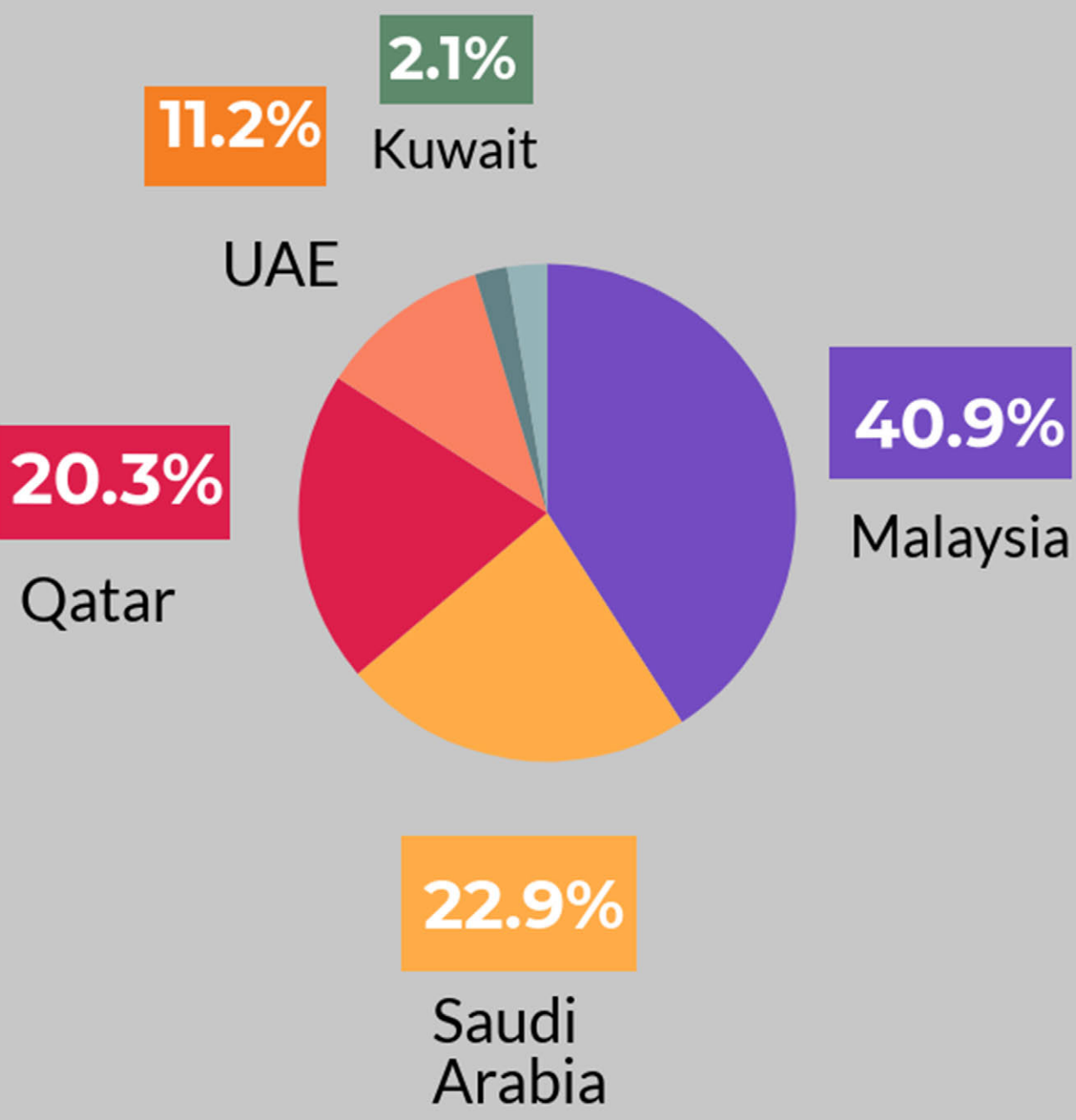


# An Overview of Nepal's Foreign Labour Migration

## Top Five Destinations For Nepali Migrant Workers

Malaysia and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries are the most attractive destinations for Nepalese migrant workers.



Source: International Labour Organisation (2017).

