

AFRICA REGIONAL OVERVIEW

Importance of intraregional migration

Despite a common perception in the media that Europe risks being swamped by a flood of migrants from Africa, the percentage of Africans migrating abroad remains relatively modest. According to official data, some 30 million Africans (about 3% of the population) have migrated internationally (World Bank, 2011b). About two-thirds of migrants from sub-Saharan Africa move to other countries in the region. Only 4 per cent of all migrants living in OECD countries come from sub-Saharan Africa (ibid.). In 2010, 64 per cent of the sub-Saharan migration was intraregional and employment-related, directed mainly towards countries such as Burkina Faso, Kenya and South Africa. Migration flows in West Africa are perhaps the best example of this intraregional inclination, with more than 70 per cent of movements within the subregion; in Southern and East Africa, interregional movements account for 66 and 52 per cent of flows, respectively (World Bank, 2011c; IOM, 2011b). By contrast, the large majority (90%) of migrants from North Africa travel to countries outside the region (World Bank, 2011c). Overall, about half of Africa's migrants live outside the continent, the majority of them in Europe.

Remittances back to pre-crisis levels

Sub-Saharan Africa has, perhaps, been less affected by the global economic crisis than other developing regions in the world. After a modest reduction in remittance flows (by USD 0.8 billion, to USD 20.6 billion in 2009) flows increased again in 2010 (up to USD 21.5 billion), reaching the level recorded in 2008. A recent continent-wide household survey revealed that, in 2010, an estimated 30 million Africans living abroad sent over USD 40 billion back home, representing 2.6 per cent of Africa's GDP and four times the total amount recorded in 1990 (World Bank, 2011c). Remittances are the African continent's largest source of net foreign inflows after foreign direct investment (FDI). The cost of sending remittances to sub-Saharan Africa is high, averaging almost 10 per cent of a typical USD 200 transaction, compared with less than 8 per cent for most other developing regions (ibid.).

Ongoing interest in regional consultative processes on migration (RCPs)

Governments in key regions of Africa renewed their dialogue on migration in 2010, within the framework of informal regional processes on migration. As noted earlier, the year 2010 saw the first ministerial meeting of the Migration Dialogue for Southern Africa (MIDSA) process in 10 years and, in Eastern Africa, the IGAD-RCP held its first meeting as an RCP to discuss and agree a plan of action. Furthermore, interest in the establishment of new RCPs advanced significantly among Central African countries, which decided to constitute an RCP for the region, involving countries that were already a part of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS).

East African Common Market entered into force

On 20 November 2009, Heads of State from the East African Community (EAC) signed a Protocol establishing the East African Common Market, which entered into force on 1 July 2010. This protocol "provides for 'Four Freedoms' – namely, the free movement of goods,

labour, services and capital”²⁹ – in the subregion. Such free movement regimes provide a basis for well-managed south–south migration, which, in turn, can contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).³⁰ While African countries have created half a dozen free trade areas, designed to facilitate free trade and freedom of movement since the late 1960s, outcomes are still unknown (UC Davis, 2010a).

Elections and impasse in Côte d’Ivoire

The November 2010 presidential election in Côte d’Ivoire resulted in a violent political standoff as the incumbent President Laurent Gbagbo refused to hand over power to his political rival Alassane Ouattara, despite the evidence from Ivorian Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) that the latter had won the election. The election standoff came to an end in April 2011, when troops loyal to internationally recognized President Alassane Ouattara arrested former president Gbagbo, but the four months of intense fighting between forces loyal to the two sides had resulted in hundreds of deaths and extensive displacement within and from the country. As of 25 March 2011, the violence had resulted in over 462 deaths.³¹ On 15 April 2011, OCHA estimated that around 1 million people had been displaced within the country, while UNHCR reported that more than 147,000 people had fled to Liberia (USAID, 2011).

Referendum in South Sudan

On 9 January 2011, the referendum on the self-determination of the status of Southern Sudan revealed overwhelming support in favour of secession (effective on 9 July 2011). While the voting process was orderly and peaceful,³² in the run-up as well as in the post-referendum period, the movement of massive numbers of Southern Sudanese living in the north (estimated at 1.5–2 million) towards the south has been recorded. The majority of them were previously working in Khartoum and other economic centres in the north and decided to return home, either because of fear of reprisals or in anticipation of better economic prospects. More than 120,000 Southern Sudanese had returned prior to the referendum – at the rate of an average of 2,000 people per day since mid-December 2010. After the referendum, clashes in the provinces along the disputed border between Northern and Southern Sudan (particularly in the oil-rich Abyei Province and in South Kordofan) displaced some 140,000 people and increased the risk of renewed hostilities (UNHCR, 2011c).

²⁹ See: http://www.eac.int/advisory-opinions/doc_view/362-eac-common-market-protocol.raw?tmpl=component (accessed on 24 June 2011).

³⁰ See: <http://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/news/south-south-migration-can-contribute-achieving-millennium-development-goals> (accessed on 19 June 2011).

³¹ Reliefweb, Côte d’Ivoire: Electoral Violence and Displacement (as of 25 March 2011). See: <http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/28874903C1F55CBA8525785E0063E551-SS-2010-CIV-0324.pdf> (accessed on 19 June 2011).

³² IOM’s Out-of-Country Registration and Voting Programme enabled 60,000 registered voters in eight different countries to participate in the referendum. For more information, see: <http://www.southernsudancv.org/> (accessed on 4 July 2011).

