

## CURRICULUM VITAE

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| <b>First Name, Surname</b>                              | PIYASIRI WICKRAMASEKARA  |
| <b>Contact address</b>                                  | Apartment 609<br>2000 Plaza Residencies<br>15 New Hospital Road<br>Sri Jayawardenapura<br>Nugegoda<br>Sri Lanka.<br>Phone : (home) +94 11 2080689 ; Mobile : +94 77 8757996<br>Phone (Geneva, Switzerland- temporary): +41 79 5967995<br>Email: <a href="mailto:pywicks@gmail.com">pywicks@gmail.com</a> ; <a href="mailto:piyasiriw@globalmigrationpolicy.org">piyasiriw@globalmigrationpolicy.org</a> ; <a href="mailto:piyasiriw@cantab.net">piyasiriw@cantab.net</a><br><a href="https://www.skype.com/user/piyalp">Skype: piyalp</a><br>Webpage (Professional) : <a href="https://sites.google.com/site/piyasiriwickramasekara/">https://sites.google.com/site/piyasiriwickramasekara/</a>  |
| <b>Education</b>  | Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Hons. in Economics (First Class), University of Sri Lanka, Peradeniya, Sri Lanka, 1968<br><br>Ph.D. in Economics, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom, 1974  |
| <b>Current position</b>                                 | Vice-President, Global Migration Policy Associates (GMPA), Geneva, January 2012 to date.   |
| <b>Last position held</b>                               | Senior Migration Specialist (January 2001 to March 2010)<br>International Migration Programme<br>International Labour Office<br>4 route des Morillons, CH-1211 Geneva 22, Switzerland.   |
| <b>Other Positions in the ILO:</b>                      | (Special assignment) Senior Employment Specialist, Decent Work Technical Team for South Asia, International Labour Office, New Delhi, India, January to August 2011.<br><br>Senior Migration Specialist (January 2001 to March 2010), International Migration Programme, International Labour Office, 4 route des Morillons, CH-1211 Geneva 22, Switzerland, January 2001 to March 2010.<br><br>Senior Labour Market Policies Specialist, ILO East Asia Multidisciplinary Advisory Team, (ILO/EASMAT), Bangkok, 15 December 1993 to 31 December 2000.<br><br>Senior Development Economist, ILO/ARTEP (Asian Regional Team for Employment Promotion), July 1990 to 14 December 1993.<br><br>Rural Employment Planner, ILO/ARTEP, April 1985- June 1990. |
| <b>Professional experience prior to joining the ILO</b> | Lecturer/Senior Lecturer, Department of Economics, University of Sri Lanka, Peradeniya, June 1974 - April 1985<br><br>Senior Researcher, People's Bank of Sri Lanka, Colombo, September 1976 - March 1978 (on leave from University).<br><br>Senior Research and Training Officer, Agrarian Research and Training Institute, Colombo, Sri Lanka, September 1974 - August 1976 (on leave from University).  |

Assistant Lecturer in Economics, University of Sri Lanka, Peradeniya, October 1968- May 1974 (October 1970 – May 1974 on study leave in England).

## Languages

English (main); Sinhalese (mother tongue).

## Countries and regions with work experience

### *Areas of specialization:*

Migration, employment and decent work; Temporary and circular migration; skilled mobility; Irregular migration; Bilateral labour agreements; governance of labour migration; migration and development; diasporas; Migrant protection and rights; migration statistics; European Union migration policies & practices.

### *Regions:*

Asia, particularly South Asia, East Asia, Southeast Asia, South Pacific, Greater Mekong Subregion, ASEAN;

Extensive work experience in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, India, Indonesia, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tonga

Middle East: Gulf countries, particularly Bahrain, Jordan.

Europe: Especially EU countries;

Africa: West Africa (Senegal, Burkina Faso, and Mali); East Africa (Tanzania); Southern Africa; IGAD region.

## Expertise

- Internationally recognized expertise in employment and labour markets, labour migration, poverty alleviation, and international development issues, and bilateral labour agreements.
- Long standing experience in coordinating/directing national, regional and global technical cooperation projects and in Asia, Africa, and Europe relating to employment and/or migration for the International Labour Organization.
- ILO Team leader or lead specialist in comprehensive employment, social protection and migration missions to selected countries: Bahrain, China, Lao PDR, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Sri Lanka
- In-depth knowledge on the UN system and ILO and its work on labour issues, particularly employment and labour migration issues
- A leading expert on rights-based approaches to international labour migration, and contribution to formulation of recent ILO perspectives on labour migration, especially its rights-based approach
- Extensive teaching and research experience at the University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka (1968-1985).

## Major assignments

Member, International Advisory Board, Centre on International Migration, Remittances and Diaspora (CIMRAD), Lahore School of Economics, Lahore, Pakistan.