## Benefits Of Foreign Labour Migration to Local Community



### Poverty Reduction

A 20% of reduction in poverty between 1995-2004. (World Bank, 2007)



### Land Ownership

Land purchases were higher among migrant households compared to non-migrant households over the past 15 years across all kinds of land. (The Asia Foundation, 2017)



### Reconfiguration of power relations at local level

The Financial empowerment of traditionally marginalised community due to increased financial independence



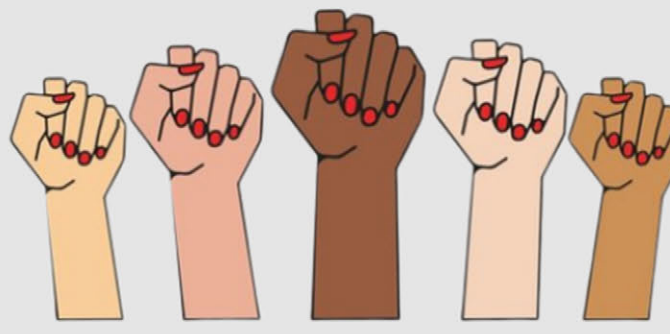
### Rising Educational Level

Expenses in education ranks as the third most important objective for sending remittances



### Rising living standards

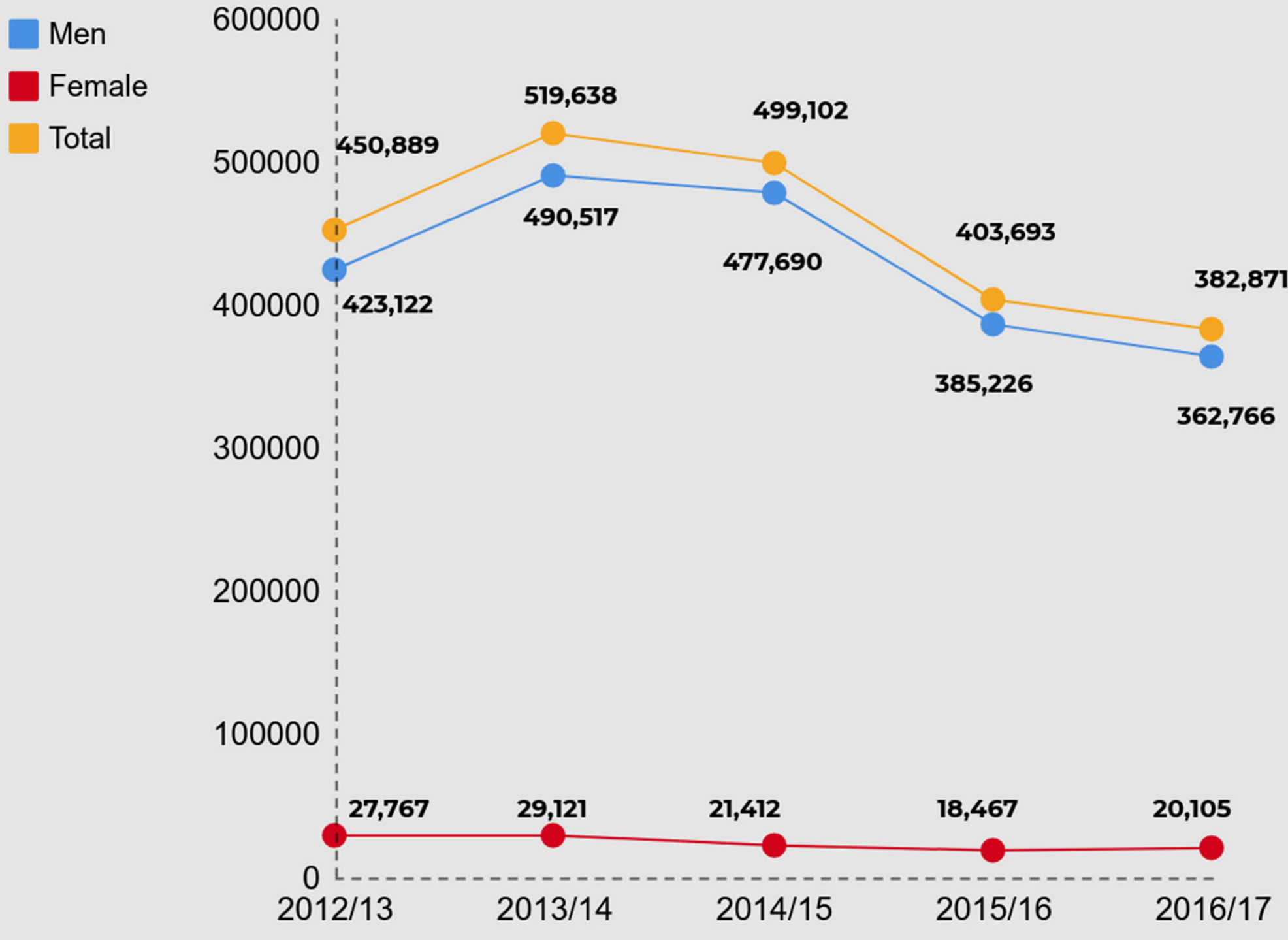
Remittances accounts for 62% of the household income of long-term migrant workers (IOM, 2017)