AMERICAS REGIONAL OVERVIEW

Over 1 million displaced due to Haiti's earthquake at the beginning of 2010, marking the start of complex humanitarian responses

As mentioned at the beginning of this chapter, the year 2010 began inauspiciously for the Americas. On 12 January, the magnitude 7.0 earthquake that devastated Haiti killed more than 300,000 people and displaced around 1.5 million. As of May 2011, IOM found that 680,000 people were still living in informal sites in Port-au-Prince and the provinces, facing particular vulnerability as a consequence of the annual rainy/hurricane season and a cholera epidemic (IOM, 2011c). Although this represents a significant decrease (56%) compared to the estimated 1,500,000 internally displaced people in July 2010, it still suggests that much remains to be done in terms of humanitarian assistance and sustainable reconstruction and recovery. Indeed, displacement induced by natural disasters is often temporary. Nonetheless, return movements can take time as the appropriate provisions need to be made, including access to land and property. Since just after the earthquake, IOM has been coordinating and managing displaced persons in camps, and more than 1.3 million people have been registered and referred to services and programmes, including those relating to reconstruction and return.³³ As part of the international community's humanitarian assistance efforts, IOM played a major role in the provision of shelter and acted as the major consignee for non-food items distributed to affected families. The information collected from camps by IOM is also used in the formulation of reconstruction and recovery policies. Furthermore, IOM is involved in land and property issues (one of the main obstacles to reconstruction), community-based infrastructure and violence reduction through the US-funded PREPEP Programme (Programme de Revitalisation et de Promotion de l'Entente et de la Paix), as well as community shelter assistance programmes.

United States still the top country of destination, with Hispanic population nearly doubling over last decade

In 2010, the United States hosted around 43 million foreign nationals, representing 13.5 per cent of the total US population (World Bank, 2011b). Results of the 2010 Census indicate that Hispanics³⁴ made up 16.3 per cent of the total population and that the population increased from 35.3 million in 2000 to 50.5 million in 2010 (Pew Hispanic Center, 2011a). About 11.6 million immigrants came from Mexico, which means that almost one out of three immigrants originated in Mexico (ibid.).

The estimated number of irregular migrants in 2010 remained at about 11.2 million, after a two-year decline from a peak of 12 million in 2007, according to the Pew Hispanic Center (2011b). It is likely that this decline is linked to the overall decline in migration from Mexico since 2007, due to the economic crisis. Although the economy has begun to recover, this has not yet been reflected in terms of employment.

³³ IOM Haiti, <http://www.iomhaiti.com/page.php?id=28>, accessed on May 31, 2011.

³⁴ Please note that "Hispanics" include both foreign-born and those of Hispanic origin born in the United States.

Remittances sent from the United States remained relatively stable during the economic crisis, compared to the impact on other economic factors in 2010: total remittances sent back to Latin American and Caribbean countries were about USD 58.1 billion, which represented an increase of 1.2 billion when compared to 2009 (World Bank, 2011b). Remittances to Latin America are expected to grow further, given the initial stabilization and revitalized growth of the US economy indicated at the beginning of 2011 – for example, in the first quarter of 2011, the GDP grew by 1.8 per cent; the unemployment rate declined by 0.6 per cent (down to 9%) and is expected to further decrease to 7.8 per cent in 2012. While remittances declined sharply in 2009 and remained almost flat in 2010, the first quarter of 2011 recorded an increase of about 7 per cent compared to previous years (World Bank, 2011a).

Immigration reform stalled in United States, while controversy ensued over state-level immigration laws

Highly politicized immigration debates led to further stalling of comprehensive immigration reform in the United States. Although anti-immigrant sentiments are not a new phenomenon, particularly with regard to irregular migration, they seem to be amplified during economic slowdowns, particularly when unemployment rates are high among the native population. The DREAM Act,³⁵ put forth on the US Congress agenda in September 2010, which would have legalized certain categories of young migrants. This Act, however, lacked bipartisan support and had not passed the Senate by the end of the year. However, the urgent need for immigration reform and the US Government's determination to advocate for the passage of the DREAM Act was reaffirmed by President Obama in May 2011 in El Paso, Texas, who stressing that, the large flows of immigrants into the United States throughout history have made the country "stronger and more prosperous". He also pointed out that periods of economic decline are often met with fear and resentment towards newcomers, but underlined his conviction that immigration remains good for the US economy and that there is a need to attract skilled workers.³⁶

At the state level, controversial legislation in Arizona made headlines in April 2010 with the passage of Senate Bill 1070. Several provisions – such as those authorizing law enforcement authorities to question a person's immigration status if there is reasonable suspicion of irregularity, and requiring immigrants to carry proof of status – were strongly criticized and challenged in court. They were temporarily suspended by the US District Court in July. In the meantime, however, 23 other American states introduced similar restrictive provisions on immigration, which is a reflection of local populations' perceptions of immigration (MPI, 2010b).³⁷

At federal and provincial levels, Canadian immigration reforms focused primarily on students and the highly skilled

As a consequence of the global economic crisis, the Canadian Government initially reduced the size of its skilled-migrant programme. However, in 2010, with the situation on the labour market improving, labour visa arrangements were fine-tuned to ensure that the country would

³⁵ The purpose of the Development, Relief and Education of Alien Minors Act, also called the DREAM Act, is to provide qualifying individuals with an opportunity to enlist in the military or to go to college as a pathway to citizenship, which they would not otherwise have without this legislation. Supporters of the DREAM Act believe it is vital for the people who would benefit from it and also for the United States as a whole. It would give undocumented immigrant students a chance to contribute back to the country and a chance to utilize their hard-earned education and talents. See: <http://www.nilc.org/immlawpolicy/dream/index.htm#facts> (accessed on 19 June 2011).

