

99th Council of the IOM
International Dialogue on Migration
Migration Highlights, Key Developments

IOM MRTC

BACKGROUND, DEVELOPMENTS AND PLANS AND AN INVITATION FOR PARTNERSHIP

SEOK Dong-hyeon
Commissioner, Korea Immigration Service
Chairman of the Board, MRTC



Korea Immigration Service
The Ministry of Justice, Republic of Korea



Contents

1. Motivation: Why the MRTC?
2. Process of establishing MRTC
3. Nature, Mission and Vision of the MRTC
4. Organizational Structure and Current Initiatives
5. Future Direction of the MRTC
6. Challenge and Response to the MRTC



Motivation

**The need for an independent migration
research & training institution,
focused on key issues
affecting Korea and the Region**

Low Birth Rate and Aging Population

Korea's low birth rate (1.15 as of 2009)

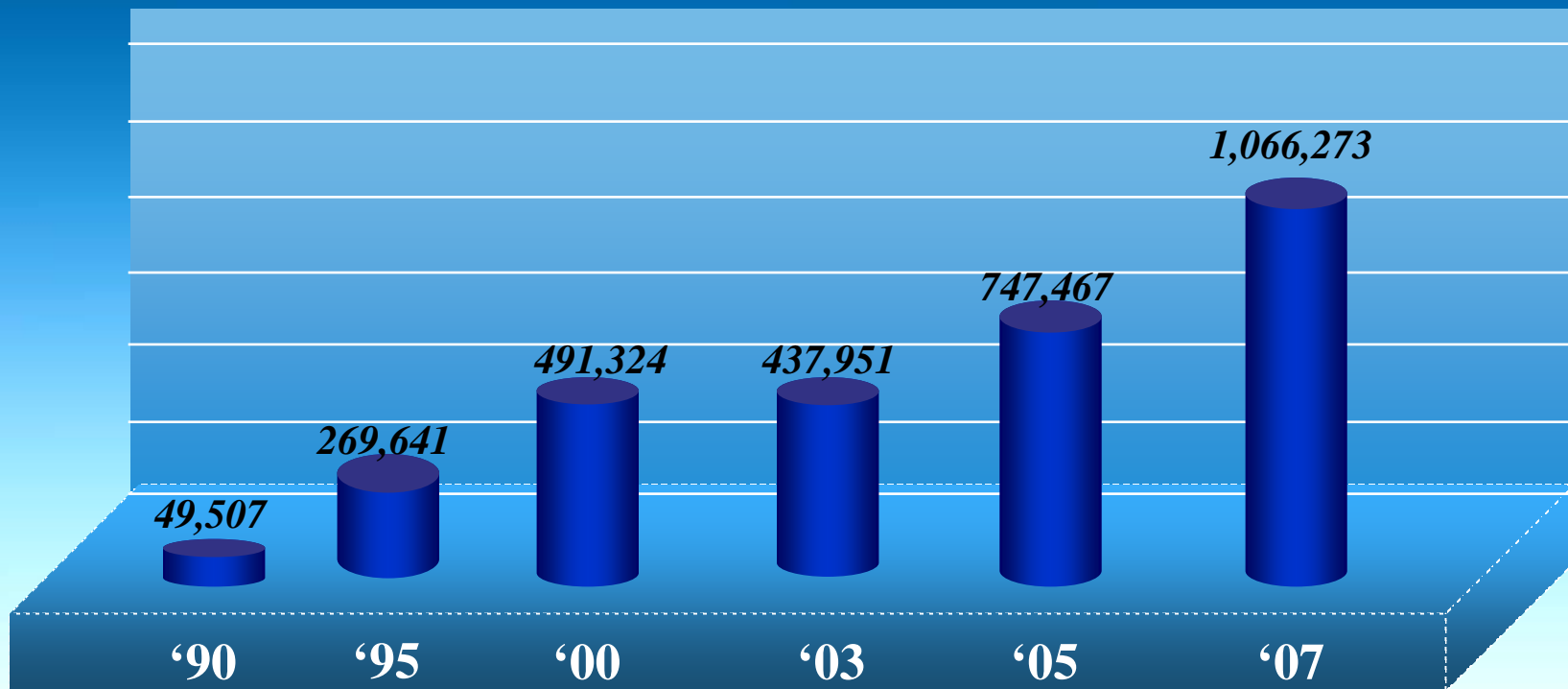
-Korea's population is projected to peak in 2017 and then decline the following year due to low birth rate , raising concerns that the low birth rate and rapidly aging population will weaken economic viability

