

## THE IMPACT OF CROSS-BORDER MIGRATION ON LABOUR MARKETS IN BORDER REGIONS

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### Abstract

The flow of labor migration indicates low employment opportunities in the country, thus encouraging them to trade in neighboring countries, which offer market opportunities that are more promising for prosperity. In this context, cross-border migration in border areas is seen as positive because it can reduce the problem of unemployment in the country and can improve the economic life of the community. Encourage increased productivity and innovation. Another thing that can happen to cross-border migration is that migration can create competition in the workforce. Workers may compete with the local workforce for low-paying jobs, this can result in pressure on wages and working conditions. The research was carried out using the literature study method. A literature review was used to collect data and information regarding the influence of cross-border migration on the labor market in border areas. This research discusses the definition of cross-border migration, the different styles and types of cross-border migration, the influence of cross-border migration on the labor market, and the factors that influence cross-border migration.

**Keywords:** Cross-border migration, labor market, border areas

### INTRODUCTION

The migration phenomenon often colors developing countries, including Indonesia. The migration phenomenon is assumed to be a process of channeling surplus labor to areas that have modern industrial sectors, especially cities that have high delivery capacity.

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Cross-border migration of workers has become a global phenomenon, especially in border areas, which affects the labor market. A border region is an area that has a strategic role and position in order to maintain the existence of the nation and state. This is because border areas are a space to see the internal conditions of a country or nation (Adnan, 2015). From border areas, you can see directly the physical conditions of the area and the living conditions of the people within the territory of a country. Border areas are the entry and exit points for the flow of resources (goods and services, as well as people) between countries. Border areas are the main and final stronghold of the nation's existence from a regional aspect according to the concept of the archipelago insight. This is because the occupation of the country's territory starts from the border areas.

This migration can occur both internally and internationally, and has a significant impact on the global labor market. The impact of labor migration includes changes in labor market structure, labor mobility, as well as contributions to economic growth (Bloomfield et al, 2015). However, labor migration also raises challenges, such as wage inequality, social integration, and protecting the rights of migrant workers. This article aims to discuss the impact of cross-border migration on the labor market in border regions, including the challenges and opportunities faced in managing labor migration, as well as solutions that can be implemented to overcome the negative impacts.

In the context of globalization, cross-border migration on the labor market also influences international trade, economic growth and income inequality in various countries. Labor migration can influence the structure of labor markets in various countries. Labor migration can affect unemployment rates, labor force participation rates, and wage levels. Labor migration can also affect labor mobility, both within the country and between countries.

In addition, cross-border migration to the labor market can also contribute to economic growth, such as through remittance transfers. However, cross-border migration on the labor market also raises challenges, such as wage inequality, social integration, and protecting the rights of migrant workers. Wage inequality can occur between migrant workers and local workers, as well as between migrant workers who have different skills. Social integration can also be a challenge, especially when it comes to cultural and linguistic diversity. Protection of the rights of migrant workers is also an important issue, especially in terms of the rights to fair wages, safe working conditions, and access to health and social services.

In the context of globalization, cross-border migration on the labor market also influences international trade, economic growth and income inequality in various countries. Cross-border migration to labor markets can influence international trade through changes in labor market structure and labor mobility. Cross-border migration to the labor market can also influence economic growth through contributing to remittance transfers and increasing productivity. However, cross-border migration on the labor market can also worsen income inequality in various countries, especially if labor migration occurs from developing countries to developed countries (Bohm & Opiola, 2019).

According to Bloomfield et al (2017) cross-border migration on the labor market has a significant impact on the labor market in border areas. Labor migration can influence labor market structure, labor mobility, and contribution to economic growth. However, labor migration also raises challenges, such as wage inequality, social integration, and protecting the rights of migrant workers.

Population migration in the economic sector in border areas can create attractive economic opportunities both for the migrating population and for the areas receiving migration. Migration of people bringing skills and knowledge in this sector can enrich local human resources and encourage industrial development. Apart from that, migration can also encourage growth in the service, trade and construction sectors through increasing demand for goods and services (Dorn & Zweimuller, 2021).

