



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Secretariat**

EF.FR/4/05
26 May 2005

ENGLISH only

Conference Services

Please find attached the presentation by the OSCE Office in Yerevan to the Side Event
– Presentation of Labour Migration Project – Armenia, 13th OSCE Economic Forum,
Prague, 23 -27 May 2005.



Office in Yerevan
89 Teryan Street, Yerevan 375009, Armenia
Phone: (374 10) 54 10 62 (63, 64, 65); Fax: (374 10) 54 10 61
Email: yerevan-am@osce.org

Armenia Labour Migration Project

The Labour Migration Project, which has been implemented since October 2004 by the OSCE Office in Yerevan in cooperation with the Government of the Republic of Armenia represented by the Ministry of Labour and Social Issues and with the financial support of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, UK, and OSCE/ODIHR, has two phases: (1) Review of Migration Legislation and Administration Framework and (2) Nation-wide representative sociological survey of households. The project reflects the determination of the OSCE to support the Armenian government in its demanding task of adjusting the current legislative and institutional framework to the complex challenge posed by international migration.

Phase 1, **Migration Legislation Review**, aims at assisting the Government of Armenia with establishing a coherent legal and administrative framework in response to increasingly complex migration scenarios. In light of the heightened need for cooperative approaches, it assists the Government with managing migration. In the first phase, the proposed project reviews the legislative and administrative frameworks that govern Armenian migration.

Phase 2, **Labour Migration Survey** in Armenia, will provide reliable data on migration patterns, with special emphasis on labour migration. The survey primarily has two objectives. First, it aims to assess the proportion of current and potential labour migrants within the population of the RA. Second, the survey aims to collect data on qualitative characteristics of the labour migrants.

The project has been **implemented by** a team of national and international migration experts and by a local group of sociologists. Two working groups were created – the Working Group on Migration Legislation (comprised of representatives of the Ministry of Labour and Social Issues, IOM Armenia and independent experts) and the Working Group on Sociological Survey (participants: MFA, National Statistical Service, Department of Migration and Refugees of the Republic of Armenia, independent experts) in order to facilitate adequate information and the involvement of the major stakeholders.

The outputs of the project include (1) a comprehensive overview of existing primary and secondary legislation with a focus on legislation gap analysis and best practices from selected EU countries, (2) recommendations for the Government of the Republic of Armenia on amendments to the existing legislation, (3) a nation-wide representative survey of labour migration, (4) a series of seminars and working level meetings for government agencies and experts to discuss the results of the project, (5) a report in the English and Armenian languages, summarizing the findings of the project.

12 May 2005

For more information contact:

Blanka Hancilova, Democratization Officer, OSCE Office in Yerevan, blanka.hancilova@osce.org; +374 91 204128 or blanka@hancil.net

**Labor Migration from Armenia
in 2002-2005**



Implemented by



OSCE Office in Yerevan
Teryan Street 89
375 009 Yerevan
Armenia

in cooperation with



Data collection methods

- Random representative sample survey
- Drop-out survey

Random sample survey

- Proportional distribution by marzes, by type of settlement (urban/rural) and by communities of Yerevan
- Random selection of target settlements and households

Random sample survey

- Universal set: 778.666 households
- Sample size: 1500
- Confidence level: 99%
- Margin error: 3,5%

Drop-out survey

- Survey of 246 households involved in labor migration process in 2002-2005
- Targeted selection of marzes and communities

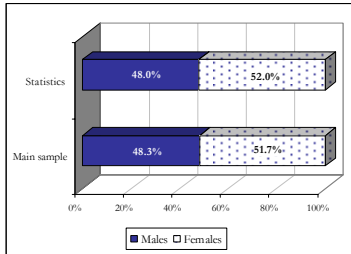
Survey instrument

- Structured questionnaire comprised of three thematic blocks
- 116 questions, open-ended questions -10%
- Average duration of the interview:
households with migrant – 32 min,
households without migrant – 11 min

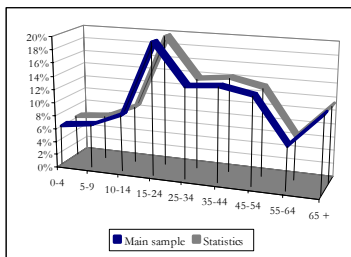
Question blocks

- Block A. Social-Demographic Characteristics of the Respondent and the Household
- Block B. Labor Migration
- Block C. General Estimates of the Households

