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## **Alternative Job Markets for OFWs from Saudi Arabia**

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### **I. Deployment to Saudi Arabia**

In terms of occupational categories, most of the newly-hired workers to Saudi Arabia are in the sales and services categories, in elementary occupations, and in professional categories. Most of the skills deployed to the country are nurses, engineers, skilled and semi-skilled workers for the construction and services workers. (Annex 1)

### **II. Alternative Labor Markets**

In the event that tensions between Saudi Arabia and Iran develop into conflict that would lead to relocation or displacement of overseas Filipino workers (OFWs), following are the possible scenarios that the government can consider:

#### **Scenario I:**

##### **Alert Levels 1-3 (Precautionary, Restriction or Voluntary Repatriation Phases)**

Workers in points of conflict must be relocated/repatriated.

OFWs who opt to stay in the country and are working under employers with continuing operations in relatively peaceful parts of Saudi may be encouraged to be relocated.

#### **Scenario II:**

##### **Alert Level 4 (Mandatory Repatriation Phase)**

The following alternative job opportunities may be explored for workers that are to be displaced under this scenario.

a. *Teachers.* The reintegration program for professional teachers who opted to work as OFWs in the Middle East holds the potential of re-skilling and reintegrating such workers into the teaching profession in the Philippines for some of the repatriated Filipino teachers.

Based on Job order balances as of 05 January 2016, grade school, secondary school, vocational school and language school teachers in the Kingdom may opt to be re-deployed to other Asian countries such as Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Japan, Singapore and Viet Nam.

Science teachers are in demand in the United States.

b. *Domestic Workers.* Domestic workers who might be displaced from Saudi Arabia may be re-deployed to the following countries

Country	Job Order Balance as of 05 January 2016
Brunei Darussalam	689
Cyprus	1,666
Hong Kong	47,936
Malaysia	9,640
Singapore	2,220

c. *Construction Industry Workers.* The workers in the construction industry that may be displaced or repatriated from Saudi Arabia countries can be assisted/referred for re-employment in other regions mainly in Asia.

The bilateral labor agreement for between the Philippines and New Zealand opens up numerous opportunities for constructions workers as the Christchurch Rebuild project is seen to stir infrastructure work in the immediate and long term.

Non-GCC countries that have been traditionally been employing constructions workers are as follows:

- For wiremen: PNG and Malaysia
- For laborers: Brunei, Malaysia, Taiwan, Bahrain, PNG, and Singapore

- For plumbers: PNG, Singapore, Canada, Algeria, and Malaysia
- For welders: Japan, PNG, Algeria, Angola, South Africa, Singapore, Malaysia, and Canada

Africa as a destination for various construction workers have the following estimate openings based on job orders:

<b>Active Job Order Balances, Africa</b>	
<b>Country</b>	<b>Job Orders/Occupations</b>
Algeria	about 8,600 workers for mining and constructions-related industries such as pipefitters, electricians, civil engineers, mechanical engineers, riggers, welders and iron workers, heavy equipment operators and scaffolders
Angola	about 8,300 workers for mining and constructions-related industries such as pipefitters, electricians, civil engineers, mechanical engineers, riggers, welders and iron workers, heavy equipment operators and carpenters
Equatorial Guinea	about 2,400 workers for mining and constructions-related industries such as welders, pipefitters, electricians, civil engineers, mechanics, heavy equipment operators and gas plant operators
Ethiopia	about 2,600 workers for the education sector including lecturers, professors, high school instructors, and TVET instructors
Kenya	about 100 health workers including nurses, medics and doctors
Liberia	about 200 pipe welders, steel erectors, pipefitters, mechanics and electricians
Madagascar	about 140 professional including medics, doctors and shift engineers
Morocco	about 3,000 workers including 500 engineers, 250 nannies and the rest as pipefitters, welders, riggers, iron workers and scaffolders
Nigeria	about 3,000 for the mining and construction industries including pipefitter, welders, riggers, iron workers, and engineers

*d. Cooks.* Canada, Australia, Brunei, Singapore continue to have job orders for cooks. Former landbased OFWs in kitchen and food preparation work may be re-skilled for possible re-deployment to kitchen/galley work in cruise and passenger ships.

*e. Health Workers.* For the displaced nurses and other health workers in Saudi Arabia, the most viable alternative markets for them are Asian destinations, particularly in Singapore and Taiwan which are the top 9 destinations of nurses.

f. *Other Professionals and Skilled Workers.* Professionals and skilled workers are becoming to be more in demand in Asia, based on latest job orders.

