

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

This newsletter comes to you at a time when the global economy is in turmoil, and assumptions about increasing globalisation are starting to be called into question. The implications for migration and poverty are potentially profound - for example, as industries start to shed jobs, it would not be surprising for vulnerable migrant workers to be the first to be released, and for the burden of adjustment to fall first on those least able to respond. One precedent we have for understanding the potential impact is the Asian Financial Crisis of 1997, and with that in mind, we have republished on our website a 2004 paper by Ron Skeldon that deals with the regional aftermath of this event for migration and migrants. In addition, Migration DRC partner RMMRU is carrying out research into the effects of the current financial crisis on remittances. We are keen to engage in discussion with institutes and researchers on how the crisis is impacting migrants now, and what this means for 'migration and development' policies. On this, and any of the other issues raised in this newsletter, we look forward to hearing from you.

Richard Black  
Director

## MIGRATION DRC HIGHLIGHTS

### RMMRU Campaigning Success

Following a successful campaign by DRC partner RMMRU, the government of Bangladesh has agreed to allow private universities to open four-year Bachelor of Science courses in Nursing. The 'National Consultation on Institutional and Regulatory Reforms for Training of Highly Skilled Nurses for Overseas Employment' took place on 16 June 2008 at RMMRU, University of Dhaka. Over 80 participants from all over the country, including nurses, Nursing College teachers and representatives from the Nursing Council, from the Nurse Directorate and the Ministry of Health, medical colleges, private universities and from the University Grants Commission attended the event. The Advisor for Health, Dr. A. M. M. Shawkat Ali, who was also present as the Guest of Honour, was extremely impressed with RMMRU's presentation of the Ghanaian and Filipino scenarios and with the case made for opening up nursing training to private institutions. When he later met with and related the findings of the event to the Chief Advisor, a copy of the recommendations was immediately requested. As a result, a Task Force has now been set up on the matter.

The Task Force comprises government officials, the head of the Nursing Council, and principals of government nursing colleges, faculty representatives from private universities who took part in the workshop, as well as Dr Tasneem Siddiqui of RMMRU as expert adviser. As many as 12 meetings have already been held over the last few months.

### National Consultation on Training of Highly Skilled Nurses for Overseas Employment, Dhaka 16 June 2008



The panel (from left to right): Dr Tasneem Siddiqui, Dr. A. M. M. Shawkat Ali, Dr. Mohammed Farashuddin and Professor C. R. Abrar

### Global Forum on Migration and Development 2008 27-28 October 2008

In October 2008 Richard Black, Ron Skeldon and Christina Oelgemoller represented the Migration DRC at the Global Forum for Migration and Development in Manila, Philippines. Richard had also taken part in the GFMD preparatory meeting in Chicago on 11-12 August. Their participation consisted primarily in contributing to the Civil Society Days. Richard wrote an overview paper and led a session on data in the field of migration development research. Ron also produced a paper on data to advise the Finnish government.

## Migration and Social Protection: Exploring Issues of Portability and Access

5-6 November 2008

This conference, hosted by the Migration DRC and convened by Rachel Sabates-Wheeler from IDS, took place at the University of Sussex. The conference was divided into six sessions with over 40 international presenters and participants made up of academic researchers (including several Migration DRC researchers), policy-makers from governmental and international organisations, NGO representatives, as well as private sector practitioners. Discussions, which mostly focused on Southern countries, brought to light the latest research findings, together with initiatives by international organizations, in the field of migration and social protection across a breadth of geographical areas. Participants drew out key issues in both destination and origin countries with a view to informing policy development in terms of access and portability. Session topics included: Portability Regimes and Formal Provisions; Migrants and Host Welfare Systems; Policy Frameworks; Conceptualising Access; Overcoming Constraints at Destination; Social Protection in Source Country and for Returnees. A web-based report, which includes supporting documents, session minutes, speakers' abstracts and Powerpoint presentations, is available at: <http://www.migrationdrc.org/news/reports/migration&socialprotection/index.html>.



