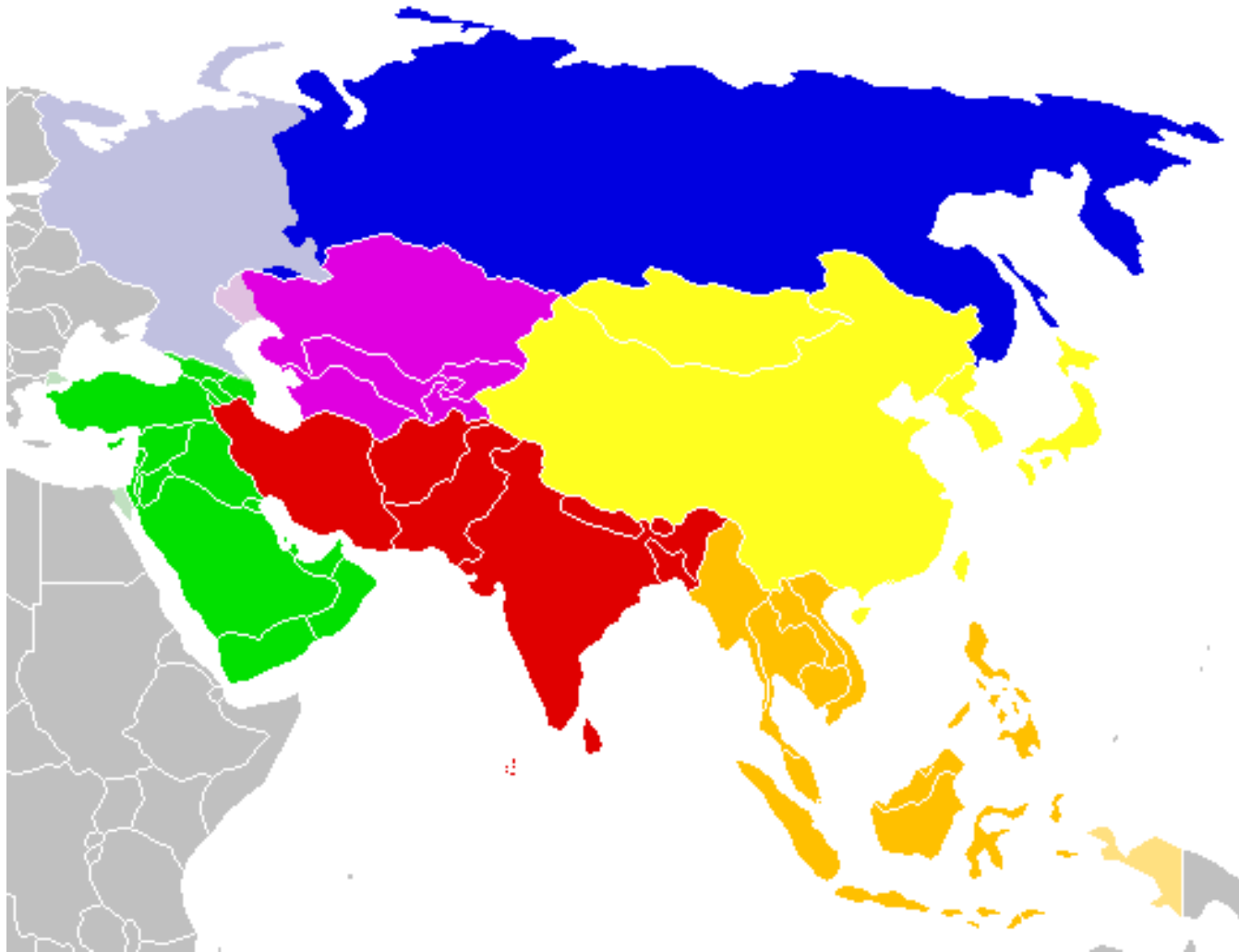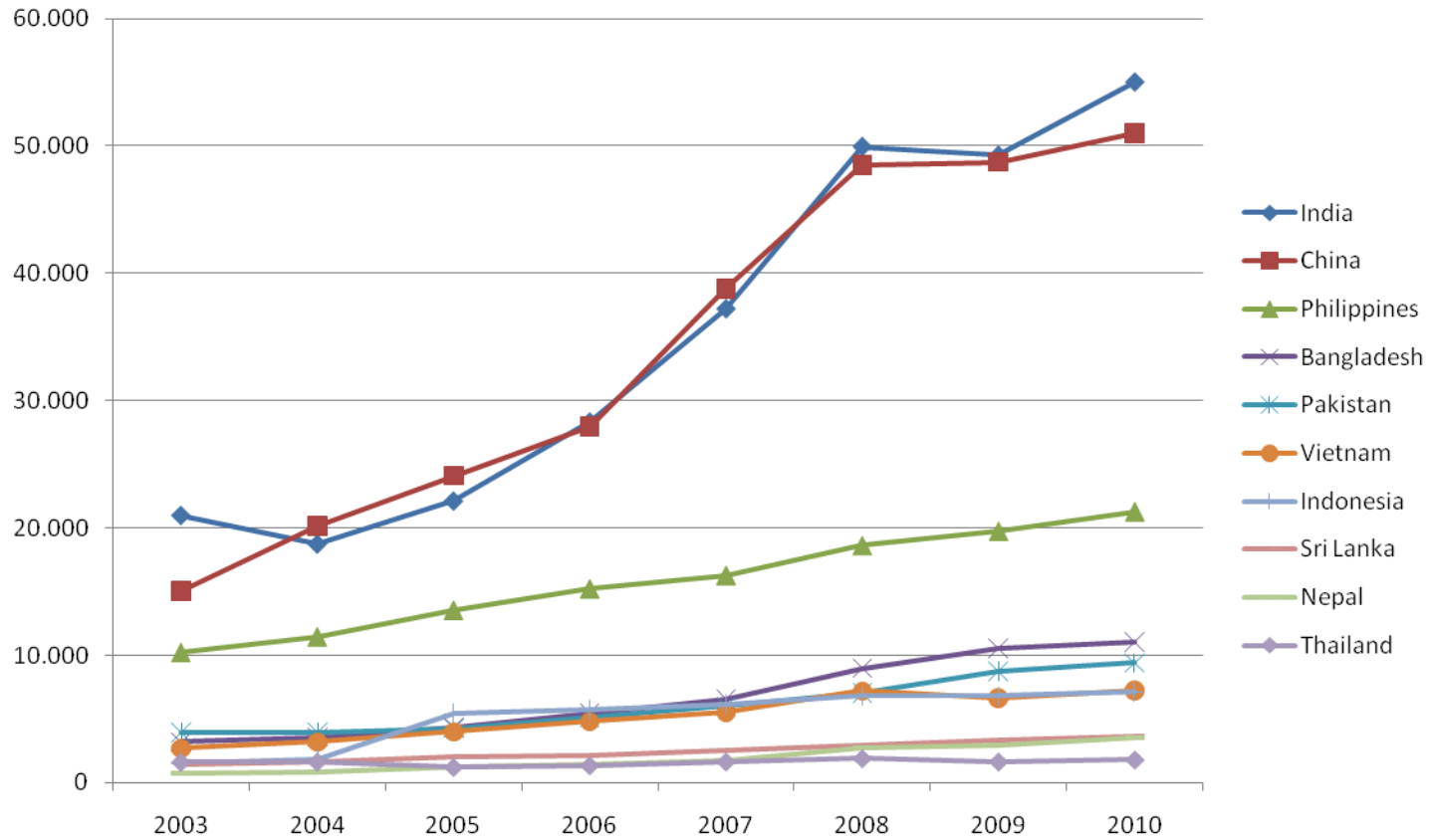# Labour Migration in Asia
and the Role of Bilateral Migration Agreements:
Market Access Facilitation by Informal Means