With population migration in the economic sector, the quality of the workforce can increase. Migrating residents often seek better educational and training opportunities in their destination regions. This can improve their knowledge and skills, thereby enriching the local labor market. In addition, population migration can also encourage the adoption of technology and innovation in regional economic sectors, because new arrivals often bring new knowledge and experience that can be applied in business practices.

Population migration in the economic sector also faces challenges in terms of integration and adjustment. Migrating populations often have to adapt to new cultures, habits and environments. This integration process requires efforts from the government and local communities to welcome and accommodate the needs of migrants (Faist, 2016). Apart from that, social and demographic changes that occur as a result of migration can also give rise to social tensions if not managed well. Population migration in the economic

sector can trigger rapid economic growth in a region. However, this growth needs to be managed wisely to ensure regional economic sustainability.

## **RESEARCH METHOD**

The method used in writing this article is a literature review. A literature review is the process of collecting, analyzing, and compiling information from reliable sources that is relevant to the topic being discussed. In this case, a literature review is used to collect data and information regarding the influence of cross-border migration on the labor market in border areas.

First, the author looks for reliable sources such as scientific journals, reference books, and websites related to the role of technology in driving economic growth in border areas. The sources selected are sources that have authority and credibility on the influence of cross-border migration on the labor market in border areas. After collecting relevant sources, data and information from these sources are analyzed systematically.

## **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

### **Definition of Cross-Border Migration**

Migration is the movement of people from one place to another by crossing state or administrative area borders with the aim of staying or only temporarily. Migration is divided into two, namely national and international migration. National migration is the movement of people within the territorial boundaries of a country.

The migration phenomenon is a global characteristic that is often found in various parts of the world, especially cross-border migration. This event, which was driven by various factors, was actually motivated by social issues that urged the people of a country to choose to work or look for a place to live in another country. According to Chalamwong et al (2012), the reasons for the phenomenon of population movement beyond national boundaries are mostly caused by conditions that are unfavorable or unsuitable for residents of a country to settle in their own country, for example: (1) war which endangers the lives of civilians ; (2) hunger and poverty; (3) domestic social issues that cause exile; (4) the impact of natural disasters that do not allow them to settle in their country of origin. Before continuing with the discussion, several points need to be taken that cross-border migration as a process of moving groups of people from one country to another country that borders that country will give rise to the definition of migrants, namely residents who move. This then continues with the term "immigrant", namely immigrants who enter a country,

and emigrant as a term for migrants who leave their country of origin. Migrants are also different in relation to refugees because a migrant previously had the choice to move from their country to another country, whereas refugees are considered "forced" to move from their country for reasons that tend to be urgent (Sohn, 2014).

Migration has been the focus of intense political debate in recent years. Although most people have a positive perception about immigrants, namely that they are able to help support the economy of the country they live in by working, there are also misunderstandings and concerns that migrants are a burden on the host country's economy. According to Genov (2015), most migrants go through international migration which occurs over long distances in the context of developing countries to developed countries and vice versa, which still often occurs in the process of population movement across national borders. In this regard, one of the main reasons why people migrate is the difference in income between the country of origin and the country of destination. Thus, a "richer" country with greater economic potential will attract more immigrants. In contrast, countries with lower per capita income experience more emigration, namely the process of migration out of their country in the hope of a more prosperous life (Waldinger, 2015).

Population movement in search of learning experiences, work, or economic opportunities in order to achieve a better life is often one of the reasons why foreign immigrants enter a country. However, this does not mean that most migrants go to countries with high economic potential. The general conditions associated with developing countries indirectly have implications regarding their economic capabilities, namely that host countries, even though they are developing countries, give the perception that they need workers both from within and outside the country to help the country's national development (Sydykova et al , 2020). Basically, most developing countries such as Indonesia have quite high potential economic sectors, so they need to be managed well by the government through appropriate public policies. However, with migrants and native residents also looking for work, this can lead to competition for jobs by both groups of people, thus creating a scarcity of jobs for both.