Participants at the Migration and Social Protection Conference

### Known Face, Unknown Life: Voices of Temporary Migrants in West Bengal

A new book, *Known Face, Unknown Life: Voices of Temporary Migrants in West Bengal*, edited by Abdur Rafique and translated from Bengali into English by Rahul Bose, is now available on the DRC website at: [http://www.migrationdrc.org/publications/research\\_reports/Known\\_face\\_unknown\\_life.pdf](http://www.migrationdrc.org/publications/research_reports/Known_face_unknown_life.pdf). The life stories in this book were collected during extensive fieldwork carried out under the Migration DRC project, 'Social Protection By and For Temporary Work Migrants', of which Ben Rogaly and Janet Seeley were principal investigators.

The Bengali language version of this publication was recently the subject of an editorial in the *Ananda Bazaar Patrika* newspaper - which has the largest circulation in West Bengal. The review, by Subhendu Dasgupta, an eminent Bengali scholar, described this book as "for those who want to know about the economics of rural West Bengal [...], for those who [want] to learn the working words [...] of people who did not go to school, [...] for those who are interested in sociology, [in] the concept of 'samaj',

*family relations, [...] those who are interested in politics, [in] the role of panchayats, [in] the relation between an individual's support for a political party and [the implications of that], [...] for those who are interested in the issues around labour, [...] the types of work [that] exist in rural Bengal. [...] [And] those who do not want to know about any of these will nonetheless find out about life, like joy and sorrow, anger and egotism, struggle, cheating and much more."*

This unique collection of stories is sure to be of interest to all those trying to better understand the issues which affect the lives of migrants on a day-to-day basis.

### New on Migration DRC Website

The Communications team at Sussex have made several changes and new additions to the Migration DRC website, including a new resource guide on Migration and Climate Change, a new theme section on Data, as well as a whole range of new policy briefings available at: [http://www.migrationdrc.org/publications/briefing\\_papers.html](http://www.migrationdrc.org/publications/briefing_papers.html). Gunjan Sondhi and Adriana Castaldo, with the support of the Sussex interns Inga Sabanova and Soumyadeep Banerjee, and Ann Whitehead leading the research, have made great strides in updating the Child Migration component of the Migration in National Surveys catalogue, which gives an outline of what information is available in each country's dataset about migrant children, including what ages of children are covered and what types of children's movements are captured.

### MIGRATION DRC WORKSHOPS

FMRS Seminar  
17 September 2008

Ray Jureidini, from FMRS, hosted a seminar on the results of his domestic workers survey. The seminar was followed by a long and positive discussion with an audience of around 75 people at the Jamil Center at the American University in Cairo. Ray has also submitted the following article: "Irregular Workers in the Labour Market: Migrants and Refugees Working as Domestic Workers in Egypt" to the *International Journal of Multicultural Societies*. It is currently under review.

SAMReN workshop on Migration and Remittances  
22-23 August 2008

SAMReN is a network of South Asian researchers, NGO workers and other practitioners working on migration across South Asia. The Network's Secretariat is based at RMMRU. Twenty-eight participants attended a workshop on 'Migration and Remittances: Non-Traditional Issues in Asian Security Discourse' which was hosted by BRAC CDM in Rajendrapur, Dhaka. All the presentations from the event and further documents have been made available on the web at: <http://www.rmmru.net/NTSWorkshop2008/index.htm>.

Building on Migration DRC's strong strand of research into Child Migration, a conference to be held in conjunction with the Centre for Migration Research at the University of Legon is planned to take place in Ghana in spring 2009.

## MIGRATION DRC PEOPLE

Congratulations to **Mike Collyer** and his wife **Dulani** on the birth of their baby daughter **Maia** on 24 November 2008.

Congratulations also to **Deeptima Massey**, **Rozana Rashid** and **Julie Vullnetari**, who all have recently successfully completed their doctorates. Deeptima and Rozana both held DRC bursaries, whilst Julie's work was supported by the ESRC. All three passed with minor corrections, which have now been completed. Deeptima will start teaching a course on Population and Development at Sussex, alongside Ron Skeldon. Julie will continue working as the main researcher on a UN-INSTRAW-funded project titled: 'Gender and Remittances: Building Gender-Responsive Local Development', together with Prof Russell King, which will include producing publications from the findings of the research. In addition, she is part of the editorial team working on the publication of a number of works related to Albanian migration and development. Meanwhile, Rozana has returned to Bangladesh to work as Programme Coordinator at RMMRU.