³⁶ The entire speech can be accessed at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2011/05/10/remarks-president-comprehensive-immigration-reform-el-paso-texas> (accessed on 19 June 2011).

³⁷ For more details, see: <http://www.migrationinformation.org/Feature/display.cfm?id=809> (accessed on 19 June 2011).

have access to the precise mix of skills needed to contribute to economic recovery. Changes to immigration laws throughout the country in 2010 resulted in a combination of restrictions in certain foreign labour programmes and other measures to increase highly skilled immigration levels. At the federal level, reforms were made to the Federal Skilled Worker Program in order to reduce application backlogs and place greater emphasis on economic recovery. The biggest change was the creation of a cap system, which established a processing limit of 20,000 applications, with a maximum of 1,000 per occupation. This affected mainly those who fulfilled the requirements but lacked a formal job offer from a Canadian employer (Citizenship and Immigration Canada, 2010). Occupations listed under this programme were also reduced from 38 to 29. In four provinces (British Columbia, Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec), under Canada's Provincial Nominee Programs, restriction levels were eased for students who have completed their studies in Canada, thereby facilitating access to residency (ibid.).

New policy responses needed as migration patterns shift within Latin America

Intraregional mobility in Latin America is not a new phenomenon, although it is becoming increasingly important. New migration patterns are emerging in Latin America, with new migrants coming from outside the region – particularly from other Southern countries. Notably, flows include sub-Saharan Africans travelling to Brazil by boat and then moving to other South American countries, with some migrants managing to travel by sea directly to Argentina, Chile or Uruguay (*The Miami Herald*, 2010; Reuters, 2009; United Nations Multimedia, 2009). These migrants mainly come from Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal, Somalia and Zimbabwe, and their presence has become more visible (although their numbers are significantly smaller) in Argentina and neighbouring countries (such as Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay and Uruguay) in the past few years (ibid). Migrants also come from South Asia as, for example, in Ecuador, where the numbers of Bangladeshi, Pakistani, Nepali and Sri Lankan migrants have increased over the last three years by 300 per cent (BBC, 2010). Although there have been some policy responses to facilitate migrants' access to legal residence and to provide protection of their social and human rights (including the right to access health care and education), discrimination and exclusion are often reported. In a few cases, the increased presence of migrants created social tensions, which, in turn, sparked anti-immigrant sentiments. In Argentina in 2010, for instance, a group of migrants (mainly from Bolivia, Paraguay and Peru) were attacked by groups of native Argentines after homeless migrants occupied a local park in Buenos Aires protesting poor housing conditions.³⁸ Irregular migration is also an inevitable aspect of increased immigration flows. In 2010, in an effort to respond to high irregular migration levels, Panama decided to grant an amnesty to any irregular immigrant who had resided in Panama for more than two years.³⁹ It is estimated that around 20,000 irregular migrants benefited from this regularization programme.

Intraregional migration, migration and development, and economic recovery: Key topics in regional processes and forums in Latin America

Regional mechanisms such as MERCOSUR.⁴⁰ (Mercado Común del Sur), CAN (Comunidad Andina de Naciones) and UNASUR (Unión de Naciones Suramericanas) recognize the

³⁸ For more details, see: http://www.lemonde.fr/ameriques/article/2010/12/12/en-argentine-la-police-intervient-apres-cinq-jours-d-emeutes-anti-immigres_1452404_3222.html (accessed on 19 June 2011).

³⁹ See: http://en.centralamericadata.com/en/article/home/Panama_Concedes_Immigration_Amnesty (accessed on 19 June 2011).

⁴⁰ Further information on MERCOSUR is available at: www.mercosur.int



importance of free movements of persons, as well as trade and economic cooperation, within South America. MERCOSUR even promotes the regularization of irregular migrants, considering enhanced mobility to be a positive factor in increased regional integration. On 11 March 2011, the Constituency Treaty of UNASUR entered into force, making free movement within South America region a closer reality (UNASUR, 2011).

In other major forums, such as the Ibero-American Forum on Migration and Development, government officials from the 22 Portuguese- and Spanish-speaking countries that are members of the Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB), met in San Salvador in 2010 to discuss the financial crisis and its continued impact on migrants and their families in 2010 (IOM, 2010d). Other key topics included strategies to harness the development potential of migration and to promote and uphold the human rights of migrants, regardless of their immigration status. In 2011, the annual ministerial meeting was held in the Dominican Republic under the theme Migration and Labour: Co-responsibility among the States. Similar thematic areas were also reflected in the convening of the Regional Conference on Migration (RCM) (also known as the Puebla Process) in May 2010 in Mexico. The meeting marked the fifteenth anniversary of the Puebla Process, at which ministers reaffirmed their commitment to the process and strengthened regional cooperation on migration. In addition, the meeting focused specifically on migration's impact on the family, and recognizing the challenges posed by extraregional immigration (RCM, 2010).