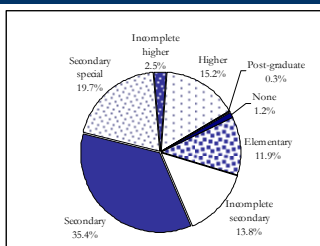
Gender of household members



Age of household members



Education of household members



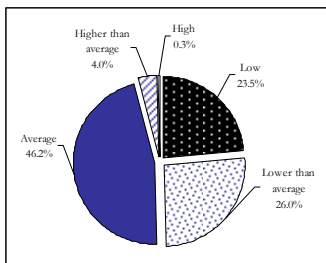
Social-economic status

Employee	19,5 %	Farmer	8,2 %
Unemployed	17,2 %	Self-employed	5,7 %
Pensioner	16,7 %	Handicapped	1,9 %
Housewife	16,6 %	Employer	0,6 %
Student	11,7 %	Other	1,9 %

Main sources of household income

- Salary - 48,2%
- Pension and social benefits -18,5%
- Homestead land - 16,9%
- Remittances from abroad - 5,8%

Living standards of the households



Involvement of households in labor migration in 2002-2005

- 13,9% of the surveyed households
- 15,2% of urban households and 12,1% of rural households
- 10,5% of households in Yerevan

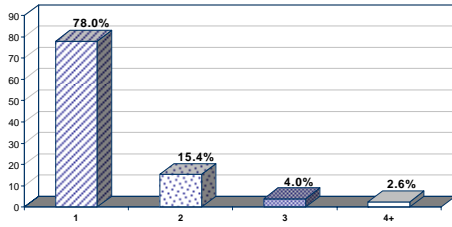
Involvement of other marzes of the RA in labor migration

Shirak	32,9 %	Vayots Dzor	11,8 %
Lori	21,2 %	Aragatsotn	8,9 %
Kotayk	13,3 %	Tavush	7,8 %
Gegharkunik	12,6 %	Syunik	7,1 %
Ararat	12,6 %	Armavir	6,8 %

Involvement of population (labor migration rates)

- 4.1% of the members of surveyed households
- 3.96-4.24% of Armenia's de jure population as per 2001 census (127.100 – 136.300 people out of 3 209 000)
- 8-8.5% of Armenia's economically active population

Number of migrants per household



Main destinations of labor migrants in 2002-2005

CIS countries	90.0%
Europe	6.2%
United States of America	3.6%
Other countries	0.2%

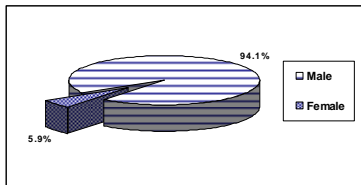
CIS countries

Russia	87,5%
Ukraine	2,2%
Kazakhstan	0,3%

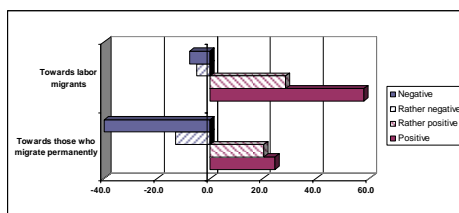
Europe

France	1,2%	Greece	0,9%
Germany	0,9%	Spain	0,7%
Denmark	0,9%	Poland	0,5%
Turkey	0,9%	Bulgaria, Belgium	0,2%

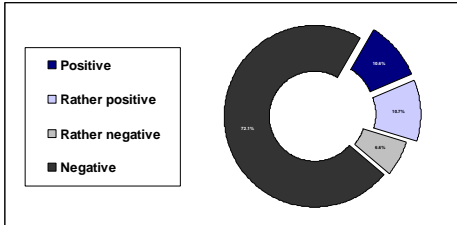
Gender breakdown of migrants



Attitude towards migration



Attitude towards labor migration of women



Positive attitudes - migration of women

- If forced to earn a living – 47.6 %
- If they can work – 19.1 %
- If there are no jobs in Armenia – 8.3 %
- Everyone has a right to work – 6.4 %
- If there is a good job offered abroad – 4.4 %

Negative attitudes - migration of women

- Contradicts the image of Armenian women – 20.6 %
- Women should not leave the country – 20.5%
- Women engage in prostitution – 10.4 %
- Women should not work at all – 13.8 %
- Destroys the family – 6.4 %

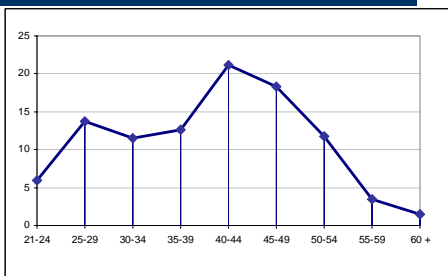
Relation of the migrant to the head of the family

Head of the household	51,5%
Son of the head of the household	40,1%
Wife of the head of the household	4,2%

Majority of the migrants...