■ *OECD average birth rate : 1.71.*



Increase of Foreign Residents in Korea

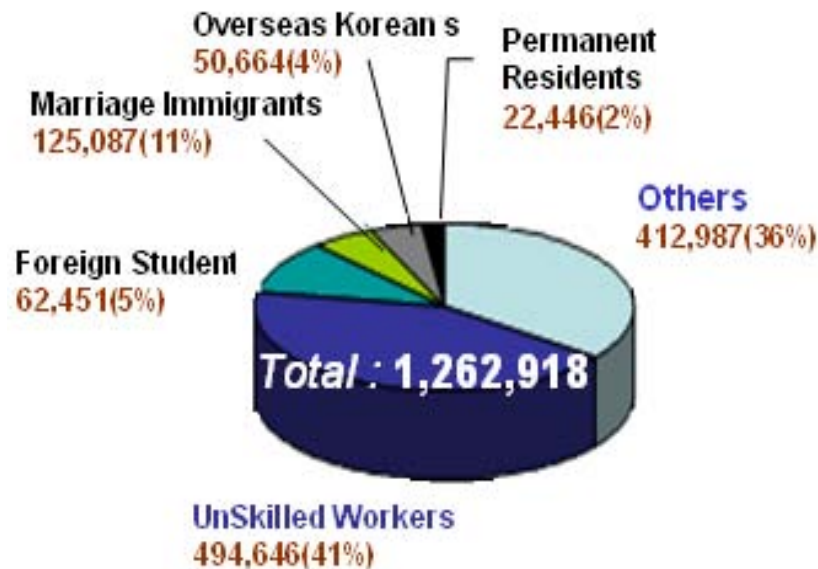
The number of foreigners amounted approximately 500,000 in Dec. 2000, but this number doubled and reached 1 million mark in December 2007. The current number of foreigners is around 1,26 million as of November 2010.



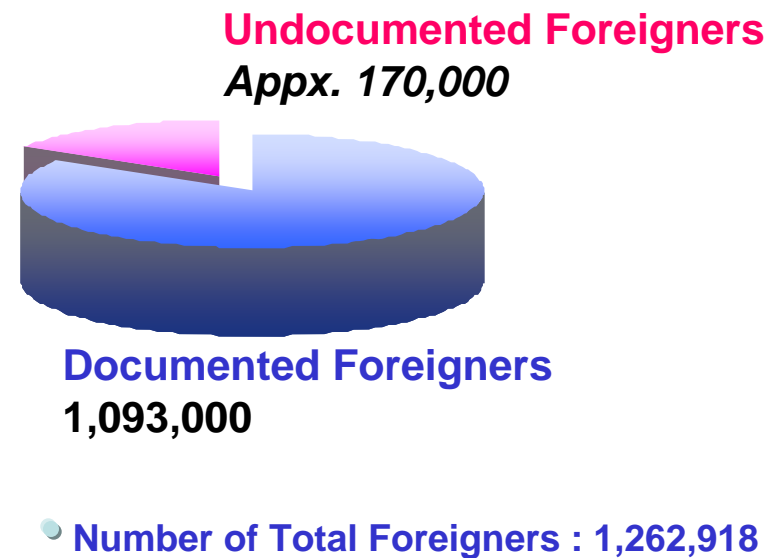
Residential Status of Foreigners in Korea and Figure of Undocumented Foreigners (as of Nov. 2010)

The number of foreigners amounted approximately 1.26million in Nov. 2010. and the residential status of foreigners has become diversified. The number of undocumented foreigners in Korea is approximately 170,000 as of Nov. 2010. This figure means that around one-third of migrant workers in Korea are undocumented or working outside the legal migration system.