ASIA REGIONAL OVERVIEW

Millions of people displaced by several natural disasters that hit the Asian region in 2010

Asia was hit in 2010 by several natural disasters that affected millions of people and displaced many of them internally. Asian countries dominated the Natural Risk Index 2010,⁴¹ with Bangladesh and Indonesia as the top two at “extreme risk” of natural disasters. Meanwhile, other Asian countries such as Afghanistan, China, India, Myanmar, Pakistan, the Philippines, and Sri Lanka were among the top 15 countries affected (IRIN, 2010). In terms of numbers affected⁴² by extreme weather events, 249.2 million were affected in 2010, with the overwhelming majority affected by floods (176.6 million), followed by droughts (66.5 million) and storms (6.1 million) (EM-DAT/CRED, 2011). Between July and August 2010, Pakistan was faced with severe floods that displaced over 11 million people.⁴³ Further east, flooding in China displaced several million people. Storms primarily impacted Bangladesh, China and the Philippines (ibid.).

Asia still a region of high emigration and among the top remittance receivers globally

At the beginning of the global economic crisis, several forecasts predicted significant reductions in migration and remittance flows from and within Asia. However, available evidence indicates similarities with what happened following the previous Asian financial crisis – relatively short-term effects with uneven, but overall moderate, impacts on countries across the region (IOM, 2009). This was partly due to increasing oil prices (which more than doubled between early 2009 and the first quarter in 2011) and the recovering economies in oil-exporting countries (destination countries of a significant share of Asian migrants), which maintained remittance flows to South-East Asian countries (World Bank, 2011a).

In 2010, 5 out of the top 10 emigration countries were in the Asian region – notably, Bangladesh, China, India, Pakistan and the Philippines (World Bank, 2011b). In 2010, migration within the region to countries or regions such as Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong SAR and the Republic of Korea represented an important migration stream. A significant number of migrant workers from Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nepal and the Philippines migrated to Malaysia and Singapore, while Thailand was a major destination for migrants from neighbouring Cambodia, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic and Myanmar (IOM, forthcoming). However, temporary labour migration towards the Middle East and, in particular, the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries represented the dominant flow. The latest data from 2009 suggest that approximately 97 per cent of migrants from India and Pakistan and 87 per cent of migrants from Sri Lanka migrated to GCC countries (ibid.).

⁴¹ The Natural Risk Index was created by Maplecroft – a global risk analysis agency, based in the United Kingdom, specializing in social, political and environmental risk assessment. See www.maplecroft.com

⁴² Please note that *affected* includes displacement but also homeless and evacuated. The countries/regions considered are: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Hong Kong SAR, India, Indonesia, Japan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Macau – China, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan Province of China, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Viet Nam. The events considered are complex disasters, drought, earthquakes, floods and storms. See: <http://www.emdat.be>

⁴³ See IOM Briefing Notes: Pakistan six months on from the floods. Available at: <http://www.iom.int/jahia/Jahia/media/press-briefing-notes/pbnAS/cache/offonce/lang/en/pid/113?entryId=29083> (accessed on 4 July 2011).

Growing population rates and high rates of unemployment in several countries can be a source of pressure on the local economy, and emigration is often seen as part of a viable solution. In the case of Viet Nam, for example, the largest share of the population is aged 15–19 years and its integration into the national labour market represents a serious challenge for the Vietnamese Government.⁴⁴ Providing education and training to this young workforce could facilitate employment opportunities abroad, thereby alleviating pressure on the local economy. Similarly, countries such as Bangladesh, with its capital Dhaka (one of the fastest growing cities in the world) expected to host over 20 million people by 2025, are likely to remain among the top emigration countries of the world (UN-Habitat, 2009).

Despite a temporary slowdown in some countries, as a result of the economic crisis in 2008–2009, remittances continued to play an important role in fostering development in the region, with total remittances estimated to have reached USD 170 billion in 2010. In the first quarter of 2011, Bangladesh and Pakistan recorded an increase of 11.4 per cent and 35 per cent, respectively, although nationals of both countries were highly affected by the crisis in the MENA region. Not surprisingly, the top emigration countries were also among the top remittance-receiving countries (with China and India, for example, receiving USD 53.1 billion and USD 51.3 billion, respectively) (World Bank, 2011a). However, in terms of percentage of GDP, remittance flows to Bangladesh and the Philippines represented a higher share at 12 per cent each, while the percentages for China and India was significantly smaller (World Bank, 2011b).

Measures have also been taken by governments to facilitate the sending of remittances. In the case of Bangladesh, which received USD 11.1 billion in remittances in 2010, the government approved the creation of an Expatriate Welfare Bank in May 2010 to facilitate low-cost remittance-sending to Bangladesh. The bank also provides loans at a maximum interest rate of 10 per cent to Bangladeshis after they obtain an employment contract abroad (UC Davis, 2010c).

Governments across Asia take steps to increase migrant welfare, support and protection

Protection of migrant workers and increased support to migrant workers abroad were clearly on the political agenda in 2010 as governments continued to take steps to improve migrant protection and support services. This has been done through new labour migration policies, signing of agreements or memoranda of understanding with key destination countries, and other measures to improve transparency in recruitment and increased awareness-raising among migrant workers.

In 2010, both Pakistan and the Philippines either put forth new labour migration policies or amended existing ones. Pakistan's National Labour Policy 2010 (awaiting Cabinet approval) includes a comprehensive social insurance scheme for Pakistanis abroad, raises the minimum wage for migrants and establishes a labour market information system (IOM, forthcoming). The Philippines 1995 Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipinos Act was amended in 2010 to include stricter penalties related to illegal recruitment, as well as the extension of welfare services among other provisions (ibid.). In terms of new memoranda of understanding, Indonesia signed several in 2010 with a number of destination countries, such as Australia,

⁴⁴ From the General Statistics Office of Vietnam. See: http://www.gso.gov.vn/default_en.aspx?tabid=515&idmid=5&ItemID=9813 (accessed on 20 June 2011).