The Migration DRC is delighted to welcome back **Meera Warrier** in January after nine months on maternity leave. **Saskia Gent**, who was Acting Research Manager in Meera's absence, will be returning to the post of Communications Manager.

## Interns

**Margaret Appiah** started her six-month internship with the Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit (RMMRU) in March 2008. Her first assignment was to coordinate the research work of the Young Researchers Forum (YRF). Subsequent work included research on Nursing with **Dr T. Siddiqui** and research on identifying opportunities in the hospitality sector for overseas employment with **Prof C.R. Abrar**. Both studies were followed by consultations for dissemination and public input. Margaret also took part in the review of the proposals for the Migration DRC fellowship. She returned to Ghana in October 2008. Margaret said of her experience:

*"The three-month internship which turned out to be six months was challenging, exciting and rewarding.[...] I came to understand and appreciate the crucial role migration management plays in realising the full benefits of migration and at the same time reducing the risks associated with it. [...] I intend to share this information with stakeholders [in Ghana] about the need to come up with a comprehensive*

*national plan for managing migration."*

**Inga Sabanova** started her internship at Sussex in September 2008. She joined the Child Migration Research Network team, when the project was just starting. She has been playing a vital role in developing the database. In particular, she has been conducting desk research and drafting abstracts for the articles in the Child Migration component of the MiNS database. She is currently enrolled on the MSc in Migration Studies at Sussex.

**Soumyadeep Banerjee** started his internship at Sussex at the end of October 2008. He joined the Migration in National Surveys (MiNS) team. His work conducting desk research on the surveys in the MiNS catalogue and in completing the catalogue has been extremely valuable. He is a Commonwealth Scholar currently enrolled full-time on an MA in Migration Studies at Sussex. Both Inga and Soumyadeep will be continuing their internships in 2009.

**Agathi Parvati** will start her internship with RMMRU from January until May 2009. During her studies in Greece Agathi has developed a particular interest in minority rights, as well as migration, which she seeks to develop by looking at the issues faced by the Bihari community in Bangladesh.

## Fellowships

This year four RMMRU-DRC Fellowships have been awarded to **Bishnu Bahadur Khatri** of Tribhuvan University in Nepal to conduct research on "Patterns and Utilization of Rural Out-migrants' Remittance Flow", **Kirsty Jnatsch** of Concern Universal in Bangladesh to work on "Challenges of Reintegration to Returnee Labour Migrants in Bangladesh", **Porimol Palma** of The Daily Star in Dhaka to work on "Evaluation of Diagnostic Centres for the Out-going Migrant Workers" and **B Valentine Joseph Gandhi** of IIT Bombay in India to work on "Livelihood Insecurity on the Context of Migration and HIV Risk Behaviour: A Gender Perspective."

The Sussex Migration Research Centre is delighted to welcome **Andrea Rossi** as Visiting Research Fellow at Sussex. Andrea is the director of the Measurement & Human Rights Program at the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy at the Kennedy School of Governance, Harvard University. He will be giving a seminar in the Migration Research Seminars series at Sussex on 28 February 2009.

## NEWS FROM THE MIGRATION DRC PARTNERS

### RIPS and ISSER, Ghana

**Stephen Kwankye** (RIPS) and **John Kanarfi** (ISSER) have been working intensively on a book on independent child migrants in Ghana which is expected to be published in early 2009. They have also been involved in the production of a report on child poverty in Ghana for UNICEF as part of the Global Study on Child Poverty and Disparities. In



addition, **Stephen Kwankye** and **Cynthia Tagoe** also presented their research titled 'Sustainable return of independent child migrants into their home communities in Northern Ghana' at the 'Children on the Move in the Developing World: Sharing Research Findings' workshop at Sussex University in May 2008. They are looking for opportunities to publish this study.

### **RMMRU, Bangladesh**

RMMRU has organised several successful events. At a seminar on 'Entrepreneurship of Bangladeshi Diaspora in the U.S.' held on 29 May 2008 at RMMRU, University of Dhaka, **Prof Abrar** called on the Bangladeshi government to develop innovative measures to facilitate and encourage the diaspora to invest back in the economy of Bangladesh.

