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FEMALE PARTICIPATION IN THE CONSTRUCTION
INDUSTRY : A REVIEW ON THE ISSUES AND
BARRIERS

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ABSTRACT

The lack of awareness has resulting in the existence of issues and barriers that are faced by females relating to their participation in the construction industry. Due to the image of the construction industry, female workers are more bound to be facing issues and barriers throughout their career rather than male workers. Thus, it is important to distinguish the factors that contributes t the problem and find a sway and suggestion in order to create awareness and improve the female worker's welfare in the construction industry generally. This research's goal is to achieve this key factors and distinguish them on their importance that are related and contributes to the issues and barriers faced by female workers, and it is also this research's goal to crate awareness on this issue by suggesting and recommending the ways to improve the awareness for this problem. This research is based on the data obtained by online questionnaires that are participated by companies that are closely related to the construction industry. The data was analyzed in order to determine the importance level of each of the listed key factors based on their mean score and the ways to approach and tackle the recommendation of creating and improving the awareness of the issue and barriers faced by women regarding their participation in the construction industry.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND OF STUDY

Despite the construction industry being a non-traditional industry for career women in Malaysia, the number of females employed in the sector has been increasing over time. The construction industry in Malaysia covers a large sector of the economy and the size and market of the construction firm may strongly influence the level of professionalism and practices, and this may influence women's career choice in the industry (Kamaruddeen et al., 2019).

The construction industry has always been seen as a male-dominant industry, due to its association with the need of having physical strength, adjustment to harsh outdoor working conditions, as well as oppressive dialects, thus the value of women to be involved in the construction industry has been undermined and are seen to be the wrong gender for construction occupation (Anuar K. et al., 2017).

Construction, in general, is a field that is male-dominated and has been in a long time. Based on the data by Building Radar (2020), the worldwide percentage of all construction workers who are female, respectively in their own country.

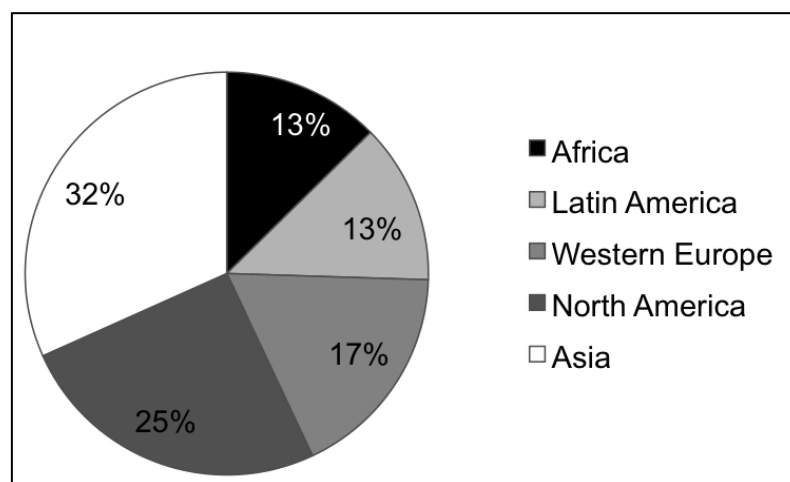


Figure 1.1 : Percentage of Women Construction Workers in Several Countries.