Kuwait, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Malaysia, the Republic of Korea, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates. In particular, the amended MoU with Malaysia called for increased protection of domestic workers (UC Davis, 2010a and 2010b).

In addition to policies and agreements, other protection measures were put in place in 2010, such as Sri Lanka's new system that requires all new migrant employment contracts to be signed in front of a Ministry of the Board of Foreign Employment representative, prior to a migrant's departure, so that the representative can explain the terms and conditions of the contract. Similarly, in Indonesia, the new Ministerial Regulation 14/2010 also requires migrants to sign contracts before an official of the Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration, during pre-departure briefings (IOM, forthcoming). In an effort to raise awareness about migration and overseas employment and to facilitate access to related information, Nepal established a Migrant Resource Centre (MRC), which serves to counsel prospective and current migrants (ibid.).

Efforts made to curtail irregular migration from and within the region

Irregular migration within and from Asia remains a primary issue. In an effort to regularize the situation of migrants in Thailand, the Thai Government introduced a registration programme that would grant a two-year work renewal permit to those who completed a nationality and biographical verification process by the end of February 2010. This process applied to certain categories and primarily targeted the 60,000 migrant workers (mainly Burmese) whose permits were due to expire in January 2010.⁴⁵ Meanwhile, the Korean Government granted amnesty to 178,200 irregular migrants, authorizing their departure (without payment of the usual fines) between May and September 2010 (UC Davis, 2010c).

At a regional level, the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime organized different workshops throughout the year 2010 – for example, on regional cooperation regarding refugees and irregular movements and on repatriation and reintegration assistance. In March 2011, it held its fourth ministerial meeting, discussing possible strategies for revitalizing cooperation on trafficking in persons (including, for the first time, a proposal for a regional cooperation framework to address the irregular movement of people and to combat people smuggling) and reaffirming the commitment of participating States to effective cooperation on border control and law enforcement initiatives to combat people smuggling.⁴⁶

⁴⁵ See: <http://www.bangkokpost.com/opinion/opinion/168839/lost-faces-behind-another-migration-deadline> (accessed on 24 June 2011).

⁴⁶ For more information, see: <http://www.baliprocess.net/> (accessed on 20 June 2011).

EUROPE REGIONAL OVERVIEW

Slow recovery from crisis but unemployment challenges continue

In 2010, Europe's recovery from the global economic and financial crisis seemed to be on the right track, albeit incomplete. The European Union (EU) estimated a GDP average growth rate of 1.8 per cent for 2010 (a significant improvement over the -4.2% in 2009)⁴⁷ but at the same time, the average unemployment rate increased from 8.9 per cent in 2009 to 9.6 per cent in December 2010. The foreign labour force, in particular, continued to be more likely to be jobless than their native-born counterparts (IOM, 2010a; MPI, 2010a). For instance, in Spain, at the end of 2007, 12.4 per cent of immigrants were jobless, compared with 7.9 per cent of native-born Spaniards. By mid-2010, those figures had gone up to 30.2 per cent and 18.1 per cent, respectively (ibid.). In Germany, "the unemployment rate among migrants in summer 2010 was almost twice that of Germans – 12.4 compared to 6.5 per cent" (UC Davis, 2010a). In the United Kingdom, the situation affected various groups of immigrants in different ways: Eastern and Central European nationals were relatively unscathed by the rise in joblessness, unlike migrants from Africa, Bangladesh and Pakistan (ibid.). In Southern Italy, the unemployment of seasonal workers led to unprecedented social tensions and anti-migrant riots (The Economist, 2010). However, unemployment also hit nationals – in some cases generating new emigration flows from and within Europe. Ireland, for instance, has experienced significant waves of nationals leaving the country to look for better work opportunities, due to its recent economic crisis. At the end of 2010, net emigration from Ireland reached about 60,000 people (compared to 7,800 in 2009), making it the highest level since 1989. It is estimated that the cumulative net emigration may total 160,000 people, over the period 2009 to 2013, if the labour market situation does not improve (ESRI, 2010).

The Stockholm Programme and tighter control of external EU borders

From a policy perspective, issues related to migration and asylum remained a priority for the EU throughout 2010. In line with the objectives of the Global Approach to Migration,⁴⁸ adopted by the European Council in 2005 and confirmed in 2006, several efforts were made to foster partnerships with third countries to promote comprehensive and coherent migration policies – including, for instance, the facilitation of labour migration and the improvement of border management.

On 22 November 2010, the European Commission adopted a Communication called EU Internal Security Strategy in Action,⁴⁹ recommending several actions targeting the most urgent security threats facing Europe. In this regard, the Commission was planning to "strengthen security through border management" and decided to establish a European external border surveillance system (EUROSUR); identify "hot spots" at the external borders; issue joint reports

⁴⁷ Some countries, such as Bulgaria, Ireland and Spain, had a GDP growth rate of only 0.1–0.2 per cent, according to Eurostat. See: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/statistics/search_database (accessed on 20 June 2011).

⁴⁸ The EU Global Approach to Migration originated from a need for a common, global immigration policy, widely recognized and encouraged by the European Commission and EU Member States. Partnership with third countries, solidarity and shared responsibility are at the core of the approach, with the aim of promoting comprehensive and coherent policies that address migration-related issues, bringing together different policy areas (development, social affairs and employment, external relations and justice, and home affairs) and taking both short-term actions and a longer-term vision to address the root causes of migration and forced migration. See: http://www.europa-eu-un.org/articles/es/article_7589_es.htm (accessed on 20 June 2011).