Bern, September 14, 2011

Labor migration in Asia: Origins and destinations

Labor Migration in Asia: Remittances

Bilateral agreements

Agreements to facilitate employment of migrants

- Mandatory MOU: the case of the Employment Permit System in Korea
- Agreement to facilitate placement of migrant workers in the Middle East
- MOU with provincial governments
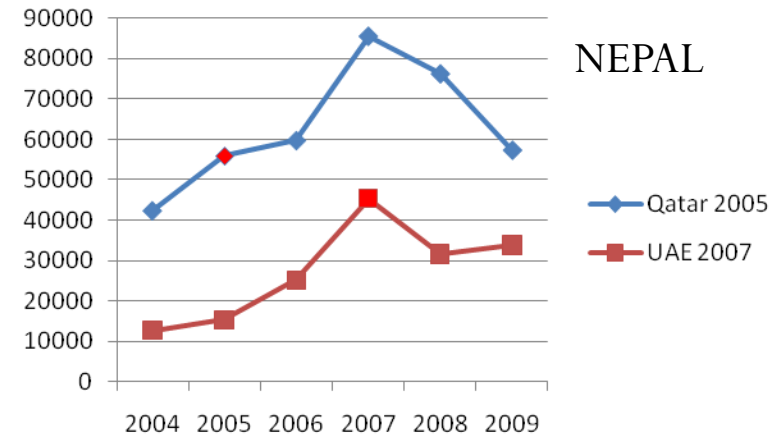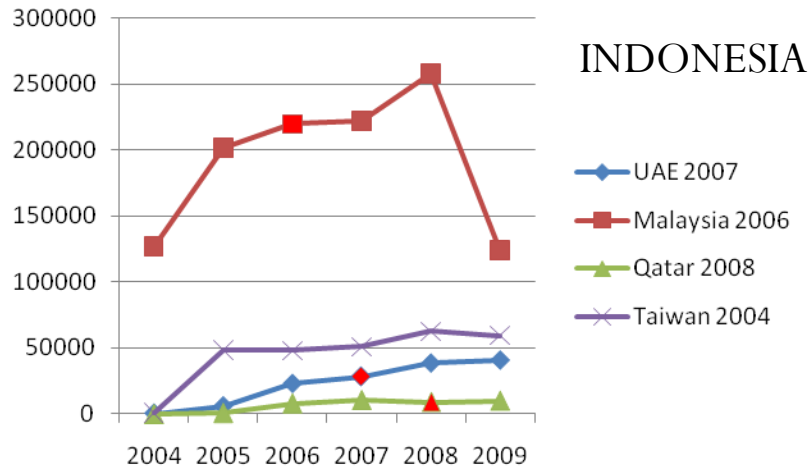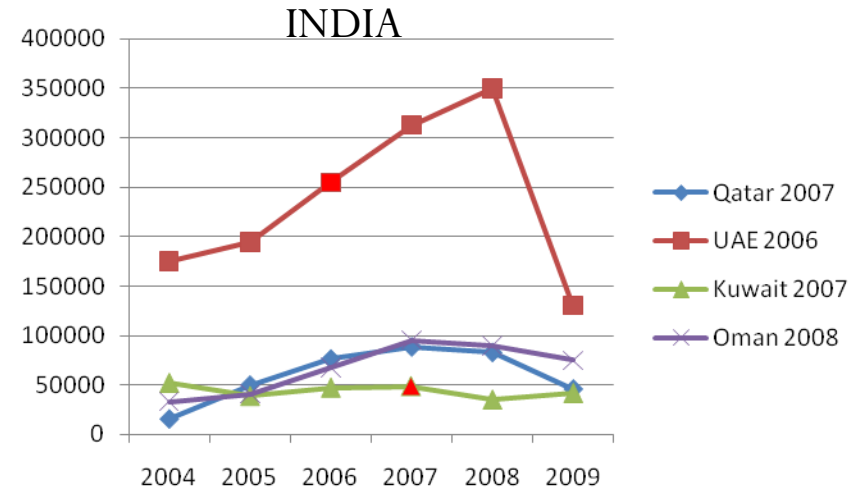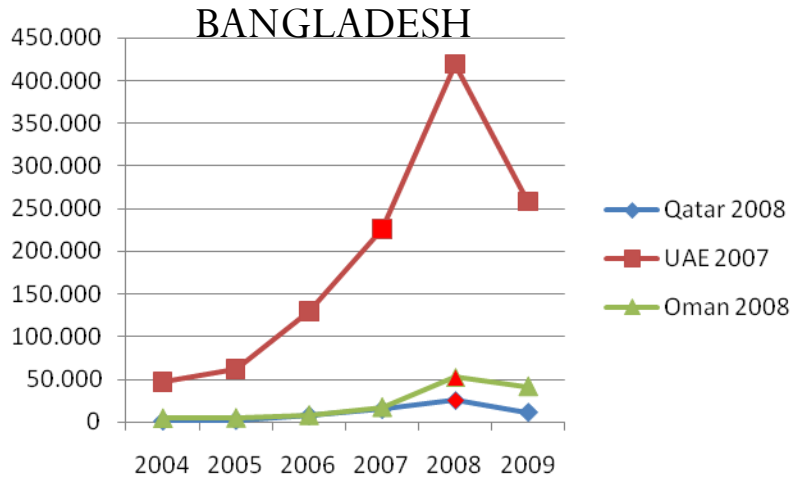
MOU to reduce irregular migration

