

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Welcome to this second edition of the Migration DRC newsletter. Over the last few months, the DRC has been active in getting new research started, developing our training programme, and in promoting new policy directions. We have also made a number of exciting new appointments to our team for work that is due to start this Autumn.

If you would like to feed back on any aspect of our work, please do so, to [migrationdrc@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:migrationdrc@sussex.ac.uk). We look forward to hearing from you.

Richard Black

## NEW RESEARCH INITIATIVES

DRC members and partners have been active these past six months in a number of research initiatives. Given below are details on some of them.

### *Decent Work and Migration*

In April this year, Tasneem Siddiqui completed a research report for the International Labour Office, Dhaka, titled 'Decent Work and International Migration from Bangladesh'.

### *EU Enlargement and Migration*

Ben Rogaly recently began work with the Centre for Migration Policy and Society (COMPAS) at Oxford University in an ESRC-funded project titled: 'Changing Status, Changing Lives? The Impact of the EU Enlargement on Low-Paid Migrant Workers in the UK'. Ben's brief is to research the agricultural sector. The project runs till June 2005.

### *Bangladeshi Workers in Middle Eastern Factories*

Tasneem Siddiqui (RMMRU), together with Jalaluddin Sikder and Hossainul Haque, have prepared a report titled 'Work Conditions of Bangladesh Migrants in Middle Eastern Factories' for Solidarity Center, Colombo.

### *IMISCOE*

The Sussex Centre for Migration Research (SCMR), which is responsible for coordinating two of the nine IMISCOE clusters, hosted two workshops on 4-5 June. The workshops brought together IMISCOE network members from across Europe to discuss their research on 'Causes and Consequences: Migration and Development' (Cluster A2 led by Richard Black), and on 'Gender, Age and Generations' (Cluster C8 led by Russell King). In preparation for the first IMISCOE conference, to be held 3-6 December 2004 in Coimbra, Portugal, the workshops provided an opportunity for IMISCOE researchers to present their own work and to discuss future research directions within their IMISCOE

cluster. More details are available on the IMISCOE website (<http://www.imiscoe.org>).

### *Forum for Safe Migration*

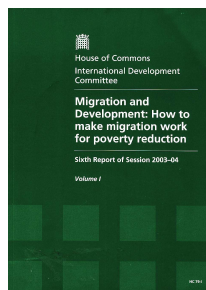
On June 26, the Forum for Safe Migration, an initiative of DRC partner, the Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit (RMMRU), University of Dhaka, was launched. The meeting, attended by government officials, NGOs and others, identified key areas for improved migration management. Tasneem Siddiqui of RMMRU stressed the need to look as much at the demand side of the migration of low-skilled workers, as at the supply side, which is often put down to poverty. Indeed, it is often a refusal to acknowledge demand and the consequent absence of formal channels for labour migration that leads to 'irregular' migration, it was highlighted.

### *Informal Trade and Movement of People, South Asia*

RMMRU has been awarded a Ford Foundation grant of \$170K over two years to research cross-border and informal trade and movement of people in South Asia.

### *Employment Practices Involving Temporary Workers, UK*

In July 2004, Ben Rogaly began work commissioned by the UK Ministry of Agriculture (now part of DEFRA – Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) on a study of employment practices involving temporary workers (including international and internal migrants to the UK) in the agricultural and horticultural sectors. This research was called for by the parliamentary select committee on Environment, Food and Rural Affairs report on gangmasters (intermediaries hiring migrant and other workers in gangs and contracting out to farms, packhouses and food processing units). Principal co-researchers on this project include Stephanie Barrientos (IDS, University of Sussex), Jennifer Frances (Cambridge University) and Samantha Williams of the market research company, Precision Prospecting. Sussex postgraduates Paula Tenaglia and Lindsey Napier have also been involved, and a report is due in January 2005.



Richard Black's role as special advisor to the House of Commons International Development Committee concluded with the publication of their report, 'Migration and Development: How to Make Migration Work for Poverty Reduction', in early July.

### *Migrant Worker Remittances*

The Asian Development Bank, Manila, commissioned Tasneem Siddiqui (RMMRU) to prepare a report titled 'Efficiency of Migrant Workers' Remittances: The Bangladesh Case', which is to be tabled at an inter-governmental meeting organised by the International Organisation for Migration in Manila in September 2004.

*Beyond Remittances: Migration and Development*  
Ron Skeldon has held a consultancy with the United Nations Population Division in New York to prepare the paper, 'Beyond Remittances: Other Aspects of the Migration-Development Nexus' to be published by the United Nations later this year.