* Residential Status of Foreigners



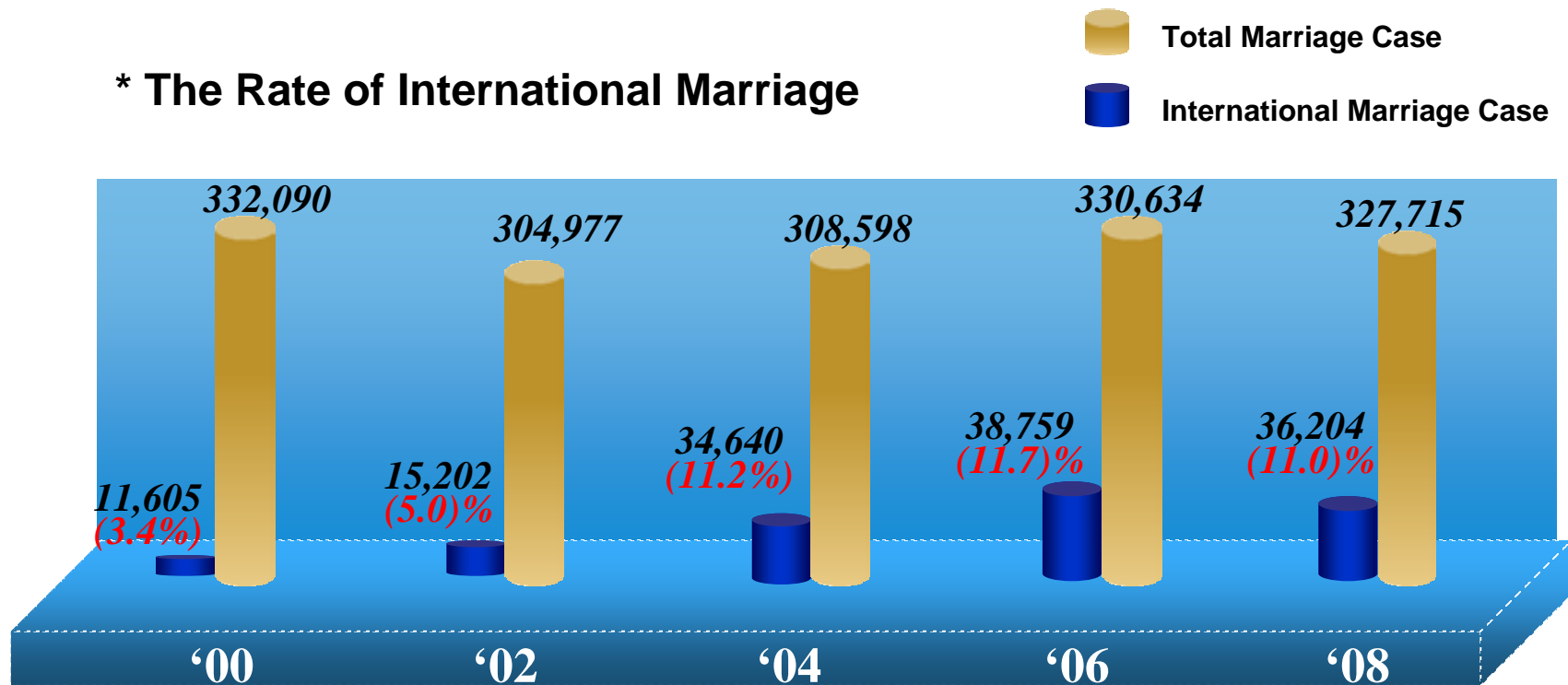
* Figure of Undocumented Foreigners



International Marriage and Multicultural Society

International Marriage has been steadily increased. Recently, one out of every 10 marriages is international marriage. Marriage immigrants are mainly from China, Vietnam, Japan and the Philippines.

* The Rate of International Marriage



Foreign Talent for Global Competitiveness

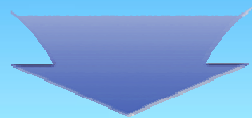
"Nurturing a skilled workforce is crucial for economic growth. At the same time, we have to make it easier for companies to recruit foreign talent."

