OUR WORK ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT
The work of the Development Centre explores the social and economic impacts of migration on migrants as well as on countries of origin and destination.

With 244 million individuals living outside their country of birth, international migrants represent 3% of the world’s population.

International migrants remitted USD 439 billion to developing countries in 2015.

Emigrants contribute to the development of their home countries by sending remittances, investing, and transferring knowledge and ideas.

Public policies have a significant impact on the way migration contributes to the development of both countries of origin and destination.

SDG 10.7 aims to “facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people”.

In the wake of an evolving migration landscape, immigrants are increasingly contributing to the economies of developing countries, where their integration presents unique challenges.

51% of international migrants born in the South live in another country in the South.
THE FOUR PILLARS OF OUR WORK

Drivers and impacts of migration
What are the forces and dynamics that propel people to move? Our work investigates the drivers of migration and explores the manifold aspects of the significant impact that migration has on development.

South-South migration
How do South-South migrants differ from migration to OECD countries? The purpose of our work is to help policy makers create distinct policies that address South-South migration and are in line with comprehensive development strategies.

Migration and gender
Our work seeks to gain a deeper understanding of the gender dimension of migration and the associated policy implications.

Public policies, migration and development
Public policies play a key role in maximising the benefits and minimising the costs of migration. We explore the value of incorporating migration into development strategies while ensuring policy coherence for development.
OUR PARTNER COUNTRIES
BY PROJECT

- IPPMD
- ECLM
- KNOMAD

* Development Centre’s members
The European Commission and the OECD Development Centre have been implementing a project on the Interrelations between Public Policies, Migration and Development (IPPMD) since 2013. This large and empirically based project is being conducted in ten developing countries with significant emigration or immigration rates – Armenia, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, the Dominican Republic, Georgia, Haiti, Morocco and the Philippines. The project aims to provide policy makers with evidence of the untapped development potential embodied in migration and the role of a range of sectoral policies in realising this potential.

The IPPMD team designed a conceptual framework that links four dimensions of migration (emigration, remittances, return migration and immigration) and five key policy sectors: the labour market, agriculture, education, investment and financial services, and social protection and health.
The methodological framework developed by the OECD Development Centre and the data collected by its local research partners together offer an opportunity to fill significant knowledge gaps in the field of international migration and development. The IPPMD sheds light on how the two-way relationship between migration and public policies affects development.

Quantitative and qualitative tools were used in all countries over the same period of time (2014-15), allowing for comparisons across countries. The combined tools create a large new body of primary data about the ten partner countries.

- A **household survey** covered on average around 2 000 households in each country. Overall, more than 20 500 households were interviewed for the project.

- A **community survey** reached a total of around 550 local authorities and community leaders in the areas where the household questionnaire was administered.

- **Qualitative in-depth stakeholder interviews** were held with representatives of national and local authorities, academia, international organisations, civil society and the private sector. A total of 376 interviews were carried out across the ten countries.

The results of the IPPMD empirical work confirm that, although migration can contribute to development both in origin and destination countries, the full potential of migration remains to be exploited in most partner countries. Even though migration can have adverse effects on the economic and social fabric of migrant-sending and receiving countries, it offers many opportunities for developing countries in the long run.
ASSESSING THE ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF LABOUR MIGRATION IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AS COUNTRIES OF DESTINATION (ECLM)

In 2014, the OECD Development Centre, in collaboration with the International Labour Organization (ILO), initiated a three-and-a-half-year project, co-financed by the EU Thematic Programme on Migration and Asylum. The project assesses the economic contribution of labour migration in developing countries as countries of destination. It seeks to arrive at a reliable and evidence-based understanding of how immigration affects the economies of a number of low- and middle-income countries, focusing in particular on the:

- contribution of immigrants to GDP and growth
- impact of immigrants on the labour market and the productive sector
- impact of immigrants on public finances and social services.

The project is being undertaken in ten developing countries: Argentina, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, the Dominican Republic, Ghana, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal, Rwanda, South Africa and Thailand.

Objectives

- Develop a methodology for assessing the economic impacts of immigration in developing countries in their role as countries of destination, in close co-operation with national authorities, academia and civil society.
- Apply the methodology in and with ten partner countries to measure the contribution of labour migration to their economies.
- Gather data and subsequently draw conclusions about the economic contribution of labour immigration in developing countries.
- Propose policy recommendations and explore the relevance of the findings for other developing countries.
- Disseminate the results of the project to inform EU development co-operation instruments and dialogues as well as global debates and initiatives in the field of migration and development.
**Added value**

- The ECLM project assesses the **economic importance of labour immigration** in developing countries where immigrants represent a comparatively large share of the workforce.

- It addresses the economic contribution of labour migration in **South-South contexts**. This aspect has been scarcely examined and often is poorly taken into account in policy making.

- It promotes **synergies and co-operation** with public institutions, national statistical and data collection offices, and academia and civil society actors in participating partner countries, particularly with those involved in economic, labour and employment affairs.
KNOMAD THEMATIC WORKING GROUP ON POLICY AND INSTITUTIONAL COHERENCE

The Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development (KNOMAD) was established in 2013 as a platform for synthesising and generating knowledge and policy expertise around migration and development issues. Within the KNOMAD framework, the Thematic Working Group (TWG) on Policy and Institutional Coherence – chaired by the OECD Development Centre and the United Nations Development Programme – seeks to address the need for improved policy and institutional coherence for migration and development (PICMD) in both countries of origin and destination.

