health condition served as a reason to return home for 1/10 women (13%)

About 1 in 4 children with mothers who left abroad for work stated (2006) that no one went with him/her to the doctor

Source: UNICEF, "Impact of migration and remittances on communities, families, and children", 2007
ILD "Return of migrant workers", 2013
Employment of labour migrant women

Out of 10 women who migrated abroad

Before leaving Moldova:
- 1 worked in education and health
- 3 worked in agriculture, industry and trade
- 4 were unemployed, housewives or housekeepers

In the country of destination/migration:
- 2 work in constructions
- 3 work in trade, industry, hotels or restaurants services
- 4 work as housekeepers or domestic workers

Source: ILO "Return of migrant workers", 2013

Have permanent or temporary employment contracts

1 in 2 migrant women aged 55-64

1 in 5 young migrant women aged 15-34

1 in 2 women who left for work to Italy

1 in 6 women who left for work to Russia


Results of women’s migration for work purpose

For migrant women the work activity abroad resulted in:

Losses
- Family breakdown, children left without parental care and elderly people left behind for 1 in 3 women
- Worsening of the health conditions for 1 in 3 women
- Loss of the job for 1 in 4 women

Benefits
+ 9 out of 10 women provided financial resources to their families for consumption at the respective moment, 7 women – provided support for long term
+ 6 out of 10 women obtained work experience and skills, or learned a foreign language
+ 5 out of 10 women invested in expensive things or education (their own or that of their children)

Source: ILO, "Return of Migrant Workers", 2013