Foreigners made up 13 percent of the workforce in OECD countries in 2005, up from 9 percent in 1995, while in Korea, the figure remains below 5 percent, according to the Samsung Economic Research Institute.



Need for Better Understanding and Full International Perspective

- Working age population is declining due to low fertility and population aging; social welfare and education costs are rising as more and more foreign workers, illegal migrants and marriage migrants come to Korea.
- To address such issues, the Korean government started to set up migration policy, but with a lack of information and understanding about origin countries, and limited understanding of the most valuable practices around the world, it has been undergoing a range of trials and errors.



Strategic Migration Policy is necessary to drive national and local development

Our Strategies

1. Independent Migration Agency

Control Tower for Coordination

- Whole of Government Approach -

- Comprehensive Migration Policy
- Demographic & Economic Policy
- Social & Cultural Policy
- Security Policy

2. Migration Research / Training Institute

Developing Migration Policy

- Professional & Systematic Approach -

- Developing Migration Policy
- Training for Policy makers and Practitioners
- Cooperation network with neighboring Asian countries
- Promoting understanding of migrants and migration issues

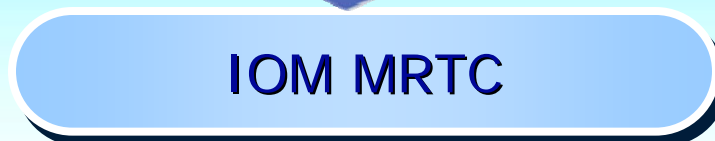
Establishment of the IOM MRTC

The Korea government leverages the IOM's 60 years of experience and global network.

“Understanding that the establishment of the Migration Research and Training Center will not only contribute to social, cultural and economic development in Korea and the region through research and training regarding international migration, especially as it pertains to Asia, but also eventually help the governments in the region facilitate freer movement of human resources ”



Partnership



Process of establishing MRTC

1-4.

Nov. 2007

MOU for the Establishment of IOM MRTC

- Signed by Justice Minister,
Governor of Gyeonggi Province
and Director General of IOM



2007 ~ 2008

Pilot Projects and International Seminars

- Korean Government and IOM
worked closely for the Agreement
on the establishment of the IOM
MRTC



June 2009

Agreement for the Establishment of IOM MRTC

May. 2009 Approved by the President of the ROK

June.2009 The Agreement was signed

* Effected in Jul. 2009

Sep. 2009 Incorporation procedure was completed

Oct. 2009 The first board meeting was convened



Dec. 2009

Opening Ceremony and Seminar



February 2010

Working Arrangement to Implement the Agreement

- Mechanism for arranging payment of all MRTC costs, including that of the Director.
- IOM will assist the MRTC with expertise on Migration Management and with fund-raising support for specific projects of mutual interest.

Arrangements for Accreditation of the Director

- The Director of MRTC shall be appointed by Director General of IOM upon the recommendation from the Board
- The Director of MRTC shall be granted diplomatic status, privileges and benefits attached to his position within the IOM.

March 2010

Inauguration of the first Director

Dr. Charles M. Harns

- IOM Regional Representative to East Asia ('07-'10)
- Head of IOM Technical Cooperation & 1035 ('00-'07)
- 30+ years international experience



IOM MRTC's Budget System

Supporting the subsidy for
operating the MRTC



Ministry of Justice
(Korea Immigration Service)

Gyeonggi Provincial
Government

Goyang city Government

Cooperation between Central
and local Government

Nature, Mission, and Vision of the MRTC

Nature of the IOM MRTC

IOM MRTC is ...

- **An independent legal entity**
 - A special and new arrangement between Government and IOM
 - Not an arm of Korean Government, but certified by Ministry of Justice according to the Korean laws
 - In cooperation with IOM, not a part of the IOM Mission in Korea
- **An independent policy research and training institute**
 - Committed to the development of migration policy and affecting Korea
 - Committed to partnership in the region and globally, and to incorporating the best international thinking into its work
- **An International cooperation organization**
 - Led by Director appointed by the Director General of the IOM upon recommendation by the Board of the MRTC
 - Assisted by relevant arms of the IOM

Mission

The IOM MRTC is an independent research and training institution committed to informing and improving policy making and management practices in migration for the mutual benefit of governments, local communities, and migrants and their families.