Objectives

- Establish a user-friendly tool for measuring PICMD that helps identify good practices for promoting policy coherence and managing trade-offs.
- Examine the benefits of PICMD and the costs of incoherence.
- Help policy makers consider the interactions between migration policies and public policies in sectors relevant to migration and development, such as health, education and trade.

Added value

- The TWG is bringing the broader community of migration and development practitioners and experts closer to defining, measuring and promoting PICMD.
- It is building a dynamic network of engaged PICMD experts across the partner countries.

One outcome of the TWG’s work is the KNOMAD Working Paper 15, authored by Amy Hong and Anna Knoll on “Strengthening the Migration-Development Nexus through Improved Policy and Institutional Coherence” (2016).
http://bit.ly/2gg6d6m
OPERATIONALISING A DASHBOARD OF INDICATORS

The TWG is leading the operationalisation of a dashboard of indicators for measuring policy and institutional coherence for migration and development (PICMD) in 17 pilot countries: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cabo Verde, Ghana, Germany, Jamaica, Kenya, Moldova, Morocco, the Netherlands, the Philippines, Portugal, Senegal, Serbia, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland and Trinidad and Tobago.

This exercise aims to help governments take stock of their existing policies and institutional arrangements in sectors related to migration and development. It also helps governments consider what policies and institutions may help maximise the positive impact of migration on development.

The preliminary results of the dashboard exercise were presented at the 8th Global Forum on Migration and Development in October 2015 in Istanbul.

The dashboard helps policy makers assess their policies and institutions in relation to five core dimensions: institutional coherence, reducing the costs of migration, protecting the rights of migrants and their families, integration and re-integration, and enhancing the development impact of migration. By helping policy makers identify critical policy areas and institutional mechanisms for fostering PICMD, the dashboard is also a useful tool for integrating migration into countries’ strategies for realising the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
DEVELOPMENT CENTRE’S DIALOGUE ON MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The OECD Development Centre will launch a new initiative in 2017 to facilitate a discussion on some of the main policy challenges of migration and development.

The Development Centre’s Dialogue on Migration and Development intends to welcome member countries to:

- discuss the main findings and policy implications of the work done at the Centre on migration and development;
- exchange policy experiences to maximise the positive impact of migration on development, both in the countries of origin and destination;
- identify potential areas of co-operation between participating countries in the field of migration and development.

The OECD Development Centre is currently working with 31 partner countries on projects related to migration and development (IPPMD, ECLM and KNOMAD). Among these countries, 15 are members of the Centre: Argentina, Cabo Verde, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, the Dominican Republic, Germany, Ghana, Morocco, the Netherlands, Portugal, Senegal, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland and Thailand.

The Dialogue on Migration and Development will initiate discussions amongst the 15 countries that are directly involved in the Centre’s work on migration and development. However, all Development Centre member countries are invited to be part of the Dialogue and share their experiences. Likewise, some non-member countries that are partners of the Centre on migration-related activities could be invited to join the discussions.
Interrelations between Public Policies, Migration and Development

Interrelations between Public Policies, Migration and Development is the result of a project carried out by the European Commission and the OECD Development Centre in ten partner countries: Armenia, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, the Dominican Republic, Georgia, Haiti, Morocco and the Philippines. The project provides policy makers with evidence on the way migration influences specific sectors – labour market, agriculture, education, investment and financial services, and social protection and health – and, in turn, how sectoral policies affect migration. The report addresses four dimensions of the migration cycle: emigration, remittances, return and immigration.

The results of the empirical work confirm that migration contributes to the development of countries of origin and destination. However, the full potential of migration is not yet fully exploited by the ten partner countries. One explanation is that policy makers do not sufficiently take migration into account in their respective policy areas. To enhance the contribution of migration to development, home and host countries need to adopt a more coherent policy agenda to better integrate migration into development strategies, improve co-ordination mechanisms and strengthen international co-operation.

Ten reports analyse the Interrelations between Public Policies, Migration and Development in each partner country.
Perspectives on Global Development 2017 presents an overview of the shifting of economic activity to developing countries and examines whether this shift has led to an increase in international migration towards developing countries.

The report focuses on migration data between 1995 and 2015, and uses a new three-way categorisation of countries. It describes the recent evolution of migration overall as well as by groups of countries according to their growth performance. It analyses what drives these trends and also studies the special case of refugees. It examines the impact of migration and sectoral policies on migration in developing countries of origin and of destination, and studies the impact of migration on these countries.

The report develops four illustrative future scenarios of migration in 2030 and recommends policies that can help improve the benefits of migration for origin and destination countries, as well as for migrants. Better data, more research and evidence-based policy action are needed to prepare for expected increases in the number of migrants from developing countries. More needs to be done to foster sustainable development and to avoid situations that lead to refugee spikes.
OUR PUBLICATIONS ON MIGRATION

Harnessing Knowledge on the Migration of Highly Skilled Women

This report serves as a useful point of departure for identifying and addressing research gaps related to the challenges and opportunities arising from the migration of highly skilled women.

Tackling the Policy Challenges of Migration – Regulation, Integration, Development

This book contributes to the current debate on international migration by focusing on three elements in the standard policy dialogue: the regulation of migration flows, the integration of immigrants, in particular in developing countries, and the impact of labour mobility on development.
The OECD Development Centre was established in 1962 as an independent platform for knowledge sharing and policy dialogue between OECD member countries and developing economies, allowing these countries to interact on an equal footing. Today, 27 OECD countries and 24 non-OECD countries are members of the Centre. The Centre draws attention to emerging systemic issues likely to have an impact on global development and more specific development challenges faced by today’s developing and emerging economies. It uses evidence-based analysis and strategic partnerships to help countries formulate innovative policy solutions to the global challenges of development.

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