



Staying Preferences of Graduate Youth Migrants in Indonesia: Working Opportunities vs Regional Amenities

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Abstract

Recent Indonesia census report shows that about 30% of migrant population belongs to youth age group population i.e. 15-24 years old. In addition, a substantial proportion of the youth migrants move for continuing education in higher degree. This type of migration plays a major role in human capital development since the subsequent move of the student migrants can represent the provision of economic opportunity as well as acceleration of economic development and investment across regions. Thus, it is important to examine the subsequent spatial dynamics of the youth migrants after they finish their graduate degree. Yet, there has been a dearth of research on this issue in Indonesia. Thus, this study aims to analyse the staying preferences of the graduate migrants and factors contributing in their preferences on future staying location. This study analyses data from 'Youth Migration in Indonesia' survey by Research Center for Population, Indonesian Institute of Sciences in 2016 that conducted in Sleman district, one of prominent destination areas for college student migrants in this country. Preliminary findings show about a third of the migrants intend to remain in their current residential city, and the rest express their intention to re-migrate, either return to their hometowns or move to new areas. Some youths expressed the motivation for choosing areas for their future migration is highly depend on the availability of working opportunities in the destination areas. However, others also argue that the main consideration for their future residences is the regional amenities and consumption opportunities that offered in certain regions. Moreover, socio-demographic factor and spatial attributes of their recent migration are also related to their future staying preferences.

Keyword: graduate migration, youth, staying preference