Principle

- Professionalism and objectivity in the focus and conduct of its research and training activities;
- Drawing upon the global experience of IOM to bring a fully int'l perspective to its work;
- Collaboration and cooperation with governmental & non governmental partners;
- Recruiting, supporting and retaining the highest quality staff;
- Responsiveness to all stakeholders' needs;
- Management transparency and cost efficiency.

Vision

The IOM MRTC will become a valued and trusted partner to all relevant stakeholders in Korea, the Asia-Pacific region and around the world based on its strong commitment to its mission and principles, and the consistent achievement of its objectives.

Objectives

The primary objective of the Centre is:

To contribute to national and regional development through its work on migration policy and practice.

Organizational Structure and Current Initiatives

Organizational Structure



25 staff members

Director, Deputy Director, PhD holders(6), Master's degree holders(2),
Administrative staff (4), Assistant Researchers (4), Seconded officials (7)

Current Initiatives

Professional Research

- A Comparative study on the Migration policy among major migration destination countries
- Comparison of national immigration statistics and development of statistical analysis system
- Study on migration policy for regional development

Systematic Training

- Training of migration policy practitioners and civil society on the Essentials of Migration Management (EMM)
- Developing teaching materials on social integration for migrants and multicultural policy for government officials

Cooperation and Expanding Network

- Building academic partnerships with universities and research institutions
- Holding roundtable discussions with local experts and the civil society (30 held, to-date)
- Participating in key international and national forums, and publishing in both Korean and English
- Official visits to key institutions and programmes in Europe and Asia (To-date, Dec 2010: COMPAS, Sussex, Florence, EC Brussels, Scalabrini Philippines, ADB, ADBI, others)
- Convening of the first International Advisory Group meeting (January 2011)

Future Direction of the MRTC

Priority Projects (1)

Contribute to the Development of Policy in Korea and the Region

1. Expanding research based on the understanding of Asian Migration

- **Global**

- Analysis of migration policy and trends

- **Regional**

- Status of migration and social impact in sending countries

- **National**

- Countermeasures to solve conflicts in multicultural society
- Completion of 'Migration Profile' for Korea

2. Creating migration policy to boost mutual benefits of sending and receiving countries

3. Conducting customized research by means of the global network

Priority Projects (2)

Training Migration Policy Experts

1. Developing customized training programs
 - Targeting policy makers and civil society
2. Training specialists
 - Developing professional education materials
3. Run training and exchange programs for migration officials and practitioners in Asia
4. Establish visiting scholar and internship programs at MRTC

Priority Projects (3)

Enhance Cooperation and Understanding

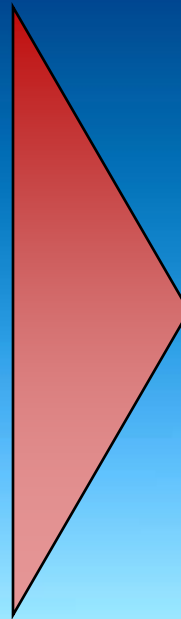
1. Enhance a cooperation network with neighboring Asian countries and share data on migration policy with their research and training institutes
2. Establishing and nurturing the MRTC's International Advisory Group
3. Build an information center for Asian migration policy at the MRTC
 - Initiate an e-Library exclusively focused on migration policy with the help of international organizations such as the IOM

Challenge and Response of the MRTC

Challenge and Response

Challenge

1. Narrow funding system
2. Low profile (new institution) and just entering relevant networks
3. Few visible research outcomes at this early stage
4. Retaining independence



Response

1. Carry out cooperative and funded projects with new partners abroad and in Korea
2. Build ties with other programs and institutions, internationally and throughout Korea, and expand public relations approaches
3. Produce outcomes in a variety of types and share them with the international community
4. Diversify funding sources from home and abroad



Korea Immigration Service
Ministry of Justice, Republic of Korea

Thank you!

IOM MRTC

Tel +82.31.920.5600

Fax +82.31.920.5660

Email MRTC@iom-mrtc.org

Web www.iom-mrtc.org