⁴⁹ For more information, see: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:52010DC0673:EN:HTML> (accessed on 20 June 2011).

on human trafficking, human smuggling and the smuggling of illicit goods, as a basis for joint operations.

Also in 2010, the European Council presented the Stockholm Programme – “An open and secure Europe, serving and protecting the citizen”. This multi-annual programme (2010–2014) defines strategic guidelines for legislative and operational planning within the areas of freedom, security and justice. “The EU strategy has two major components: more effective control over external borders to preserve internal freedom of movement, and cooperation with sending countries to accept the return of their citizens and to cooperate to reduce illegal out-migration” (UC Davis, 2010a). To this end, “the Stockholm Programme expanded the role of the European Union (EU) Border Agency Frontex⁵⁰ and provided the agency with a budget of 83 million Euros in 2010 (compared to 6 million in 2005) (UC Davis, 2010c)”. Bilateral readmission agreements between the European Union Member States (EU MS) and countries of origin or transit are an integral part of the programme. One such agreement was concluded with Pakistan in October 2010: “The main objective of this agreement being to establish rapid and effective procedure for the identification and safe and orderly return of Pakistanis staying illegally in the EU territories.”⁵¹ Tighter EU border control not only contributed to more apprehensions (during the third quarter of 2010, 34,000 irregular border-crossings were detected, representing an increase of about 4,000, compared to the third quarter in 2009), but also deterred potential migrants from moving towards EU borders (during the first quarter of 2010, only 150 immigrants reached Italy and Malta, compared to the 5,200 for the first quarter of 2009 (Frontex, 2010).

However, the Stockholm Programme also includes several measures aimed at facilitating labour migration, highlighting the fact that migration remains a priority issue within the EU. In particular, it places the Global Approach to Migration and the external dimension of the EU’s migration policy (based on partnership with third countries) at the centre of the policy debate. The Stockholm Programme also emphasizes equal rights between third-country nationals and EU nationals, as well as the importance of integration programmes. Furthermore, the preparation of the Action Plan for the implementation of the Stockholm Programme between 2010 and 2014 promoted discussions within the European Commission on the development of community legislation in the field of seasonal employment and admission of third-country nationals in the context of intra-corporate transfers. The introduction of the European Blue Card system for skilled migration (adopted in 2009; implementation expected in 2011) represents one step towards such a common labour migration strategy (IOM, 2010a; Collett, 2010).

The Europe 2020 Strategy and the creation of the Directorate-General for Home Affairs

On 17 June 2010, the European Council adopted the Europe 2020 Strategy (replacing the Lisbon Strategy (2000–2010), with the aim of promoting job growth and competitiveness in the EU. It also includes raising employment levels to 75 per cent and better integration of legal migrants.⁵² Although the demand for foreign workers decreased in certain economic

⁵⁰ Frontex is a specialized and independent body tasked with coordinating the operational cooperation between Member States in the field of border security.

⁵¹ See press release issued by the Council of the European Union, available at: http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/jha/116918.pdf (accessed on 20 June 2011).

⁵² For more information, see: http://www.consilium.europa.eu/ueDocs/cms_Data/docs/pressData/en/ec/115346.pdf (accessed on 20 June 2011).

sectors during the crisis, the European Commission recognizes that “a long-term, well-organised legal immigration policy will continue to play an important role in filling labour shortages and meeting the EU’s demographic challenges”.⁵³ The aim is to promote Europe’s sustainable economic development through free interregional movement, responding to the skill needs demanded by the labour market. In this regard, the Commission will focus on labour-matching mechanisms, skills recognition, the protection of seasonal workers and the effective implementation of integration policies, among other initiatives.⁵⁴ The subsequent month, the Directorate-General (DG) for Home Affairs was created as a result of splitting the division of DG Justice, Freedom and Security into two Directorates-General. The new DG for Home Affairs aims at “ensuring European security and putting solidarity at the heart of the European migration policy. The Stockholm Action Plan constitutes the roadmap to implement these priorities” and should promote the creation of an “area without internal borders where EU citizens and third-country nationals may enter, move, live and work, bringing with them new ideas, capital and knowledge or filling gaps in the labour market, in line with the Europe 2020 strategy”.⁵⁵

Restrictive national policy measures and bilateral return agreements

At a national level, some governments decided to introduce stricter regulations for the entry of migrants – for instance, by reducing visa quotas, setting up points systems, limiting the acquisition of citizenship or conducting integration examinations. While often perceived by the media and general public as anti-migrant policies, these limitations were introduced essentially with the intention of mitigating the impact of the global economic crisis on domestic unemployment rates, which were increasing, particularly for foreign workers. On 4 December 2009, Switzerland decided to reduce the quota for workers outside the European Economic Area (EEA) by half – to a maximum of 2,000 for long stays and to 3,500 for temporary/short stays. Similarly, on 6 April, the United Kingdom introduced its first immigration cap on economic migration for non-EU migrants for the period 2011–12. Only 20,700 non-EU nationals will be permitted to work in skilled professions in the United Kingdom from April 2011, under Tier 2 of the Points Based System (PBS) system.⁵⁶ Furthermore, “skilled and highly skilled migrants must now pass the Life in the UK Test if they want to demonstrate that they have met the knowledge of language and life (KOL) requirement for settlement in the UK”.⁵⁷ Likewise, the Danish Government introduced a new points system, making family reunification more difficult. It also established new prerequisite conditions for foreigners intending to marry a Danish citizen: they must be at least 24 years of age and able to provide proof of financial independence and an active commitment to Danish society.⁵⁸ Southern European countries such as Spain and Italy also started stipulating cooperation agreements with migrant-sending or transit countries, “offering aid and guest worker slots in exchange for cooperation to reduce illegal migration” (UC Davis, 2010c). These agreements led to an important drop in arrivals in the EU by sea, mainly in Cyprus, Greece, Italy and Malta.⁵⁹ However, tighter controls and

⁵³ For more details, see: http://ec.europa.eu/commission_2010-2014/malmstrom/archive/malmstrom_speech_oecd_migration_outlook_12_july_2010.pdf (accessed on 20 June 2011).