In a workshop on the 'Challenges and Opportunities of the Recruitment Industry in Bangladesh' held on 18 June 2008 at RMMRU, University of Dhaka, speakers raised the need for better control of the activities of intermediaries and agents in the recruitment process. Recommendations called for the reduction of the costs of international migration, and for innovative measures to be developed to enhance the skills of international migrants. Another dissemination workshop on the 'Recruitment Industry in South Asia' took place on 8-9 July 2008 and received a very good response from government, the private sector and migrant support groups from most South Asian countries.

### **University of East Anglia**

**Nitya Rao** has been travelling to India and Bangladesh to conduct research on the reasons for apparent gender differences in decisions to migrate amongst children in these countries, as well as carrying out further analysis of boys' and girls' decisions to remain in education in India, and how these are influenced by migration choices and options (see 'forthcoming publications').

### **University of Sussex**

As well as taking part in the various GFMD activities, **Richard Black** took part and organised a session on migration and development at the IMISCOE conference in Bilbao, Spain on 9 – 12 September 2008. This was followed by an ESRC seminar and workshop on 'Migration Controls and Narratives of Societal Steering' held at the University of Sussex on 18 and 19 September, in which Richard gave a keynote address and chaired a session. **Christina Oelgemoller** and **Mike Collyer**, from Migration DRC, also led some of the event's sessions. Mike Collyer presented his findings from Sri Lanka. **Richard Black**, together with **Saskia Gent**, attended the MAFE kick-off meeting in Paris on 13-15 October. Finally, on 24 November 2008 Richard flew to New York to give a presentation to the UNDP on 'Migration, PRSPs and Human Development', based on a new paper co-authored with **Jon Sward**.

In early July, **Ronald Skeldon** attended the International Conference on 'Theories of Migration and Social Change' at

the International Migration Institute, Oxford, where he, together with **Russell King** and **Julie Vullnetari**, presented a paper on 'Internal and International Migration: Bridging the Theoretical Divide' - available at <<http://www.imi.ox.ac.uk/pdfs/russell-king-ron-skeldon-and-julie-vullnetari-internal-and-international-migration-bridging-the-theoretical-divide>>. He then spent three weeks in July in Peru visiting communities in the Andes, which he had last visited in 1972. The trip was part of a reconnaissance towards designing a broader research proposal on migration and development at the local level. In August, he attended a Club de Madrid meeting in Santander, Spain, where he presented a paper on 'New Approaches to Migration and Development'. In early September, he gave a seminar in the Myron Weiner series on International Migration at MIT, Cambridge, Mass. Also in September, he attended the United Nations Expert Group Meeting in Bangkok, Thailand, to present a paper on 'Migration and Development in the Asia-Pacific Region'. On 1 October, he attended the Expert Meeting on Data Collection on Migration and Development organized by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) to give the keynote address on 'The Main Challenges of Data Collection and Comparability of Data on Migration and Development'. In late October, he attended the Civil Society Days of the Global Forum on Migration and Development in Manila, Philippines, where he presented a paper on 'Irregular Migration in East and Southeast Asia' under Session 2.2 on Managing Migration - available at: <<http://www.gfmd2008.org/conference-documents.html>>. He returned through Hong Kong where he gave a seminar on 'Migration and Development' at the University of Hong Kong. Finally, on 4 – 6th December 2008, Ron attended a Wilton Park conference on the 'Future of Migration'. He presented under the session entitled 'Mind the Gap: Matching Economic Needs with the Supply of Labour', seeking to identify trends and formulate projections on the future interaction between labour migration and trade flows.

**Ben Rogaly** attended the panel on 'Unfree Labour in the Global Economy' at the 2008 UK Development Studies conference in London in November. The panel was organised by another Migration DRC researcher, **Stephanie Barrientos** (Manchester), and consisted of five papers covering theoretical ideas and empirical material in emerging studies of unfree labour. Ben's presentation was based on his critique of the ILO's *Global Alliance Against Forced Labour* report, and drew on empirical work he has led in India (in the Migration DRC-funded project on 'Social Protection by and for Temporary Migrant Workers') and in the UK.