### *Identities and Social Action*

Ben Rogaly put in a successful proposal to the ESRC programme on Identities and Social Action. The programme is due to start in April 2005. More details will be available in the next (March 05) newsletter.

### *Migration and Pro-Poor Policy in Africa*

Sussex undertook work for DFID on migration and pro-poor policy in Africa and produced a report in collaboration with the Southern African Migration Project (SAMP).

## DIARY OF CONFERENCES/EVENTS ATTENDED

### *May*

Richard Black and Saskia Gent attended an 'in-week' meeting of DFID staff from various offices in the Balkans in London in May 2004. Richard presented a seminar on sustainable return, and also provided a more general briefing about the work of the DRC.

Ilir Gedeshi (CESS, Albania) attended the annual World Bank conference titled 'Development Economics in Europe' in Brussels (10-11 May).

Ron Skeldon presented the keynote address at the fifth meeting of the International Society for the Study of the Chinese Overseas (ISSCO V) on New Chinese Migrants: Globalisation of Chinese Overseas Migration, at Elsinore in Denmark (10-13 May). Ron's speech was titled, 'The Chinese Overseas: The End of Exceptionalism'.

Ron and Ilir Gedeshi (CESS, Albania) took part in the meeting of the Expert Group on Development Issues on International Migration Regimes and Economic Development at Stockholm on 13 May.

### *June*

Ben Rogaly, together with Becky Taylor of Oxford Brookes University, has written a report on migrants working in West

Norfolk, which was launched at a migrant workers' seminar in Norfolk, UK, in June, organised by the Norfolk County Council, Norwich Race Equality Council and the Norfolk Constabulary.

Ron Skeldon reported on the DRC research on skilled migration at the Migration Policy Group's 'Transatlantic Dialogue Meeting: Migration and Foreign Relations' at Brussels on 9 June.

Ron was also discussant of keynote papers in the session on sending country perspectives at the 2nd Stockholm Workshop on Global Migration Regimes at the Institute of Futures Studies in Stockholm, 11-12 June

On 18 June, Ron attended the OECD-organised Annual Meeting of the Working Party on Migration in Paris.

### *July*

Ron Skeldon was panelist on the session on migration and development policy at the ESRC-sponsored Centre on Migration, Policy and Society (COMPAS) programme, 'The Changing Contexts of Migration' over 5-6 July at Oxford. A number of other DRC members also attended this event.

## DRC HIGHLIGHTS

### *Workshop on Children as Migrants*

This workshop, held at Sussex over March 31 and April 1, provided a forum for addressing in depth and up front the ethical, methodological and other challenges that uniquely distinguish child from adult migration. It explored issues relating to the anthropology and sociology of childhood, key analytical concepts such as autonomy and the intergenerational contract, issues of methodology and child friendly methods, as well as different ways of understanding, analysing and representing the information itself. Apart from researchers from Sussex and DRC partner countries, researchers and activists came from other academic institutions and NGOs, both from the UK and Europe.

### *Workshop on Temporary Workers Schemes in the UK*

This workshop, held on June 7 at Sussex, responded to a request to the DRC Director at the recent parliamentary inquiry into migration and development for advice on how recently expanded schemes to bring temporary workers to the UK could be made more beneficial for pro-poor development. The workshop brought together UK government and NGO actors.

### *Workshop on Potential and Opportunities for Migration of Nurses from Bangladesh*

On August 9, a workshop was held in Dhaka, under the aegis of DRC partner, RMMRU, to assess how best Bangladeshi nurses could access the burgeoning market for nurses across the globe. The workshop highlighted the need to standardise the nursing curriculum to conform with the requirements of potential receiving countries. While several policy initiatives were identified including adoption of a strategic plan for all stakeholders, improved coordination between concerned ministries and agencies, and rationalising the existing nursing programmes, the role of private sector initiatives were also emphasized.

## DRC PEOPLE

The DRC has made several new appointments over these last six months. Joining the DRC team in Sussex this October will be Deeptima Massey, Rozana Syeda and Juli Vullnetari. All three of them have been awarded DRC bursaries towards a DPhil degree.

Deeptima, who completed her MPhil from the Jawaharlal Nehru University in Delhi, India, and is currently working with the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies in Delhi, will be looking at the India component of the joint DRC project on social protection by and for temporary workers in India and Bangladesh, and she will be working with Ben Rogaly.