Migration, as the process of moving people from one place to another, is generally associated with efforts to obtain a better life, which is difficult for migrants to achieve in their home country, their place of origin. Thus, this encouragement becomes a reason for them to choose to study and work in other countries that are "richer" in terms of economic context and

opportunities for a prosperous life. If this process takes place in more developed countries, it will provide a win-win solution for migrants and also native residents of that country through per capita income as a real form of increasing productivity through collaboration between foreign workers and native workers (Waldinger, 2017). Meanwhile, in the education sector, migrants who study in host countries will be able to learn new cultures and conditions that are different from their home country, thereby creating tolerance and awareness of visible diversity. In other words, the influx of migrants, both in the form of students and foreign workers, will create wider opportunities to improve the economy, but on the other hand, this can create limited employment opportunities in the country if it is not balanced with an increase in local businesses, especially in developing countries. developing country.

### **Differences in Patterns and Types of Cross-Border Migration**

History records that the flow of population migration in border areas has been going on for a long time, even before the separation of political boundaries between the two countries. Before the separation of state political boundaries, migration flows between residents living in border areas occurred traditionally, namely without using official documents, such as Cross-Border Passes (PLB) (Moret, 2018). However, as time goes by, traditional population mobility via rat routes (footpaths) is used by certain groups of people and individuals as routes for smuggling illegal goods and human smuggling. This incident prompted the opening of the Immigration Post with the aim of controlling the traffic of residents across national borders. The existence of Immigration Posts at border routes is of course very important because it helps facilitate official departure documents for residents who wish to cross to neighboring countries in the form of Cross-Border Pass (PLB) documents. Based on its function, the PLB is the only official travel document that must be carried when crossing into a neighboring country because it can make it easier and guarantee security and comfort when crossing national borders to carry out various activities in the destination country. Therefore, PLB is mandatory for every transnational migrant who crosses the border route. As a consequence, all border crossers are required to produce a PLB document issued by the Immigration Post.

Regarding the types of migration that have been described, there are two types of cross-border migration. The first type is internal population migration, namely population migration originating from the region. The second type is external population migration, namely population migration

originating from the region. According to their migration patterns, these two types of migrants have quite significant differences, especially in the migration process and time they go through. The first migration pattern is carried out by residents from outside the region who are in fact traders. These residents migrate to the selling location through legal channels, namely the Border Immigration Post, using a Cross-Border Pass (PLB).

The time Indonesian traders spend going to their selling locations. Migrations like this are carried out regularly every Sunday. This means that cross-border migration occurs regularly. This finding is very interesting if it is related to the type of migration as described above, that cross-border traders like this fall into the category of non-permanent migration. If studied in more detail based on time limits and migration trajectories, it is difficult to classify whether it is circular migration or shuttle migration because basically these traders do not immediately return to their area of origin every day and do not migrate in certain seasons, but regularly, regularly every week. Thus, it can be indicated that theoretically there has been a migration pattern, especially in the Indonesia–Malaysia border area (Yendaw, 2022).

The second migration pattern is migration carried out by residents who live in border areas and they generally work as traditional farmers. If we look at the time and frequency of movements carried out every day on a regular and orderly basis, it can be said that the type of migration of border residents is included in the category of shuttle migration (commuter). This shuttle migrant phenomenon has direct implications for changes in the structure and quantity of population in the area of origin/country of origin and migration destination countries (Sarkar, 2020).

Positive impacts for the region of origin include reducing unemployment, improving the family economy, increasing knowledge and experience, and enabling people to think globally. Meanwhile, the negative impact is that a lot of empty land which has the potential to bring high economic value is not being exploited optimally. Apart from that, the increasing population in border areas has led to changes in lifestyle, such as ways of dressing that follow western trends, consumption patterns that tend to be excessive and the intensity of communication between residents in villages is decreasing. The third migration pattern is a unique migration pattern. This migration pattern is carried out by residents of origin who are married to citizens who are being immigrated but are not interested in changing their citizenship (Chen & Mueller, 2019). Information obtained from residents of origin who married immigrants revealed that since their marriage, they have

lived in the country of migration with residence permits in the form of official documents, namely visas and passports, but are still Indonesian citizens, even though they have lived in the country of migration for a long time. For the sake of security and comfort in their residence, they always actively renew the official residence permit document when it expires. They have no intention of staying in the migration area, and at any time they can return to their hometown. This condition makes it clear that they are non-permanent migrants, even though they have lived in another country for a long time (Kugler et al, 2018).