**Ann Whitehead** attended the 'Child Migrants' Rights as Citizens: Rights Discourses, Claims and Realizations' workshop organised by the research programme on Informal Child Migration in Europe (N-ICME) at the Department of Social Anthropology (University of Oslo) and the Institute of Social Research, Oslo on 11-12 September 2008. She presented on the topic of migrant children's status as citizens from the perspective of social welfare policies. From 4 – 6 December Ann also took part in the Wilton Park conference on the 'Future of Migration', in which she gave a

presentation entitled 'The Next Generation' looking at the impacts of migration on children and young people, and how to minimize the negative effects.

**Gunjan Sondhi** gave a presentation co-authored by **Adriana Castaldo**, **Gunjan Sondhi**, **Saskia Gent** and **Ann Whitehead**, under the title of 'Migration and Child Migration Using Census Data' at the two-day international conference 'Census Microdata: Findings and Futures', hosted by the Samples of Anonymised Records support group at the Cathie Marsh Centre for Census and Survey Research at the University of Manchester on 1 - 3 September 2008. The presentation was based on an on-going analysis of the use of census data for child migration research which is part of the work funded by the Rockefeller Foundation; it is available at: <<http://www.ccsr.ac.uk/sars/conference/>>.

**Saskia Gent**, **Jon Sward** and **Romy Danflous** attended a DFID meeting in London on 23 July, looking into the potential of using Web 2.0 tools for Research Communications.

**Romy Danflous** took part in a one-day 'Migration and Development' workshop organised by Connections for Development. This workshop constituted one of the key activities of the IDEM (Informer sur le Developpement et les Migrations) project led by PANOS Paris, which seeks to promote better public understanding of contemporary international migration, and its link to development.

## IDS

**Rachel Sabates-Wheeler** has been working extensively in the field of migration and social protection, under joint work between Migration DRC and the World Bank, and will be building on the findings of the November conference (see Migration DRC Highlights). In addition, she presented her work on 'Migration, Legality and Poverty' on 4 December in the prestigious Sussex Development Lectures series.

## DRC TRAINING EVENTS

*RMMRU Social Science Research and Migration training*  
29 Nov - 1 Dec 2008

RMMRU held a training workshop on 'Social Science Research and Migration' to enhance the research skills of over 20 young professionals on migration issues and provide them with an opportunity for networking.



### *Ethical Events training*

Meera Warriar recently gave a session on migration and development to a group of NGO workers on as part of the

Global Development Course. This two-week course provides an introduction to the key issues in the field of social and economic development, particularly as it affects the Global South. It is run on a regular basis by Ethical Events Ltd in London.

### *Return Migration training* 13 January 2009

A training workshop to take place in Westminster, London is being organised by the Migration DRC at Sussex. Aimed at policymakers and advisors in the UK government and voluntary sector, the objective is to stimulate thinking on concrete approaches to return migration, and to explore policy options in the light of evidence from research at the Migration DRC, the hosts of the workshop, and other invited institutions. Planned speakers include Richard Black and Filippo Osella from Sussex, as well as Margaret Byron and Khalid Koser.

### *SAMReN training* 8-15 March 2009

SAMReN will be organising a training workshop at the Godavari Village Resort of Kathmandu, Nepal. The Nepal Institute of Development Studies (NIDS) and the Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit (RMMRU) will host the workshop with financial support from the Migration DRC. This workshop is designed to enhance understanding of migration processes in South Asia and internationally, and to equip young academics and professionals with research and management skills.

## PUBLICATIONS / PRESENTATIONS

*Recently published Migration DRC working papers include:*

WP T28, 'Child Migration in National Surveys' by A. Castaldo, S. E. Gent, G. Sondhi, A. Whitehead.

WP T27, 'Demographics and Climate Change: Future Trends and their Policy Implications for Migration' by R. Black, D. Kniveton, R. Skeldon, D. Coppard, A. Murata and K. Schmidt-Verkerk.

*Latest Migration DRC research reports:*

'Know Face, Unknown Life: Voices of Temporary Migrants in West Bengal' by A. Rafique.

'Information Campaigns on Safe Migration and Pre-Departure Training' by T. Siddiqui, R. Rashid & B. Zeitlyn.