### Economic Empowerment of Women

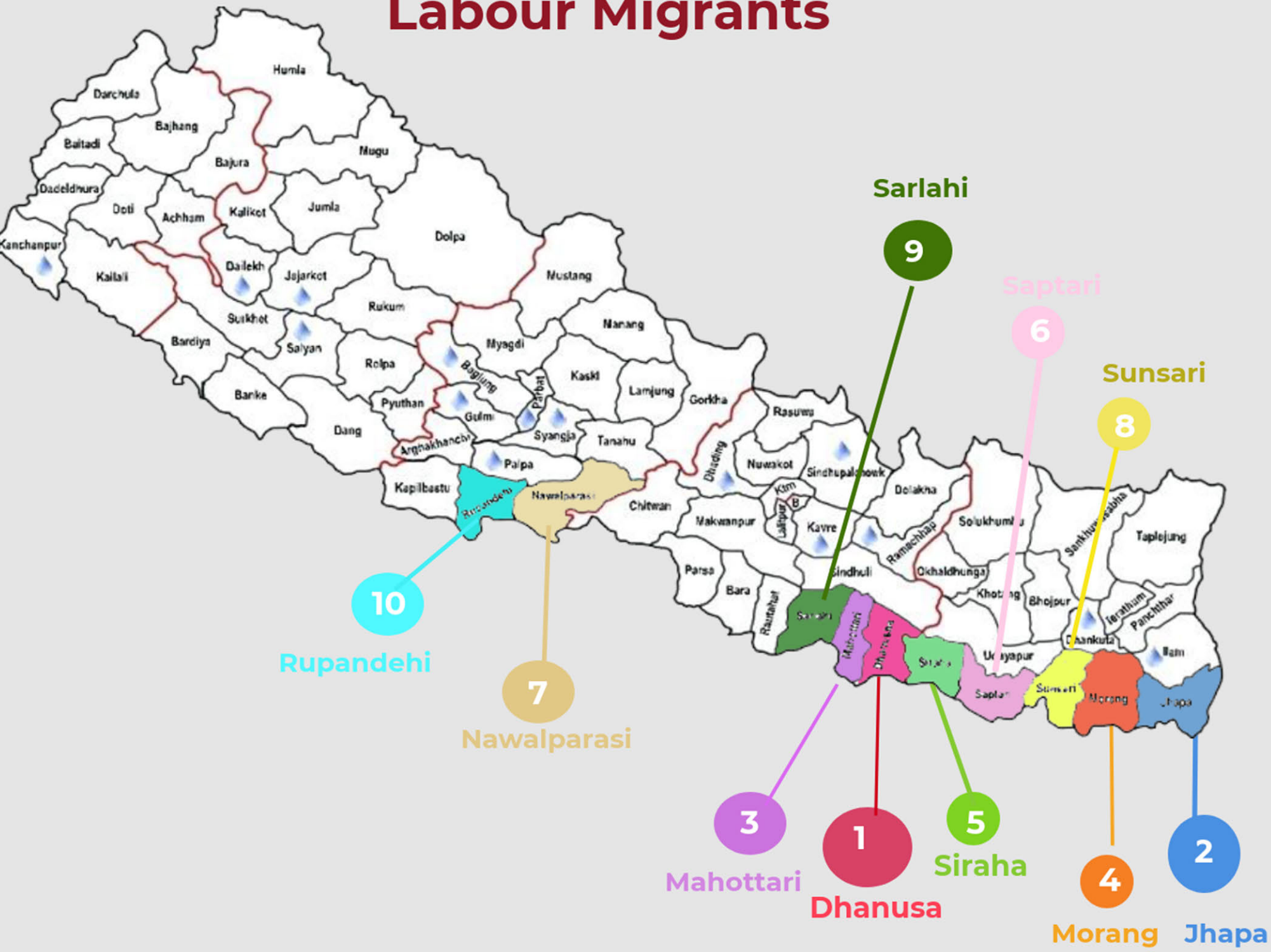
Thus, women become more financially independent due to a 17-20% rise in income after working abroad (National Planning Commission, 2013)