MOU between countries of origin
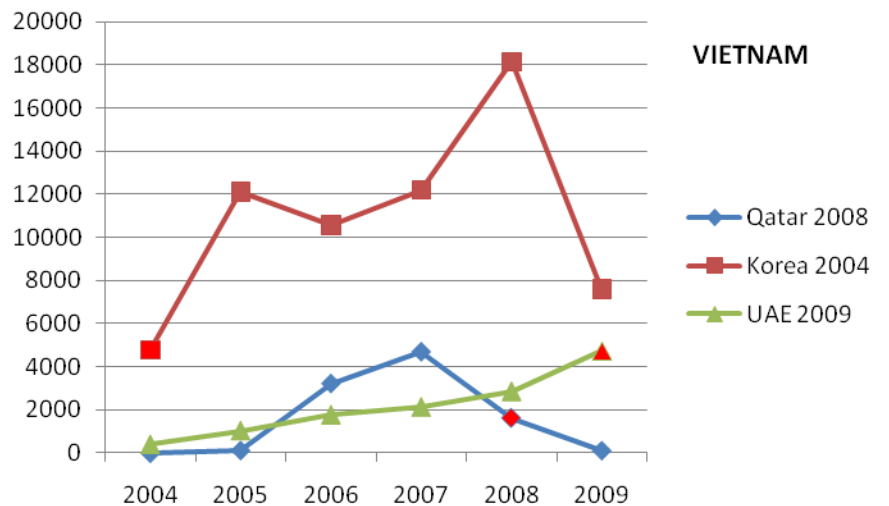
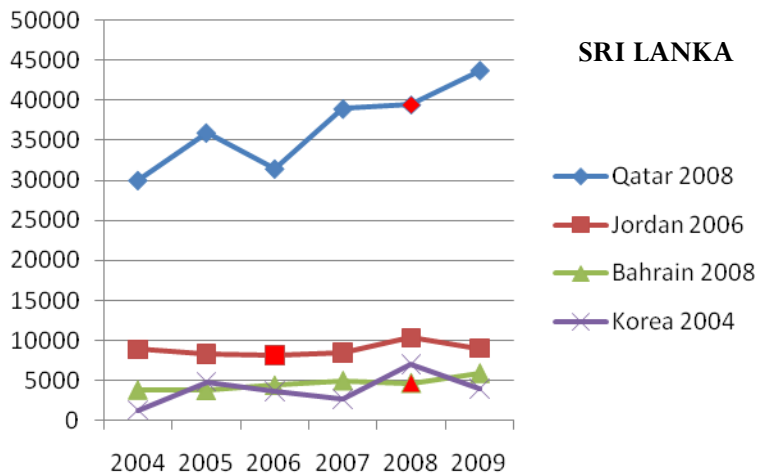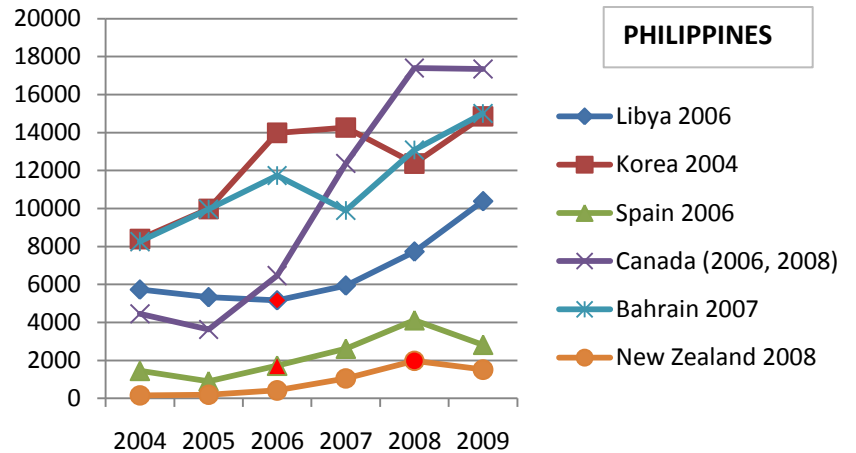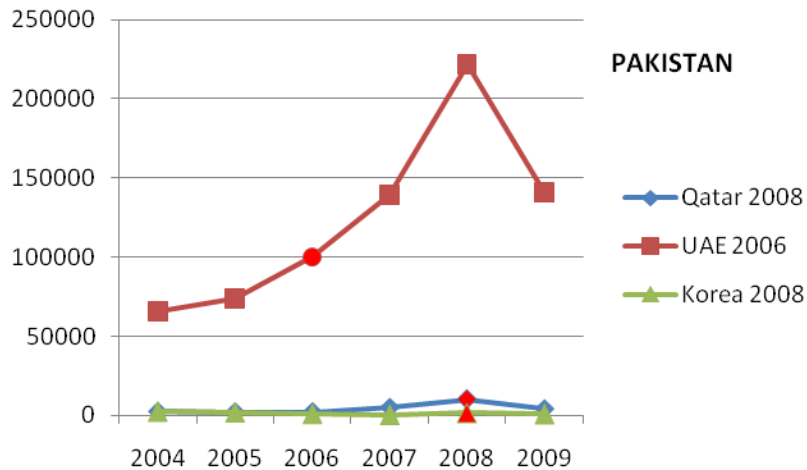**Agreements for welfare and protection**