*Migration DRC working papers in the pipeline include:*

'Key Determinants of Migration among Health Professionals in Ghana' by J. Anarfi, P. Quartey and J. Ageyi.

'Independent North-South Child Migration in Ghana: The Decision-Making Process' by S. Kwankye, J. Anarfi and C. Tagoe.

'Gendered Differences in Migration Opportunities: Implications for Educational Choices & Outcomes' by N. Rao

*Other recent Migration DRC publications include:*

Policy Briefing 15: 'Legality, Migration and Poverty - Legal Status and Temporary Labour Migration', November 2008.

Policy Briefing 14: 'Social Protection of Migrants from the Global South: Protection Gaps and Strategies to 'Self-insure', October 2008.

Policy Briefing 13: 'Measuring the Migration-Development Nexus: An Overview of Available Data', October 2008.

Policy Briefing 12: 'Migration and Climate Change: How will Climate Shifts Affect Migration Trends?', September 2008.

Policy Briefing 11: 'Independent Child Migration: Introducing Children's Perspectives', August 2008.

Migration DRC Resource Guide on Migration and Climate Change, available at: <[http://www.migrationdrc.org/publications/resource\\_guides/Migration\\_and\\_Climate\\_Change/index.html](http://www.migrationdrc.org/publications/resource_guides/Migration_and_Climate_Change/index.html)>.

*Other forthcoming publications by DRC members include:*

Abrar C. R. and Seeley J. (eds) *Social Protection and Livelihoods: Marginalised Migrant Workers of India and Bangladesh*, Dhaka: University Press Ltd.

Black, R. and A. Castaldo. 'Return migration and entrepreneurship in Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire: the role of capital transfers'. Forthcoming in: *Tijdschrift voor Economische en Sociale Geografie*.

Sabates-Wheeler R., Taylor, L. and Natali, C., 'Great Expectations and Reality Checks: The Role of Information in Mediating Migrants' Experience of Return'. Under review at the *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, Brighton: University of Sussex.

Thorsen, D., *Labour Migration - A Child and Youth Issue?* Policy Note, Nordic Africa Institute, Uppsala.

*Other papers/presentations by DRC Members in the last six months include:*

Barrientos, S., Anarfi J., Lamhauge N., Castaldo, A. & Anyidoho, N. A. (2008) 'Social Protection for Migrant Labour in Ghana', presented at the Migration and Social Protection conference at the University of Sussex, 5-6 November, available at: <<http://www.migrationdrc.org/news/reports/migration&socialprotection/Presentations/presentation%20BARRIENTOS.pdf>>

Castaldo, A. and Rossi, A. (2008) "The Impact of Migration on Children in Developing Countries: Existing Evidence and Data", paper presented at the Global Forum for Migration and Development in Manila, Philippines under Session 3.1 Strengthening Data and Research Tools, available at: <<http://www.gfmd2008.org/conference-documents.html>>

Rogaly, B. (2008) 'Migrant Workers in the ILO's 'Global Alliance against Forced Labour' Report: A Critique', *Third World Quarterly*, 29 (7), (Special Issue: Globalisation and Migration: New Issues, New Politics)

Sabates-Wheeler, R. (2008) 'Destination Matters: How Do Poverty and Social Protection Influence Migration Outcomes?', presented at the University of Sussex, 5-6 November, available at: <<http://www.migrationdrc.org/news/reports/migration&socialprotection/Presentations/presentation%20SABATES-WHEELER%20day%202.pdf>>

Skeldon, R. (2008) 'Immigration Futures', in *Canadian Diversity*, vol. 6(3):12-17

Thorsen, D. (2008) 'We Are Brothers - From Bisako. Children and Youth's Perspectives on Family Relations in West African Migrations', paper presented to a panel on Child Relocations in Africa, at the Norwegian Association for Development Research's Annual Conference, Trondheim, 27-28 November 2008.

Thorsen, D. (2008) Book Review of *Sleeping Rough in Port-au-Prince. An Ethnography of Street Children & Violence in Haiti?* by Christopher J. Kovats-Bernat, *Social Anthropology*, 16(1): 119-21.