Honorary Research Associate, Department of Sociology and Social Policy, School of Social and Political Sciences, University of Sydney, Australia, 2016-2018.

Member, International Advisory Group and Resource person, Centre for Poverty Analysis (CEPA), Sri Lanka: Project on Working towards creative partnerships: New forms of engagement with the Sri Lankan diaspora and international and national private sector for post-war development, reconciliation and sustainable peace (funded by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs).

Member, Working Group on International Migration Statistics, International labour Organization (ILO), 2016-2018.

Member, Advisory Committee, Revision of the National Labour Migration Policy, Sri Lanka,

2017-2018.

Honorary Research Associate, Department of Sociology and Social Policy, School of Social and Political Sciences, University of Sydney, Australia, 2016-2018.

Visiting Scholar, School of Social and Political Sciences, University of Sydney, Australia, 2015.

Visiting Professor, School of Social and Political Sciences, University of Sydney, Australia, 2013/2014

Visiting lecturer, Sophia University, Tokyo, Japan, November 2016.

Vice-President, Global Migration Policy Associates (GMPA), Geneva, January 2012 to date.

Member, International Advisory Board, Centre for Migration, Remittances and the Diaspora, Lahore School of Economics, Pakistan

Member, Advisory Board, Project on Temporary versus Temporary Migration (TEMPER), Collaborative project, (SSH-FP7) supported by the European Commission (<http://www.temperproject.eu/>), 2015-2018

International resource person, India Centre for Migration, Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, New Delhi.

International resource person, Institute for Policy Studies, Sri Lanka

Editorial Board, Migration and Development journal published by Routledge, Francis and Taylor Group, UK, 2012-2014.

Officer-in-Charge, International Migration Programme (1 January-10 July 2005)

Coordinated the development of the ILO Multilateral Framework on Labour Migration, (January-July 2005)

Member, External Advisory Committee, IMISCOE (European Research Network on International Migration, Integration and Social Cohesion in Europe), 2005-06.

**Major meetings and  
training courses  
(selected)**

Have acted as resource person and coordinator in many international, regional and national conferences, seminars, and workshops in Africa, Asia, and Europe (for UK DFID, ILO, IOM, OECD, UNDP, UNHCR, World Bank, Asian Development Bank, among others).

**Publications/Papers  
(selected)**

**Recent publications and research (2010-2021):**

Wickramasekara, Piyasiri. (2022). *Comparative analysis of return and reintegration of migrant workers, the role of bilateral cooperation, and related good practices in selected Asian countries during the pandemic*, Assisted by Asif Munier, Report prepared for the International Labour Organization (ILO) Technical Cooperation Project: "Application of Migration Policy for Decent Work for Migrant Workers: Phase II", May 2022, Draft (restricted).

(2022). Return and reintegration challenges and policy responses in Asia Following

the COVID-19 Pandemic, in: ADBI, OECD, and ILO (eds.). *Labor migration in Asia Covid-19 impacts, challenges, and policy response*, Asian Development Bank Institute, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, and International Labour Organization.

<https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/publication/797536/labor-migration-asia.pdf>: pp. 63-112

(2021). *Covid-19 pandemic and migrant workers in Malaysia and Singapore with special focus on South Asian workers*, in: Nasra Shah (ed.). *Covid-19 and Asian Migration*, Centre on Migration, Remittances and Diasporas, Lahore School of Economics, Lahore.

Wickramasekara, P. (2021). *Thematic brief on Bilateral Labour Migration Instruments – Africa and Arab States*, Prepared for the International Labour Office, Geneva, November 2021. [https://www.ilo.org/africa/technical-cooperation/fairway/WCMS\\_831911/lang--en/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/africa/technical-cooperation/fairway/WCMS_831911/lang--en/index.htm)

(2021). *Migration Legislation and Regulations in South Asia: An Unfinished Agenda?*, Book chapter in: Irudaya Rajan, South Asia Migration Report 2020, Routledge, New Delhi.

Co-Author: ILO (2020a). *IGAD regional guidelines for a rights-based approach to bilateral labour agreements: Background report*, Report prepared for the ILO Project on Free Movement of Persons and Transhumance in the IGAD Region: Improving Opportunities for Regular Labour Mobility (FMPT), Global Migration Policy Associates (GMPA) Team, Geneva, draft (being reviewed by ILO), restricted.

Co-Author. 2020. *Chapter 2: UN Asia-Pacific Migration Report 2020*, United Nations Regional Network on Migration for Asia and the Pacific

Co-Author. ILO (2020). *IGAD Regional guidelines for a rights-based approach to bilateral labour agreements (BLAs)*, Report prepared for the ILO Project on Free Movement of Persons and Transhumance in the IGAD Region: Improving Opportunities for Regular Labour Mobility (FMPT), Global Migration Policy Associates (GMPA) Team, Geneva, (draft being reviewed by ILO), restricted.

