



Migration and Development: Building Migration into Development Strategies
Royal Society, London, 28-29 April 2008

There is growing international interest in the linkages between migration and development, reflected in the work of organisations ranging from the Global Forum on International Migration and Development to village-level associations of migrants. Despite ambivalence about the arrival of international migrants within their own national borders, a number of European governments have sought to take the lead on linking migration and development concerns, arguing for better policies to facilitate the flow of remittances, limit the 'brain drain' of skilled professionals from poor countries, and stimulate 'co-development'. Some, such as the UK government in its March 2007 report, *Moving Out of Poverty: Making Migration Work Better for Poor People*, have also sought to extend this intervention to the movement of poor people within their countries of origin.

Yet, in spite of this rapidly developing policy interest, there remains a lack of practical policy measures that link clearly with broader national policies to promote development and reduce poverty. National poverty reduction strategies and country strategies often remain silent on migration, or even see mobility as an obstacle to sustainable development, that increases inequalities between the rich and the poor world, and between migrant communities and their neighbours. This is despite emerging evidence of the opportunities that migration can offer both to poor people, and to some poorer nations.

Since 2003, the Development Research Centre on Migration, Globalisation and Poverty has been working in Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe to explore ways in which the benefits of migration to poor people can be maximised, whilst minimizing the risks and costs. This conference aims to bring together the latest research evidence concerned with key themes that impact on poverty reduction and where there are policy levers to explore. It will include global-level analysis, and regional and national case studies, and will be of interest to those who design or influence national development or migration policies, strategies, and plans, within both donor and southern governments, as well as in international and national civil society.

Migration DRC
April 2008



Programme

Migration and Development: Building Migration into Development Strategies

28 April 2008 – DEVELOPMENT: WHY MIGRATION MATTERS?

The purpose of the first day will be to focus on issues of concern to development policy-makers, and to explore how and why attention to migration can enhance pro-poor policy outcomes.

10.00-10.30 Registration and Coffee

10.30-11.00 Welcome and Introduction

Richard Black, Director, Development Research Centre on Migration, Globalisation and Poverty, University of Sussex

11.00-12.30 Migration in Development Strategies

This first session will explore overall development planning, and ways in which migration issues can be better taken on board in country-level development strategies, such as PRSPs and CSPs.

Chair: Martijn Pluim, ICMPD

Panelists: Richard Black, Migration DRC, Sussex
Saida Tasneem Muna, Minister (Political) Bangladesh High Commission
Aderanti Adepoju, Human Resource Development Centre, Nigeria

Discussant: Wies Maas Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Netherlands

12.30-1.30 Lunch

1.30-3.00 Poverty and Livelihoods

The second session will focus on the issue of poverty and livelihoods, drawing on DRC research on internal migration and its positive and negative consequences both for migrants, and for families left behind.

Chair: Ben Rogaly

Panelists: Ghazala Mansuri, World Bank Group
Janet Seeley, UEA
Stephanie Barrientos, IDPM Manchester

Discussant: Priya Deshingkar, ODI

3.00-3.30 Coffee

3.30 – 5.00 Migration and Skills

The final session on this day will consider efforts of developing countries to promote the acquisition and use of skills and knowledge, and the ways in which migration of skilled people impacts on development strategies.

Chair: Peter Quartey, ISSER

Panelists: Ronald Skeldon, Migration DRC, Sussex
M. Omar Rahman, Centre for Health Population and Development,
Bangladesh
Binod Khadria, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India

Discussant: Michael Clemens, Center for Global Development, USA

5.00-5.30 **Wrap up**

5.30-6.30 **Reception**

6.30-8.00 **Buffet Dinner**

29 April 2008 – MIGRATION: HOW DEVELOPMENT MATTERS?

The purpose of the second day is to focus more directly on migration itself, and how it impacts on development in diverse ways.

9.20-9.30 ***Introduction***

9.30-11.00 ***Developing Country Options – Approaches to the Diaspora***

This third session turns to policy options open to developing country policy-makers to engage with international migrants, including ways to enhance flows of financial, human and social capital to poorer countries

Chair: Safi U. Ahmed, High Commissioner, Bangladesh High Commission

Panelists: Ilir Gadeshi, CESS, Albania
Tasneem Siddiqui, RMMRU, Bangladesh
S K Sasikumar, V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, India

Discussant: Claire Mercer, University of Leicester, UK

11.00-11.30 *Coffee*

11.30- 1.00 ***Independent Child Migrants***

The second session focuses on two particular and relatively under-researched groups of migrants – children who migrate independently of their parents and children who are left behind when parents migrate. It will review evidence of their experiences, reporting work by DRC researchers and others, and explore significant mismatches between these experiences and policy.

Chair: Stephen Kwankye, ISSER

Panelists: Ann Whitehead, Migration DRC
Andrea Rossi, University of Sussex
Guy Massart, Plan International

Discussant: Jo Boyden, Young Lives Project, University of Oxford

1.00-2.00 *Buffet lunch*

2.00-3.30 ***Migration Partnerships***

The final session looks at migration partnerships internationally, and how they can be exploited in the interest of pro-poor development.

Chair: Md. Abdul Matin Chowdhury, Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment, Bangladesh

Panelists: William Gois, Migrant Forum in Asia (Philippines)
Ray Juredini, FMRS at American University in Cairo, Egypt
CR Abrar, RMMRU, Bangladesh

Discussant: Piyasiri Wickramasekara, ILO, Geneva

3.30-4.00 *Concluding Remarks and Closing*