Rozana, who has experience working with the DRC partner, RMMRU, in Bangladesh, has just completed a Master's from the University of Oxford and will be supervised by Katy Gardner to work on livelihood, social protection and inter-generational equity in migration from Bangladesh to the Gulf.

Juli, who is completing her Master's in Social Research (specialising in Migration Studies) at the University of Sussex, will be working with Russell King on internal and international migration in Albania.

Christopher Parsons, currently completing his MSc in Economic Development at the University of Nottingham, has been appointed as Research Officer to work with Alan Winters, Terry Walmsley and Ron Skeldon on quantifying temporary mobility and the effects of GATS Mode 4 liberalisation.

Saskia Gent has been appointed Research Officer to act as Sussex coordinator of a workshop on sustainability of return to poor countries, to be held in Tirana in September 2004.

A first round of internships was advertised, and two interns, Claudia Natalie and Jess Skinner, have been appointed to start work at the centre in Sussex from September. More appointments at the DRC partner institutions (two at ISSER, Ghana, two at CESS, Albania and two at RMMRU, Bangladesh) are expected shortly. Claudia is currently completing her Master's in Development Studies from the University of East Anglia, Norwich, and will work for the first three months at Sussex, and the following three with the DRC partner, ISSER, in Ghana. Jess, who is completing her Master's in Globalisation, Ethnicity and Culture from Sussex, will work with the DRC for three months.

In May this year, Sussex welcomed Enkeleda Shehi from the Centre of Economic and Social Studies in Tirana, Albania. Enkeleda was in Sussex for a week to do a course in SPSS.

## UPCOMING DRC EVENTS

### DRC WORKSHOPS

**The Sustainability of Voluntary Assisted Return: The Experience of the Balkans**, 14 September 2004, Tirana, Albania

In 2002, a pilot study in Bosnia and Kosovo explored the sustainability of return migration of refugees and asylum-seekers based on a small, non-representative sample survey

of returnees. Building on this study, this workshop will bring together researchers and policy-makers working on the Balkans and elsewhere in Central and Eastern Europe to consider in more depth the sustainability of return of refugees and failed asylum-seekers in this region, and the applicability of the findings of the pilot study. In particular, the workshop will represent a vehicle for stimulating discussion between SCMR and IOM over their differing conceptualisations of the sustainability of return, and aim to identify appropriate existing surveys through which return to Albania can be monitored over time.

**Rights, Policy Frameworks and Definitions: Contemporary Challenges in Forced Migration**, 6-8 October 2004, Cairo, Egypt

This workshop is aimed both at agreeing field research plans in four different countries on forced migration, and to stimulate policy dialogue on forced migration in the Middle East. It will investigate the implications of current policies for the concept and predicament of forced migrants. Special emphasis will be placed on the methodological implications of current taxonomies of migration and the implications that these categories have on the ability of forced migrants to effectively claim their rights and their ability to influence policy frameworks.

The workshop will focus on:

- (a) re-evaluating the policy frameworks and categories that determine the status of refugees and oustees and what they are entitled to claim and have rights to;
- (b) evaluating how forced migrants (both refugees and 'development oustees') can themselves seek to minimise the costs and vulnerabilities of forced displacement; and
- (c) evaluating the value of a rights-based approaches in forced migration that seeks to award agency to forced migrants as makers and shapers of their lifeworlds.

**Migration of the Highly Skilled**, 15-16 December, Accra, Ghana

This workshop will bring together a small number of scholars and policy makers working on migration of the highly-skilled for formal and informal discussions of the phenomenon across different contexts in West Africa. After an introductory session on the volume and patterns of the migration of the highly-skilled (both globally and from Ghana), and issues of measurement, a series of further sessions will explore the impact of highly-skilled migration for both Ghana and the region as a whole. These sessions will look at issues such as the impact of mobility on training, on the labour market, and on poverty and well-being, and policies of retention, recruitment and return.

Other Workshops in the Pipeline:

- Workshop on *Post-Conflict Return*, January 2005, Sao Paolo

This workshop will form part of the bi-annual meeting of the International Association for the Study of Forced Migration

- Workshop on *Return of Professionals*, March 2005, Dhaka, Bangladesh

(Please watch this space for further details or check on [http://www.migrationdrc.org/news/drc\\_events.html](http://www.migrationdrc.org/news/drc_events.html).)