### **The Impact of Cross-Border Migration on the Labor Market**

If we talk about population, we will definitely not be separated from migration. Migration itself is the movement of people from one place to another with the aim of living temporarily in a new location. Migration does not only occur within a country or internally, migration can also occur between countries, which is usually called international migration, especially cross-border migration. International migration, especially cross-border migration, has become a global phenomenon which is an important component in the context of globalization and human mobility (Beerli & Peri, 2015). The occurrence of cross-border migration will of course be based on various reasons from individuals and groups. Starting from looking for better economic opportunities, looking for protection or security, family reunification, environmental factors and even education. International migration often involves more complicated processes, including residence permits, visas, and government regulations due to the context of crossing national borders. Migration certainly has a close relationship to the labor market and economic growth. The movement of people from one region to another can influence the dynamics and structure of the labor market in countries of origin and destination countries.

Cross-border migration can contribute to providing labor in certain sectors that experience labor shortages in the destination country. They can meet labor demands that cannot be met by local workers, thereby maintaining the stability and smooth operation of the sector. Migrant workers often fill vacancies in sectors such as healthcare, hospitality, construction or even agriculture. In other cases, cross-border migration can also bring new skills and expertise to the labor market in the destination country. Of course, they will be involved in more sophisticated and modern work, and this will enable them to learn new technologies and practices. They will bring the knowledge and skills

they have acquired to the labor market, so that they can encourage increased productivity and innovation (Haindorfer, 2020).

Another thing that might happen to cross-border migration is that migration can create competition in the workforce. Workers may compete with the local workforce for low-paying jobs, this can result in pressure on wages and working conditions. If migration is not regulated well, there will be inequality and conflict in the labor market. In the context of migration and labor, it is important for the government to develop appropriate policies or regulations whose aim is to manage migration well. This of course involves protecting the rights of migrant workers, setting fair immigration policies and monitoring migration.

Cross-border migration will also be inseparably linked to a country's economic growth. Both in the country of origin of the migrant worker and the country of destination. One of these things is remittance transfers, remittance transfers are one of the main impacts of international migration on the economic growth of the country of origin. What always happens is that migrant workers often send part of their income to their families in their country of origin. This remittance becomes a source of additional income for the recipient's family and can be used for various purposes, namely domestic consumption, investment, or small business development. Of course, remittance transfers can increase demand in the domestic economy and encourage economic growth. Next is related to the skills and capacity of human resources in the country of origin. Migrant workers who return to their country of origin usually bring with them the knowledge, skills and experience they gained while working in their destination country. This knowledge can be transferred to certain sectors in the country of origin, which in turn can improve the quality of the workforce, innovation and better economic growth. Migrant workers who work or live in their destination country will influence consumption and market growth (Kennan, 2017). Migrant workers will increase demand for goods and services, including housing, food, transportation and other consumer goods. This increase can encourage the growth of related economic sectors and create new business opportunities.

Apart from the impact on the labor market and economic growth, there is the impact that migration has on the countries of origin and destination. One of the impacts on the country of origin is the different economic and social impacts in the country of origin. Migration can result in a loss of skilled labor and brain drain, which can affect social and economic development in the country of origin (Olah et al, 2017). Likewise, the impact of migration on

destination countries can bring cultural diversity, knowledge and new skills that can increase innovation and economic growth. Migration will certainly face challenges and sustainability, this needs to be addressed. Starting from the protection of human rights, social and cultural integration, protection of migrant workers, and security issues are some of the challenges that are often faced. It is important for governments and international organizations to develop appropriate policies and regulations to protect and support migrating individuals and promote sustainable and fair migration (Laboure, 2019).

From the above it can be concluded that cross-border migration has a significant impact on the labor market and economic growth. In a global context, cross-border migration can make a positive contribution to labor needs in the destination country and increase economic growth in the country of origin through remittance transfers. However, this is related to challenges such as the protection of migrant workers and labor market inequality that need to be addressed. International migration needs to be managed effectively, so that its benefits can be optimized and its negative impacts can be minimized.