- are married (78,6%)
- have secondary (45,2%) or secondary specialized (29,5%) education
- do not have a profession (33,9%), are engineers (15,1%) or constructors (11,2%)

Age of the migrants



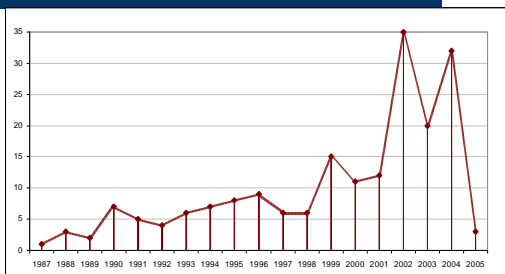
Potential labor migrants

- 3,5% (276) members of surveyed households plan to leave for work abroad in the next 12 months
- 7,4% (581) members of surveyed households would like to work abroad, while 7,6% want to reside abroad permanently or temporarily

Age structure

- Majority is of age 40-50
- Mean age: 39,8
- The youngest: 21
- The oldest: 66

Year of first trip



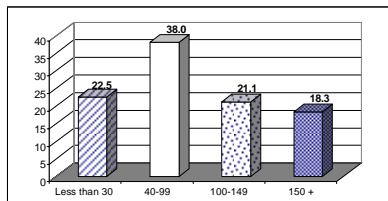
Occupation before first trip

- 45,8% of the migrants were involved in income activities
- 68,2% of them had permanent jobs

Occupation before first trip

- Main spheres of employment: services and trade
- Position of the majority: white collars or skilled workers

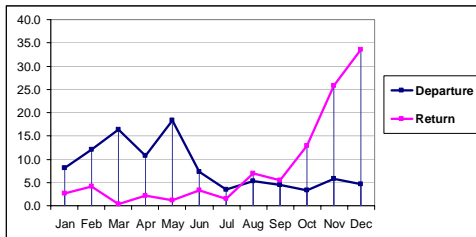
Average monthly income (in USD) before first trip



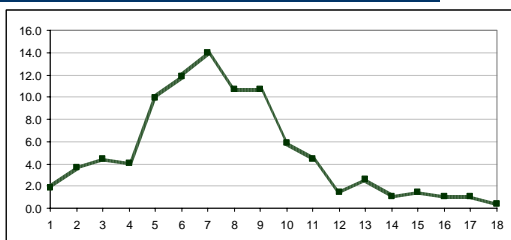
Average monthly income (in USD) before first trip

- Mean income: 87.2 USD
- The sum constituted approximately 37% of the family's gross monthly income

Seasonality of labor migration



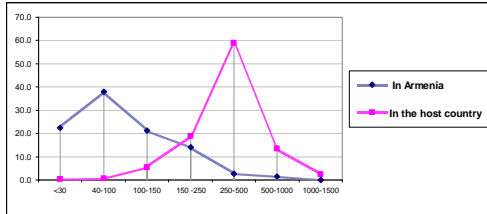
Duration of the latest trip (in months)



Occupation in the host country

- 50,0% has/had permanent jobs
- Main sphere of employment: construction
- Position of the majority: skilled or less skilled worker

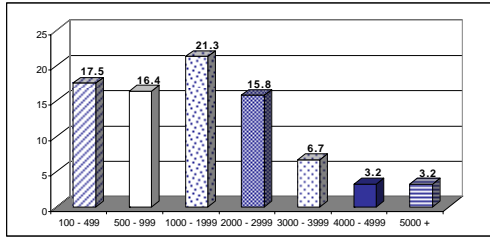
Average monthly income (in USD)



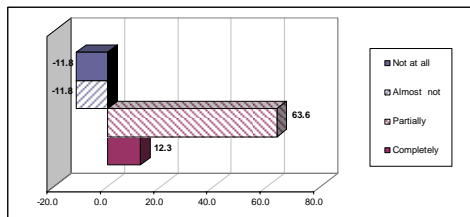
Remittances

- First sent money to the household in 2.5 months after departure
- Most popular method (68,7%) - bank transfer

Total amount sent/brought to the household



Satisfaction with the trip



Satisfaction with the trip

- 79,5 % would advise others to work abroad
- 52,3 % plans leaving to work abroad in 2005