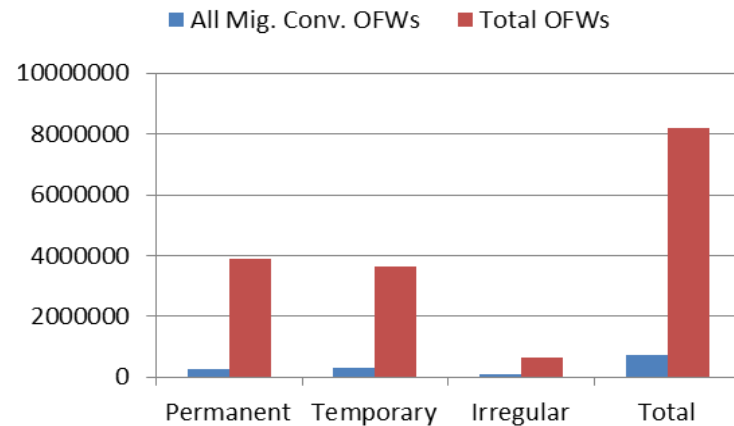Bilateral Social Security Agreements

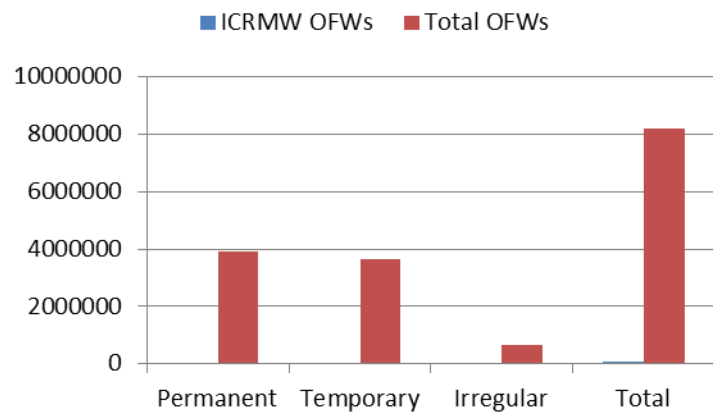Bilateral Trade Union Agreements

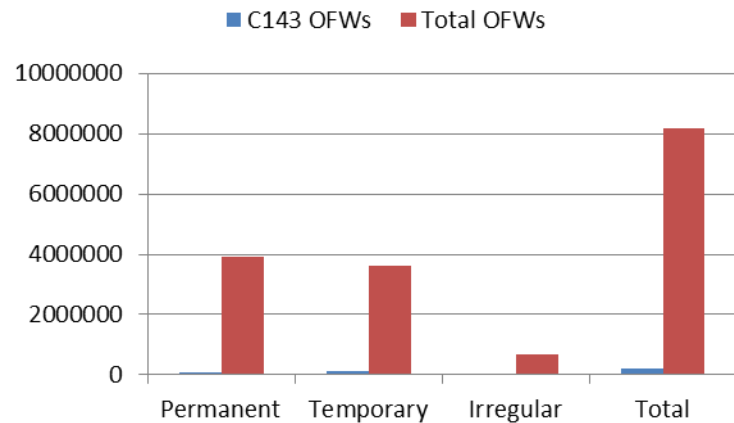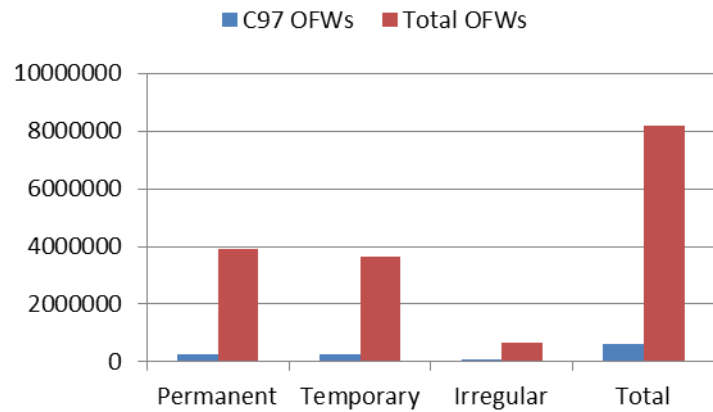# The Impact of Agreements on Migration Flows