## Current Trend in Obtaining Labour Permits, 2012/13 - 2016/17



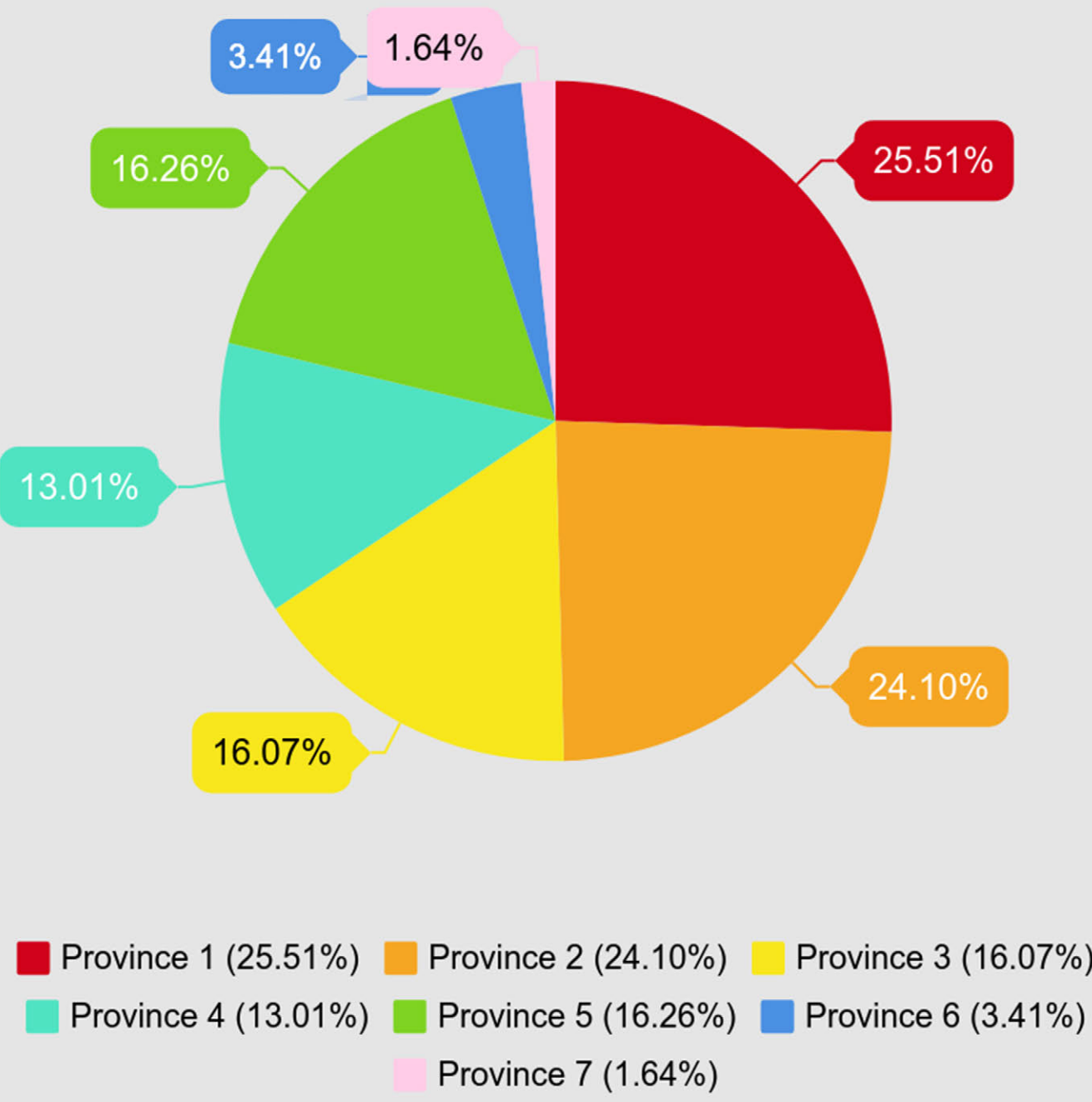
Source: Government of Nepal, Ministry of Labour and Employment, 2018.