### **Factors Influencing Cross-Border Migration**

Kautto (2019) stated that the flow of labor migration indicates low employment opportunities in the country, thus encouraging them to trade in neighboring countries, which offer market opportunities that are more promising for prosperity. In this context, cross-border trade is seen as positive because it can reduce the problem of unemployment within the country and can improve people's economic life. It can be concluded that Indonesian workers migrate abroad to obtain better economic prosperity for themselves and their families. On the other hand, the phenomenon of migration of people who live in border areas, namely population migration flows, is actually more caused by similarities in ethnicity, culture, family ties and marriage ties between countries.

Economic factors are also the motivation for native border residents to migrate. Differences in economic levels and welfare between countries are one of the causes of population migration with the aim of meeting economic needs.

The lack of facilities and infrastructure accompanied by gaps in social development, including education and health between residents of the border areas of Indonesia and Malaysia, is also the cause of migration flows between the two countries in border areas. Education and health are determinants of the quality of human development, so they must pay more attention and improve

their services. Good quality education and health services will have a positive impact on the local population.

Cross-border migration is the movement of people across borders to other countries. Cross-border migrants from Indonesia are dominated by temporary labor migrants (Latapi Et al, 1998). They aim to work in another country but do not stay in that other country. By becoming international migrants from Indonesia they will get better jobs. Besides that, it is also possible that there will be violence or harassment against them. Cross-border migration from low wages and poverty. Low wages and poverty are common economic factors.

Workers are residents who are or have been working, looking for work and are carrying out activities and attending school and taking care of the household. The minimum age limit for workers is 10 years without a maximum age limit. Indirectly, if the workforce increases, economic growth will also increase because the additional number of workers will increase and have a better influence on economic growth (Chinkilo et al, 2022).

The factor of cross-border migration on the labor market in border areas can increase economic growth if migrants entering an area are a workforce with a good level of productivity. With a high level of productivity, migrants can help the destination area in processing its resources so that the area's income will be maximized. However, on the other hand, if the incoming migrants are not in the labor force, it will increase the number of unproductive residents. So it becomes a burden on the regional economy and will slow down economic growth. The impact of population migration, for example population migration from villages to cities with the aim of obtaining work, has positive and negative impacts.

Cross-border migration on the labor market in the economic sector can create attractive economic opportunities both for the migrating population and for the regions receiving migration. Cross-border migration bringing skills and knowledge in this sector can enrich local human resources and encourage industrial development. Apart from that, migration can also encourage growth in the services, trade and construction sectors through increasing demand for goods and services (Docquier et al, 2014).

With cross-border migration in the economic sector, the quality of the workforce can increase. Migrating residents often seek better educational and training opportunities in their destination regions. This can improve their knowledge and skills, thereby enriching the local labor market. In addition, cross-border migration can also encourage the adoption of technology and

innovation in regional economic sectors, because new arrivals often bring new knowledge and experience that can be applied in business practices.

## **CONCLUSION**

Cross-border migration can contribute to providing labor in certain sectors that experience labor shortages in the destination country. They can meet labor demands that cannot be met by local workers, thereby maintaining the stability and smooth operation of the sector. Migrant workers often fill vacancies in sectors such as healthcare, hospitality, construction or even agriculture. In other cases, cross-border migration can also bring new skills and expertise to the labor market in the destination country. Of course, they will be involved in more sophisticated and modern work, and this will enable them to learn new technologies and practices. They will bring the knowledge and skills they have acquired to the labor market, thereby driving increased productivity and innovation.

Another thing that might happen to cross-border migration is that migration can create competition in the workforce. Workers may compete with the local workforce for low-paying jobs, this can result in pressure on wages and working conditions. If migration is not regulated well, there will be inequality and conflict in the labor market. In the context of migration and labor, it is important for the government to develop appropriate policies or regulations whose aim is to manage migration well. This of course involves protecting the rights of migrant workers, setting fair immigration policies and monitoring migration.

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