Sense of Urgency

Governance

hasn’t kept pace with

Migration Realities
Migration challenges facing governments

- Place of labour migration policy & programs in migration management
Migration challenges facing governments

• What is integration and how is it best managed?
Migration challenges facing governments

• How can all different facets of return migration be best addressed?
Migration challenges facing governments

• How can facilitation of movement be achieved ...

...while addressing security concerns?
Nature and value of migration

Common understanding

- Position in societies
- Place in transactions we conduct
- Manner in which it affects our lives

Migrant as a human being at the center
Dialogue on Migration

Invite reflection on:

- Costs
- Benefits
- Opportunities
- Challenges
## Migration: assessing impact

A Balance Sheet?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>+</th>
<th>-</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Alleviates poverty</td>
<td>- Social tension</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Meets labour market needs</td>
<td>- Public service costs</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Relieves unemployment</td>
<td>- Pressure on wages</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Increases productivity</td>
<td>- Brain drain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Remittances</td>
<td>- Irregular migration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Return of skills &amp; investments</td>
<td>- Security risks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Cultural diversity</td>
<td>- Integration costs</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Social dynamism, innovation</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Drawbacks

Countries of destination

Strain on infrastructure & public services
High integration costs
Social instability
Job displacement

Countries of origin

Brain drain
Reliance on emigration delays structural reforms
Adverse effect on development
Effects on families & communities

Migrants
Exploitation & uncertainty
Failure
Rejection & isolation
Benefits

Countries of destination

Meets domestic labour needs

Increases productivity & occupational mobility

Reduces inflationary pressures

Economic growth

Cultural diversity & vibrancy

Countries of origin

Alleviates poverty

Reduces unemployment

Access to remittances & skills

Economic and social links with host country

Investments

Migrants

Higher wages

Professional opportunities

Skills and knowledge acquisition

Empowerment of women
Migration: relations

Complex inter-relations with other policy domains

International development

Demography

World trade

National growth & prosperity

Migration

International security

Human rights

National identity

Public health

World trade

International security

Demography

National growth & prosperity

International development

Migration

National identity

Public health

Civil rights
Preconceived notions

Closer look at migration « myths »

Immigration depresses wages and takes away jobs

• Loss is 0.3% of medium hourly wages. From $13/hour to $12.6*
• More visible for certain limited categories of workers
• Local workers in same job categories as migrants more likely to lose
• Skilled migration generates jobs

Immigration raises social welfare costs

• Depends on age, skill level, social & ethnic background
• Migrants contribute to welfare systems
• Less dependant on welfare in certain countries
• Most self-supporting

*National Research Council study (1997)
Preconceived notions

Closer look at migration « myths »

Brain drain is net loss

• Out-migration can relieve unemployment pressure

• Development of business linkages between countries of origin and destination;

• Remittances

• Skills acquisition
Preconceived notions

Divergent/Opposed

Interests of countries of origin

Interests of countries of destination

Interests of individual migrants
Preconceived notions

Convergence

Interests of countries of origin

Interests of countries of destination

Interests of individual migrants
Avenues for discussion

The management dimension

Economic

Socio-cultural

Human

Challenges → Opportunities
Policy approaches

- Maximize benefits minimize risks & costs
- Maximize contributions of migrants to society
- Increase effectiveness of policy making
International Dialogue on Migration