## DRC TRAINING EVENTS

The DRC's training programme includes both its own initiatives as well as inputs into training events organised by other bodies. The DRC's training activities were kickstarted by our partners at ISSER, Ghana, with John Anarfi contributing a half day training input to a meeting of DFID Social Development Advisors in Abuja in April 2004.

### Issues, Themes and Strategies for Development,

Organised by IMA International, 29 September, IDS, Sussex

The DRC will deliver a day's training on globalisation, migration and trade, with special focus on GATS Mode IV, which attempts to liberalise labour mobility, and the likely consequences of doing so. The target group will include a cross-section of policy makers and planners from both Southern and Northern governmental organisations.

### Migration and Development: Policy and Practice,

15 October 2004, London

This workshop is aimed at policy-makers across a range of UK government departments, and seeks to stimulate debate and discussion about the links between migration and development, while also highlighting potential training needs and policy interventions that would help to promote the government's development agenda. A recent parliamentary inquiry into migration and development has stressed that while migration is no panacea for the poor, it can deliver major benefits in terms of development and poverty reduction if properly managed.

By bringing together up to 40 individuals with different areas of expertise, the aim is to stimulate thinking on UK government approaches to migration and development, and to explore concrete policy options. The session will also seek to challenge some of the key 'migration myths' that permeate public debate.

### Session on Migration in Economic and Social Development

Organised by Ethical Events Ltd, 24 November, London

This is a two-week course which provides an introduction to the most important issues in the field of social and economic development, particularly as it affects the South. The session on migration that the DRC will conduct, to be attended mostly by NGOs and development practitioners, will focus on rural and urban poverty, rural exodus and the growth of megalopolis, migration as a historical reality, refugees and asylum seekers, issues surrounding brain drain, and the diaspora.

## RECENT DRC PUBLICATIONS

Several DRC working papers are now available online as PDF files at:  
[http://www.migrationdrc.org/publications/working\\_papers.html](http://www.migrationdrc.org/publications/working_papers.html).

To appear shortly are:

WP-T5: 'Conceptualising Children and Migration: A Case of Inter-generational Equity?' by Ann Whitehead, Ellen Kelly and Clare Waddington

WP-T6: 'The Development Impact of Temporary International Labour Migration on Southern Mediterranean Sending Countries: Contrasting Examples of Morocco and Egypt' by Mike Collyer

### Other Publications by DRC Members

ABRAR, Chowdhury and S N Azad 2004. *Coping with Displacement: Riverbank Erosion in North-West Bangladesh*, RDRS, Bangladesh and RMMRU.

BLACK, R. and White, H. (eds.) 2004. *Targeting Development: Critical Perspectives on the Millennium Development Goals*. London: Routledge.

RASHID, Syeda R. 2003. 'Vulnerabilities of Rohingya Women in Refugee Camps in Bangladesh'. *Social Science Review: Dhaka University Studies*, Part D, 20(2): 179-188.

SIDDIQUI, Tasneem 2004. *Institutionalising Diaspora Linkage: Bangladeshi Emigrants in UK and US*. Dhaka: Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment of GoB and IOM.

\_\_\_\_\_. 2004. 'Bangladesh: The Complexities and Management of Outmigration' in Pong-Sul Ahn (ed.) *Migrant Workers and Human Rights: Outmigration from South Asia*. New Delhi: ILO Sub-Regional Office for South Asia and Geneva: Bureau of Workers' Activities (ACTRAV), 19-57.

SKELDON, R. 2004. 'Migration, the Asian Financial Crisis and its Aftermath' in Joly, D (ed) *International Migration in the New Millennium*. Ashgate: Aldershot, 57-74.

\_\_\_\_\_. 2004. 'China: From Exceptional Case to Global Participant'. Washington: Migration Policy Institute. <http://www.migrationinformation.org>

\_\_\_\_\_. 2004. 'Principal Conclusions from the 10th Workshop on Migration and the Labour Market in Asia'. DELSA/ELSA/WP2(2004)7. Paris: OECD.

\_\_\_\_\_. 2004. 'Population and Human Development Issues in the Asia-Pacific Region' in *The Far East and Australasia 2004*. London: Europa Publications (24th edition), 8-14.

\_\_\_\_\_. 2004. 'The Global Challenge of HIV/AIDS' in Black, R and White, H (eds.) *Targeting Development: Critical Perspectives on the Millennium Development Goals*. London: Routledge, 256-72.

Szreter, S., SHOLKAMY, H. and Dharmalingam, A. (eds.) 2004. *Categories and Contexts: Anthropological and Historical Studies in Critical Demography*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.