⁵⁴ Ibid.

⁵⁵ See: http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/index_en.htm (accessed on 20 June 2011).

⁵⁶ For more information on the UK immigration cap, see <http://www.visabureau.com/uk/news/06-04-11/uk-immigration-cap-comes-into-force.aspx> (accessed on 27 June 2011).

⁵⁷ For details of the requirement, see: <http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsfragments/44-kol-skilled> (accessed on 27 June 2011).

⁵⁸ See: http://www.nyidanmark.dk/en-us/coming_to_dk/familyreunification/spouses/spouses.htm (accessed on 27 June 2011).

⁵⁹ See full BBC report at: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-11973294> (accessed on 27 June 2011).



cooperation regarding returns seemed to have only shifted the problem. Indeed, a sharp increase in overland arrivals in the north-eastern region of Greece via Turkey was noticed in 2010.⁶⁰

In addition to returns on the basis of bilateral agreements, there were also deportations of foreigners irregularly present on national soil. The mass deportation of Roma populations by the French Government led to prolonged protests by human rights activists and civil society organizations when a circular (dated 5 August 2010) from the Ministry of Interior that specifically targeted Roma populations was made public. Between 28 July and 17 August 2010, France sent back 979 Romanian and Bulgarian nationals, 828 of whom were accompanied to the border voluntarily, while 151 were expelled.

⁶⁰ Ibid.

MIDDLE EAST REGIONAL OVERVIEW

Recovery from the crisis in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region: growth in GDP, remittances and salaries

In 2010, the MENA region overall experienced a significant recovery from the global economic crisis, mainly due to rising oil prices and production levels, as well as supportive fiscal policies. According to estimates from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the GDP of the region grew by 4.2 per cent in 2010 (almost double the 2.3% increase experienced in 2009), while growth for 2011 was projected at a even higher level (4.8%) (IMF, 2010). The humanitarian crisis in Libya and the unsettled conditions in some neighbouring countries are likely to have the greatest impact on remittance-receiving countries in South Asia, which have an estimated 11 million expatriate workers living in the region (World Bank, 2011a).

A rise in average salaries (estimated at 6.6% for the years 2011, compared to 6.1% in 2010) made GCC countries popular for contractual workers within and outside the region.⁶¹ Indeed, the composition of the foreign labour force in the region appears to be increasingly mixed, with foreign workers originating from Africa, South America and the Far East, while difficulties in hiring from traditional source countries, such as India and the Philippines, seem to be promoting a rapidly growing Chinese presence.⁶² In 2010, 8 of the top 10 countries with the highest share of international migrants, relative to their native population, were located in the Middle East region – notably, Bahrain, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. In Qatar, the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait, international migrants account for 87 per cent, 70 per cent and 69 per cent, respectively, of their total population.

Similar to GDP growth rates, remittance inflows to the MENA countries increased significantly in 2010, compared to 2009 (USD 35.4 billion and USD 33.7 billion, respectively) almost reaching the pre-crisis level recorded in 2008 (USD 39.5 billion). Remittances sent back home every year by temporary workers filling the labour shortages in low-skilled sectors represent a crucial source of income for many households and, in some cases, a significant share of the GDP of the country of origin. For example, remittances sent to Lebanon and Jordan in 2009 represented 22.4 per cent and 15.6 per cent of GDP respectively (World Bank, 2011b).

Fast-growing populations and widespread youth unemployment

The Middle East has one of the highest population growth rates in the world, and the vast majority of the population is under the age of 25.⁶³ Consequently, the demand for employment opportunities will continue to remain high,⁶⁴ with nationals looking more and more for highly skilled jobs as a result of increased spending on education in most GCC countries in recent

⁶¹ For more information, see: <http://www.gulftalent.com/home/Gulf-salaries-to-rise-by-7-percent-in-2011-Article-45.html> (accessed on 27 June 2011).

⁶² Ibid.

⁶³ Only Africa is likely to have a younger population by 2020.