Joint-Author (2020). *Labour mobility between Asia and the Arab States: Sharing of experiences and progress under the Bali Declaration with specific focus on women migrant workers*, Background paper presented at the inter-regional meeting "Labour mobility between Asia and the Arab States: Sharing of experiences and progress under the Bali Declaration with specific focus on women migrant workers" (3-4 December 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand), Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, ILO, Bangkok, 1 September 2020. .

Wickramasekara, P. (2020). *Malaysia: Review of admission and recruitment practices of Indonesian workers in the plantation and domestic work sectors and related recommendations*, International Labour Organization, Bangkok.

[https://www.ilo.org/global/publications2/WCMS\\_749695/lang--en/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/global/publications2/WCMS_749695/lang--en/index.htm)

(2019). *Guidelines on Effective Return and Comprehensive Reintegration in ASEAN Member States*, draft prepared for the ASEAN Triangle Project, Bangkok, ASEAN Secretariat and the Ministry of Manpower, Government of Indonesia. Modified and adopted by the ASEAN Secretariat in 2020.

(2019). *Effective return and reintegration of migrant workers with special focus on ASEAN Member States*, TRIANGLE in ASEAN programme, International Labour Organization, Bangkok, December 2019.

[https://www.ilo.org/asia/publications/WCMS\\_733917/lang--en/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/asia/publications/WCMS_733917/lang--en/index.htm)

- (2019). *Accession with low compliance: Sri Lanka's experience with the 1990 International Convention on Migrant Workers*, in: *Migration and Development Journal*, Taylor and Francis, Published online 19 June 2019. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/21632324.2019.1630171>
- (2021). *Migration Legislation and Regulations in South Asia: An Unfinished Agenda?*, Book chapter in: Irudaya Rajan, South Asia Migration Report 2020, Routledge, New Delhi.
- (2018). *Assessment guide for bilateral agreements and memoranda of understanding on labour migration with special focus on Bangladesh*, revised draft, International Labour Organization, Dhaka  
[https://www.ilo.org/dhaka/Whatwedo/Publications/WCMS\\_683744/lang--en/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/dhaka/Whatwedo/Publications/WCMS_683744/lang--en/index.htm)
- (2018). *Good Practices and Provisions in Multilateral and Bilateral Labour Agreements and Memoranda of Understanding*, International Labour Organization, Dhaka  
[https://www.ilo.org/dhaka/Whatwedo/Publications/WCMS\\_683740/lang--en/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/dhaka/Whatwedo/Publications/WCMS_683740/lang--en/index.htm)
- (2018). *Core elements of a bilateral agreement or a memorandum of understanding on labour migration*, assisted by L.K. Ruhunage, International Labour Organization, Dhaka  
[https://www.ilo.org/dhaka/Whatwedo/Publications/WCMS\\_683754/lang--en/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/dhaka/Whatwedo/Publications/WCMS_683754/lang--en/index.htm)
- (2017). *The ICRMW and Sri Lanka*, in Alan Desmond (ed.). *Shining new light on the UN MIGRANT WORKERS CONVENTION*, Pretoria, Pretoria University Law press, pp.249-276.  
<http://www.pulp.up.ac.za/edited-collections/shining-new-light-on-the-un-migrant-workers-convention>
- (with Evalyn Tennant and Patrick Taran) (2018). *Engaging the diaspora and migrant workers for home country development: Diaspora finance and remittances*, in: ADBI, OECD and ILO (eds.), *Labor Migration in Asia: Increasing the Development Impact of Migration through Finance and Technology*, Asian Development Bank Institute, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, and International Labour Organization, pp.46-79  
<https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/publication/410791/adbi-labor-migration-asia.pdf>
- (with Nilim Baruah). *Fair recruitment for low skilled workers: Issues and challenges*, in: ADB Institute, OECD and ILO. *Safeguarding the rights of Asian migrant workers from home to workplace*, Manila, Philippines, pp. 23-38.
- (2017). *Diaspora engagement: Lessons from China and India*, book chapter in: Rashid Amjad (ed.). *The Pakistani Diaspora: Corridors of Opportunity and Uncertainty*, Lahore School of Economics, Lahore, Pakistan, pp.255-286
- (2017). *Protecting migrant workers: Achievements and continuing challenges for the International Labour Organization (ILO)*, Global Migration Policy Associates, Geneva.
- (2016). "South Asian Gulf migration to the Gulf: a safety valve or a development strategy?" *Migration and Development: Volume 5, Issue 1*, pp. 99-129  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/21632324.2015.1039770>
- (2016). *International Instruments and Good Practices on Labour Migration In Asia*, Report prepared for the ILO Country Office, Jakarta, Indonesia.
- (2016). *Migration Policy in the Republic of Korea and Singapore*, Research report prepared for the Course Module on "Migration and Co-existence 2" at Sophia University, Tokyo: 26 October 2016
- (2016). *Issues Paper: Protection of migrant workers and prospective migrants by countries of origin: a review of selected good practices*, Prepared for the LO Decent Work Technical

Support Team (DWT) for South Asia and Country Office for India under the ILO South Asia Labour Migration Governance Project funded by the European Commission, New Delhi, July 2016 (unpublished).