## Top Ten Origin Districts of Labour Migrants



Source: Government of Nepal, Ministry of Labour and Employment, 2018.

## Province wise breakdown of migrant workers (2008/09-2016/17)



Source: Government of Nepal, Ministry of Labour and Employment, 2018.

## Social Costs Of Foreign Labour Migration

Over the last two decades, migration has become an increasingly attractive aspiration for an increasing number of Nepali youth. However, the social costs of this phenomenon must not be neglected.



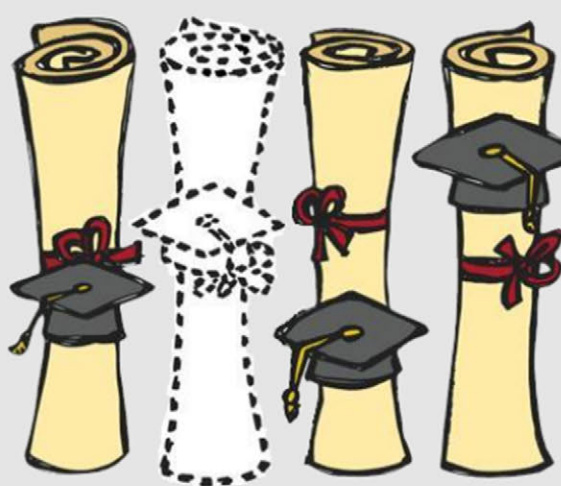
### Psychological burden on left-behind children

The absence of parental guidance increases in the number of young people engaging in deviance acts



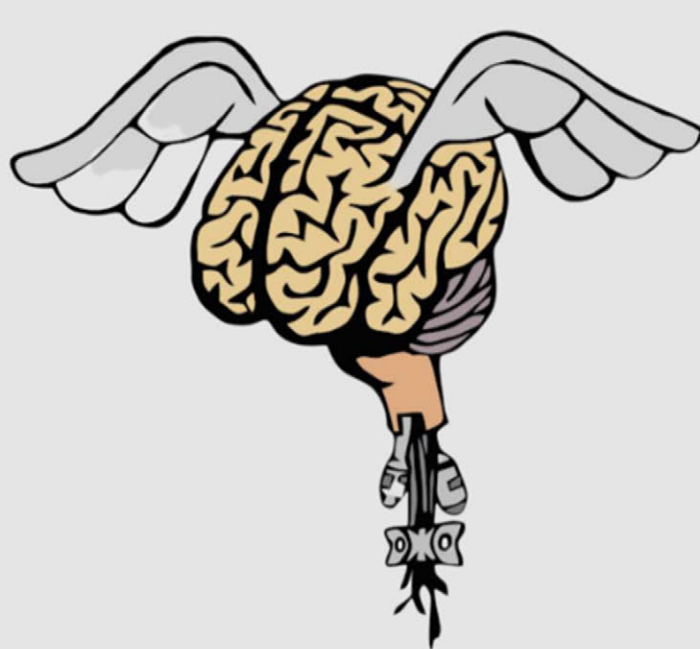
### Family Separation

Enormous increase in divorce cases has come at the price of emotional and psychological impacts on children



