



Extending social protection to agricultural seasonal migrant workers working in the formal sector

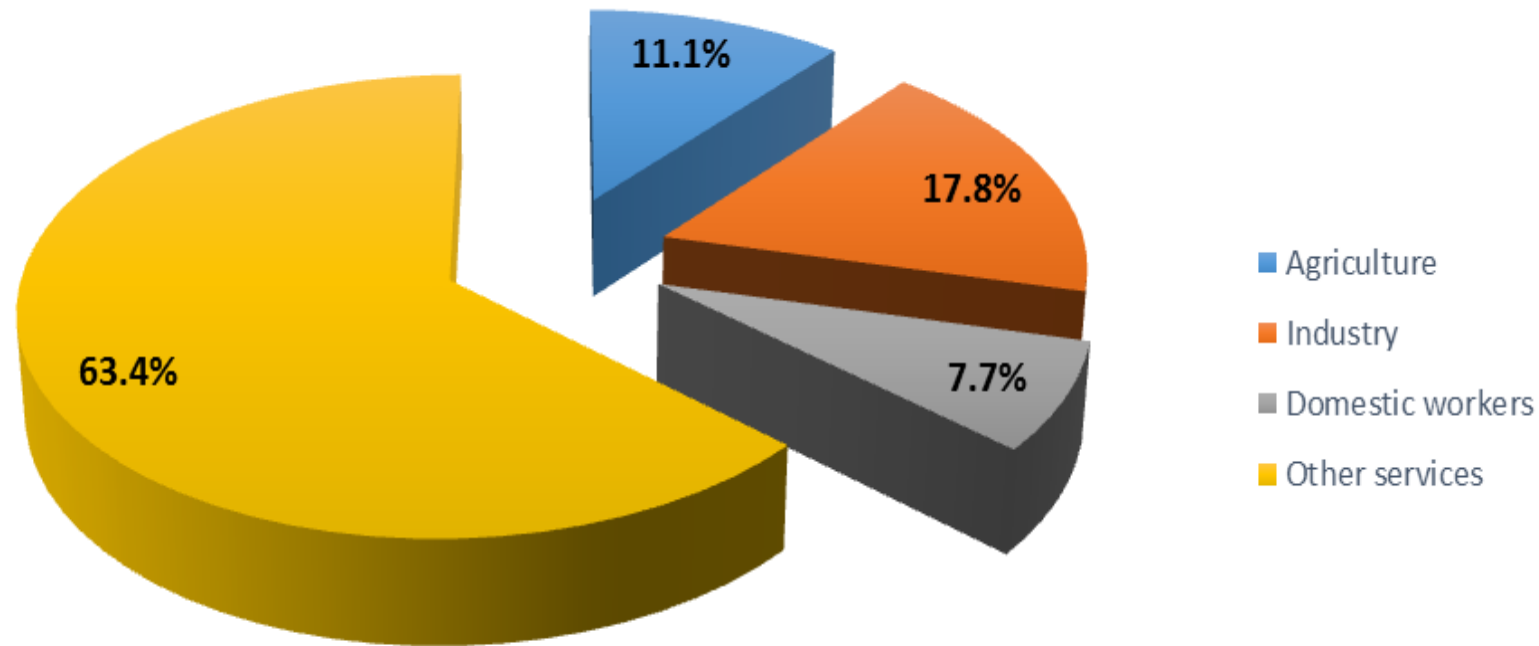




Definition

- **Seasonal workers** are “[...] workers who hold explicit or implicit contracts of employment where the timing and duration of the contract is significantly influenced by seasonal factors such as the climatic cycle, public holidays and/or agricultural harvests” (ILO)

Global distribution of migrant workers, by broad branch of economic activity



3 types of seasonal migrant workers

- MWs engaged in **formal** temporary agricultural seasonal workers' programs
- MWs working in the agricultural sector **informally** – these workers are usually not covered by national social security schemes or bilateral social security agreements.
- MWs working in the formal agricultural sector outside any temporary workers programme or BLA
- **For the purpose of this session the focus will be on seasonal migrant workers working in the formal sector**

Temporary seasonal foreign worker programmes

- Used to regulate seasonal work
 - Stipulate the principles for admission on the territory, residence and employment.
 - Set a maximum number of migrant workers which will be admitted every year, and criteria for their selection and recruitment.
 - Seasonal migration schemes usually operate between 3 and 9 months, and contain provisions encouraging return to the home country after the expiration of the work visa.
 - Under seasonal work permit, family reunion is usually not permitted.

Questions

1. What obstacles seasonal agricultural migrant workers and their families face in accessing social protection in home and host countries ?

Please distinguish between general obstacles all migrant workers face and specific barriers more related to this specific group

You can bring examples from your own country