<b>Active Job Order Balances, Asia</b>	
<b>Country</b>	<b>Job Orders/Occupations</b>
Brunei Darussalam	200 shops assistants, 150 carpenters, 250 cashiers, 150 chefs, 600 cooks, 100 bakers, about 1,700 domestic workers
China	300 engineers, various fields 100 inspectors, mechanical and electrical equipment 250 teachers 50 musicians 100 factory workers
Hong Kong	250 engineers, various fields 85,000 domestic workers 250 teachers 500 singers and musicians
India	110 technicians 100 supervisors, mechanical and electrical equipment
Indonesia	270 engineers
Japan	3,500 engineers, various fields 2,500 farm workers 1,200 entertainers 600 production machine operators, food and non-food 200 language teachers
Malaysia	450 analysts (finance, data, software, technical) 1,100 IT consultants 11,000 domestic workers 2,200 engineers, various fields
South Korea	1,500 engineers, various fields 160 technicians
Singapore	1,050 technicians, various fields 700 aircraft technicians/avionics 4,000 nurses 1,100 engineers, various fields
Taiwan	11,000 operators, electronic manufacturing 1,500 operators, other mechanical/manufacturing machines 60,000 factory workers 3,000 caretakers
Thailand	200 engineers
The Rest of Asia	Less than a thousand Job Orders for various unskilled, semi-skilled and professional positions

**Annex 1**  
**Deployment of Re-Hires per Major Occupational Category**  
**and Skills to Saudi Arabia, Based on ISCO 2008**  
*January to December 2015\**

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>122,086</b>
<b>ARMED FORCES OCCUPATIONS</b>	<b>1</b>
<i>administrator warranty</i>	1
<b>CLERICAL SUPPORT WORKERS</b>	<b>2,021</b>
<i>worker loading and unloading</i>	478
<i>stocker</i>	335
<i>controller document</i>	105
<i>warehouseman</i>	80
<i>secretary</i>	78
<i>staff office</i>	41
<i>staff technical</i>	40
<i>encoder assistant data</i>	39
<i>receiver</i>	36
<i>controller material</i>	31
<i>other skills</i>	758
<b>CRAFT AND RELATED TRADES WORKERS</b>	<b>17,938</b>
<i>electrician</i>	961
<i>electrician general</i>	730
<i>welder</i>	640
<i>plumber</i>	598
<i>welder general</i>	529
<i>carpenter</i>	333
<i>electrician building</i>	332
<i>pipefitter</i>	311
<i>electrician assistant</i>	285
<i>mason general</i>	269
<i>other skills</i>	12,950
<b>ELEMENTARY OCCUPATIONS</b>	<b>32,022</b>
<i>domestic helper</i>	8,505
<i>housemaid</i>	6,273
<i>worker construction general</i>	1,143
<i>worker construction</i>	1,028
<i>worker general</i>	862
<i>laborer general</i>	719
<i>labor general</i>	640
<i>cleaner male</i>	611
<i>cleaner female</i>	518

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<i>pipefitter iii</i>	472
<i>other skills</i>	11,251
<b>MANAGERS</b>	<b>332</b>
<i>specialist marketing</i>	39
<i>supervisor assistant</i>	20
<i>supervisor food</i>	19
<i>supervisor hse</i>	18
<i>supervisor maintenance</i>	14
<i>manager restaurant</i>	11
<i>manager</i>	10
<i>officer administrative assistant</i>	10
<i>supervisor service</i>	10
<i>manager restaurant assistant</i>	9
<i>other skills</i>	172
<b>PLANT AND MACHINE OPERATORS AND ASSEMBLERS</b>	<b>9,262</b>
<i>laborer</i>	2,386
<i>driver family</i>	636
<i>driver truck</i>	610
<i>operator machine</i>	511
<i>operator heavy equipment</i>	342
<i>driver household worker</i>	290
<i>driver house</i>	215
<i>rigger</i>	183
<i>operator equipment</i>	172
<i>driver</i>	166
<i>other skills</i>	3,751
<b>PROFESSIONALS</b>	<b>13,868</b>
<i>nurse staff</i>	3,235
<i>nurse</i>	1,156
<i>nurse general</i>	1,039
<i>nurse female</i>	946
<i>nurse staff ii</i>	808
<i>nurse general female</i>	689
<i>nurse staff female</i>	311
<i>engineer civil</i>	266
<i>engineer project</i>	248
<i>nurse staff i</i>	239

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<i>other skills</i>	4,931
<b>SERVICES AND SALES WORKERS</b>	<b>36,984</b>
<i>worker household service</i>	25,491
<i>labor</i>	1,242
<i>waiter</i>	1,219
<i>crew service</i>	821
<i>attendant care</i>	490
<i>server food</i>	459
<i>attendant flight</i>	446
<i>salesman</i>	443
<i>officer flight operations</i>	404
<i>restaurant worker</i>	387
<i>other skills</i>	5,582
<b>SKILLED AGRICULTURAL, FORESTRY AND FISHERY WORKERS</b>	<b>110</b>
<i>florist</i>	28
<i>diver</i>	21
<i>worker agricultural</i>	13
<i>gardener house</i>	9
<i>field worker</i>	6
<i>keeper animal</i>	5
<i>technician aquarium</i>	5
<i>caretaker animal</i>	3
<i>gardener</i>	3
<i>maintenance landscape</i>	3
<i>other skills</i>	14
<b>TECHNICIANS AND ASSOCIATE PROFESSIONALS</b>	<b>9,543</b>
<i>technician electrical</i>	726
<i>technician building</i>	445
<i>technician mechanical</i>	315
<i>assistant patient</i>	251
<i>technician care</i>	240
<i>technician instrument</i>	231
<i>technician electronic</i>	217
<i>technician</i>	192
<i>technician laboratory</i>	166
<i>supervisor</i>	158
<i>other skills</i>	6,602