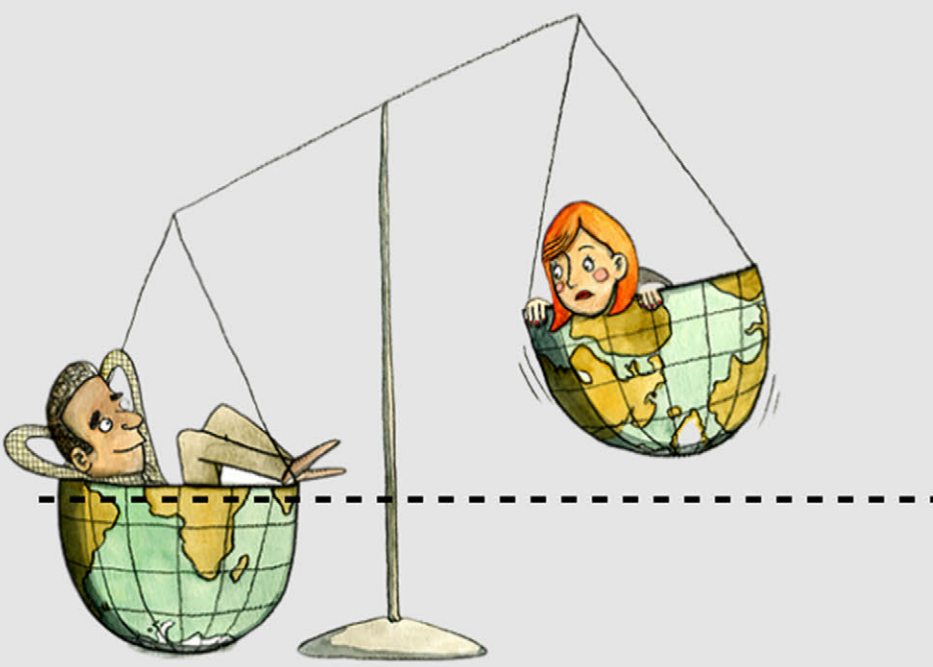
### Low educational level

Only 45% of them completed high school or professional/vocational education (IOM, 2017)



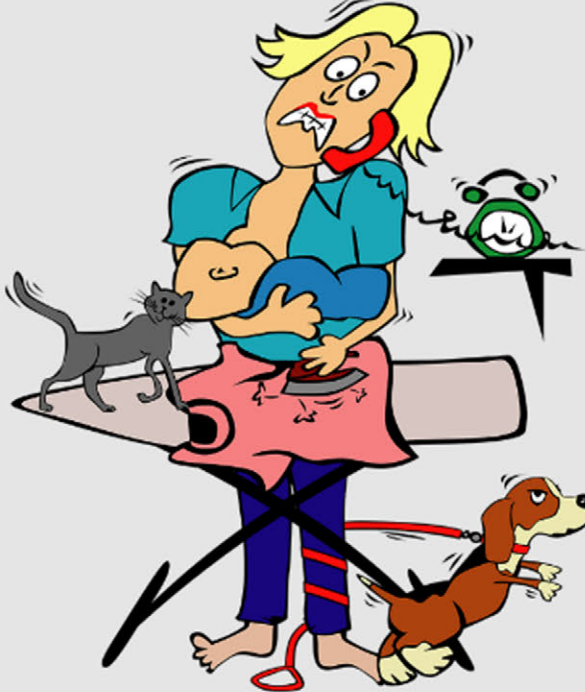
### Brain Drain

Outmigration of skilled workers have become a drag on the local economy



### Limited left-behind women's autonomy

Gender norms are more rigorously imposed on them in the absence of their husband



### Left-behind Responsibilities

The entire responsibility of taking care of the welfare of family is placed the shoulders of the wives

## Economic Costs Of Foreign Labour Migration

In 2018, - Nepali is the 19th highest beneficiary of funds sent by migrants around the world. However, the over-reliance on remittance economy has entailed various economic costs.



### Reliance on remittance economy

From 2006-2015, remittance sent home accounted for over 30% of GDP (IOM, 2017)



### Rise of immediate poverty

The total cost of migration incurred including application and transportation fee all has to be borne by migrant workers



### Unproductive Investment

Only 3% of the remittance is invested in productive sector (Nepal Rastra Bank, 2008)



### Extra financial burden

5,892 migrant worker deaths were reported from 2008 to 2017, leading to the termination of family income for their families (Government of Nepal, 2017)



### Labour Shortage

By 2030, Nepal may face a labour shortage of 3.6 million if foreign migration continues (The Kathmandu Post, 2017)



### Hinderance of village economic development

The shortage of manpower to sustain village economies, leading to the decline in agricultural production