

Business Network, Entrepreneurship, and Survival Strategy of Indonesian Migrants Related To The Cross Border Marriage : The Role of Overseas Ethnic Economies

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1.Aims

Living overseas for migrant spouses is a challenge with regard to strict work permit and limited skills. Therefore, the paper aims to study the links between entrepreneurship and migration. It explores and compares various business and social networks that catalyst Indonesian migrant spouses to survive and manage their own business independently.

2.Data & Methods

The study is based on a comparative assessment of available qualitative information and quantitative data. The information and data are collected through interviews with migrant spouses originated from Indonesia that stay in asia and western countries .

3.Results

Drawing Bandura's cognitive theory, many Indonesian migrant spouses acquire knowledge by joining social network within their ethnic communities before starting their own business. The results found that ethnic networks play important role in providing important information, for example links to customer or supplies, strategic location to start a business, and advertisement methods (websites, social media). Ethnic diversity is also related to the diverse business opportunities and thus can reduce the competition between entrepreneurs. In Asia countries, Indonesian entrepreneurs found more easier to start a business due to similarity in cultural background compared to the western host countries. Moreover, having own business and revenues has developed self esteem in migrant spouses.

4.Conclusions

This current study provide us with the picture of migrant entrepreneurship strategy and highlight the major push factors of Indonesian spouses' survival in overseas. It concludes that entrepreneurship are often seen as solution to lessen the overseas formal labour market problems especially for less-skilled migrant spouses.

5.References

Oliveira, C.R. & Rath, J.S (ed.). 2008. Special Issues on Immigrant Entrepreneurships. *Migrações Journal* #3