(2016). *Issues Paper: Processes and practices in fair recruitment*, Prepared for the LO Decent Work Technical Support Team (DWT) for South Asia and Country Office for India under the ILO South Asia Labour Migration Governance Project funded by the European Commission, New Delhi, August 2016 (unpublished).

(2016). *Issues Paper: Return and Reintegration of Migrant Workers*, Prepared for the LO Decent Work Technical Support Team (DWT) for South Asia and Country Office for India under the ILO South Asia Labour Migration Governance Project funded by the European Commission, New Delhi, July 2016 (unpublished).

(2015). *A review of the government to government arrangement for the employment of Bangladeshi workers in the Malaysian plantation sector*, August 2015: A report prepared for the International Labour Organization (ILO), Dhaka project on “Promoting Decent Work through Improved Migration Policy and its Application in Bangladesh” and the ILO GMS Triangle Project, ILO, Bangkok.

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[https://crawford.anu.edu.au/acde/publications/publish/papers/wp2015/wp\\_econ\\_2015\\_02.pdf](https://crawford.anu.edu.au/acde/publications/publish/papers/wp2015/wp_econ_2015_02.pdf)

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[http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---asia/---ro-bangkok/---ilo-manila/documents/projectdocumentation/wcms\\_345664.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---asia/---ro-bangkok/---ilo-manila/documents/projectdocumentation/wcms_345664.pdf)

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(2014). *Moving towards improved labour migration policy and practice in Jordan* Report submitted for the ILO/US DOS (Department of State) Project on “Protecting Migrant Workers’ Rights in Jordan”, Amman, Jordan, Global Migration Policy Associates (GMPA), Geneva, April 2014.

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(2013) With Nilim Baruah. *Promoting labour migration for decent work in Afghanistan: Issues and challenges*, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, International Labour Office.

[http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---asia/---ro-bangkok/documents/publication/wcms\\_229671.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---asia/---ro-bangkok/documents/publication/wcms_229671.pdf)

(2013). *Decent work, youth employment and migration in Asia*, International Migration paper No.113, International Migration programme, International Labour Office, Geneva, 2013..

(2013). Khan, Azfar, Wickramasekara, Piyasiri and Moubayed, Lea (2013). *Travels of hope, toils of despair: The lives of migrant workers in the Gulf States*, ILO Regional Office for Arab States, Beirut (forthcoming).

(2012). *Something is Better than Nothing: Enhancing the protection of Indian migrant workers through Bilateral Agreements and Memoranda of Understanding*, Migrant Forum in Asia, Manila, Philippines, February 2012.

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[http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed\\_protect/---protrav/---migrant/documents/publication/wcms\\_179642.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_protect/---protrav/---migrant/documents/publication/wcms_179642.pdf)

(2011). *Circular migration: A triple win or a dead end*, Global Union Research Network Discussions Papers No.15, International labour Organization, Geneva, March 2011. <https://ssrn.com/abstract=1834762> or <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.1834762>

*International migration of labour: The missing link in globalization*, article in the Online Dossier on Transnationalism and Migration, Heinrich Boell Foundation, Berlin, 2011. Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=1898868>

(2010). *Employment and Labour Migration Interactions: An Issues Paper*, A study prepared for the Employment Policy Department, International Labour Office, Geneva, August 2010, draft.

(2010). Major contributor to ILO flagship publication: *International Labour Migration: A Rights Based Approach*, International Migration Programme, ILO, Geneva.

(2010). Development, mobility and human rights: rhetoric and reality, *Refugee Survey Quarterly*, Volume 28(4): 165-200.

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(2010). *International migration and employment in the post-reforms economy of Sri Lanka*, International Migration Papers 107, International Migration Programme, e, ILO, Geneva.

(2010). *Protection of Migrant Workers in an Era of Globalization: The Role of International Instruments*, Chapter 10 in: *Comparative Labour Law and Industrial Relations in Industrialized Market Economies*, IXth and revised edition. R. Blanpain, Kluwer Law International BV, The Netherlands.

April 2022.