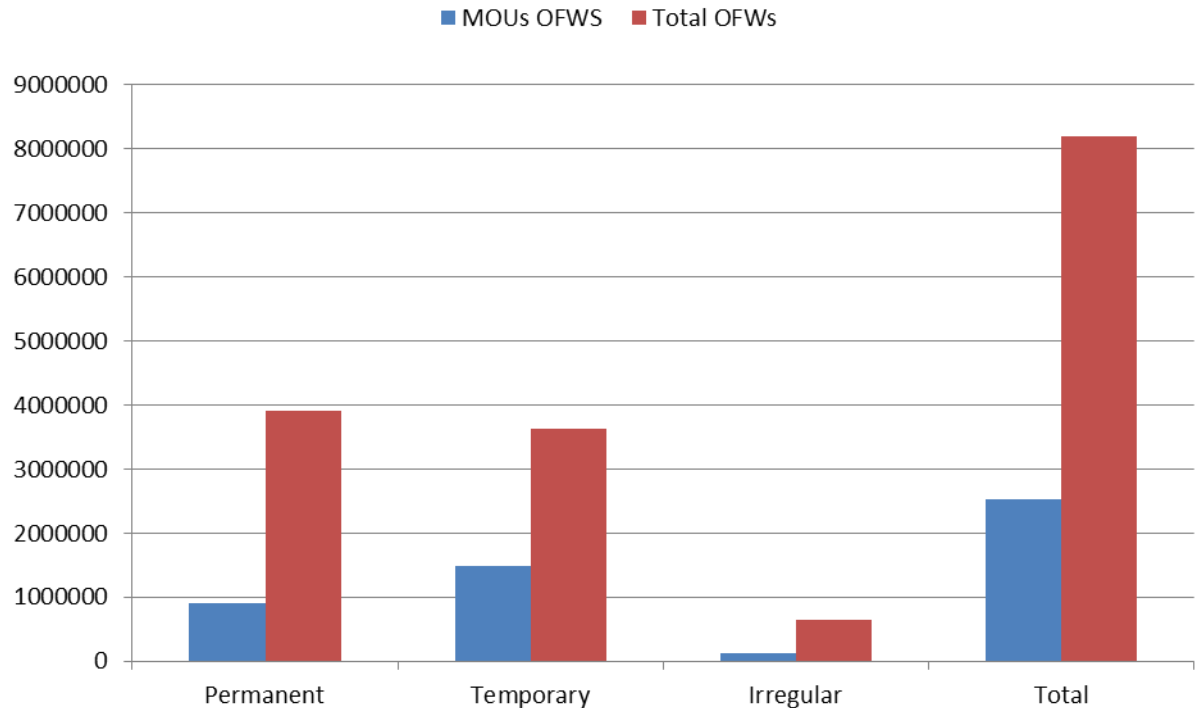# The Impact of Agreements on migration flows

Protection of Filipino migrants: The Multilateral Approach

Protection of Filipino Migrants:
The Bilateral Approach

BAHRAIN
CANADA
Alberta
British Colombia
Manitoba
Saskatchewan
CNMI
INDONESIA
IRAQ
JAPAN
JORDAN
KOREA
KUWAIT
LAO PDR
LIBYA
NEW ZEALAND
NORWAY
PNG
QATAR
SPAIN
SWITZERLAND
TAIWAN
UAE
UNITED KINGDOM
USA

Recommendations

- **In terms of content**: include protection measures, particularly for women; include reintegration mechanisms;

- **In terms of process**: increase staff capacity for treaty negotiation and review process; include all stakeholders in the preparation, implementation and monitoring of agreements;

- **In terms of implementation**: provide the appropriate guidelines; inform migrants and the public about the agreements.

- *Multilateralism and bilateralism should not be antithetical or substitutive*

- *Countries of origin should pursue partial objectives in common*

- *Bilateral negotiations could benefit from technical assistance from international organizations*

- *Undertake comparative research to assess the effectiveness of BAs*