⁶⁴ However, the rapid population growth registered in recent years (4% annual growth rate in 2005–2009) in the six GCC countries (Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates) is expected to gradually come to an end (with a projected average annual increase of 2.6% between 2009 and 2020), as a result of the decline in the natural population growth rate and the reduced influx of low-skilled migrants due to fewer job opportunities in labour-intensive work sectors such as construction. For more information, see: <http://graphics.eiu.com/upload/eb/Gulf2020part2.pdf> (accessed on 20 June 2011).

years. However, with GCC economies relying on the growth of labour-intensive sectors (such as construction), the majority of the work opportunities may, for some time, continue to be for low-skilled workers with moderate salary expectations, thereby creating a mismatch between the expectations of the national labour force and the available jobs in the domestic labour market (EIU, 2009). In Saudi Arabia in 2010, for instance, the government faced increasing unemployment rates and difficulties in providing employment to its citizens. The fact that 4.7 million foreign workers outnumbered the 4.3 million Saudi nationals in the labour market (ILO, 2011) created additional pressure for policymakers, although foreign workers are mainly employed in low-skilled sectors of less interest to Saudi nationals. High unemployment rates among their citizens were also recorded in other GCC countries and in the Arab Mediterranean Region⁶⁵ where the average unemployment rate in 2008 was almost 15 per cent of the total labour force and the official labour participation rate was below 46 per cent of the working-age population (compared to the world average of 61.2%). Moreover, unemployment mainly affected young, first-time job-seekers; indeed, the unemployment rate for nationals aged 14–24 was 21.6 per cent – well over the world average of 14 per cent. It was estimated that more than 1.5 million additional jobs would be needed annually in the coming 10 years in order to keep the number of unemployed stable (European Commission, 2010).⁶⁶ This situation has led to alternative policy measures in many Middle East countries, such as in the United Arab Emirates, where the government tried to encourage employers to hire citizens rather than foreigners (UC Davis, 2010a).

Improvements in the protection of migrants' rights

Another policy trend that emerged in 2010 relates to the protection of migrant workers' rights. The impact of the global economic crisis (although overall it was less pronounced in the Middle East) was mainly felt by migrant workers (ILO, 2011). Their vulnerable situation is generally linked to a lack of legislation protecting foreign workers or a lack of enforcement of labour laws.⁶⁷ In the United Arab Emirates, in 2010, several companies had to close. Some of these companies abandoned their foreign workers, leaving them without passports or pay. This was the case, for example, for over 300 Indians workers on a monthly salary of 800 dirhams (USD 217), who reported not having been paid for at least six months (UC Davis, 2010a). However, some governments in the region took some positive steps towards improving the working conditions and increasing respect of migrant rights. In August 2009, Bahrain modified the *kafeel* (sponsorship system) to make “the government rather than the employer the official sponsor of migrants, enabling them to change employers more easily” (UC Davis, 2010c). In Kuwait, after several reported abuses and pressure from civil society, the government finally decided to set minimum wages for expatriate workers in the private sector to ensure decent living conditions for them.⁶⁸ In September 2010, the government also announced its intention to abolish the *kafeel* system in 2011 (Human Rights Watch, 2010), which would represent an important step towards greater respect of international migrants' rights. However, not all countries in the region are committed to such changes. For example, although the Labour Minister of the United Arab Emirates acknowledged the need to “examine” the *kafeel* system,

⁶⁵ Includes Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, the Syrian Arab Republic and Tunisia, as well as the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

⁶⁶ European Commission, *Labour Markets Performance and Migration Flows in Arab Mediterranean Countries: Determinants and Effects*, Volume 1, Final Report & Thematic Background Papers. European Economy, Occasional Papers 60, April 2010. See: http://ec.europa.eu/economy_finance/publications/occasional_paper/2010/pdf/ocp60_1_en.pdf (accessed on 27 June 2011).

⁶⁷ For more details, see Aljazeera report at: <http://english.aljazeera.net/news/middleeast/2010/07/201072885146573166.html> (accessed on 27 June 2011).

⁶⁸ See Kuwait Times – Kuwait to enforce minimum wage. 1 April 2010. Available at: <http://www.kuwaittimes.net/> (accessed on 27 June 2011).

he made it clear that the system was “here to stay” (UC Davis, 2011b). On the other hand, some of the main migrant-sending countries started stipulating bilateral labour migration agreements with main destination countries, with the aim of guaranteeing the rights of their nationals working abroad. In 2010, for instance, Lebanon and Nepal agreed to sign a bilateral agreement regularizing the process of labour migration between the two countries in order to reinforce the protection of Nepalese migrants in Lebanon and to reduce the problems caused by irregular channels of migration.⁶⁹

Ongoing displacement of Iraqi nationals

The high number of displaced Iraqi nationals constitutes a major issue in this region. At the end of 2010, “one in ten Iraqis was still internally displaced, totalling 2.8 million people” (IDMC/NRC, 2010b) and the total number of displaced Iraqi nationals was estimated at 15 per cent of the total population (an estimated 30.2 million in 2010) (IDMC/NRC, 2010c). The majority of these people were displaced either because of the repression of Saddam Hussein’s government, as a result of the 2003 invasion, or following the 2006 bombing of the Al-Askari Mosque in Samarra, which triggered a wave of sectarian violence. However, since 2009, few new displacements have been recorded outside the disputed northern areas of Kirkuk and Ninawa, although there were several attacks and threats against Christian communities in Iraq in 2010, which led to internal and international displacement mainly from Mosul and Baghdad (IOM, 2011d). In 2010, the overall number of displacements had been decreasing, up until September of that year; following the attacks on Baghdad’s Saidat al-Najat church, however, the last two months of 2010 saw an increase in the number of families displaced (ibid.). Issues of growing concern for displaced Iraqi nationals include the significant shortage of housing, the high number of displaced minors (often with no access to education), and the impact of prolonged-migration-induced demographic changes on social cohesion, religious coexistence and access to resources such as land, water and oil (ibid.).

⁶⁹ For more details, see: <http://www.res-con.biz/news/5693-Nepal,-Lebanon-agree-to-regularise-labour-migration-process/> (accessed on 20 June 2011).

OCEANIA REGIONAL OVERVIEW

Shifts in migration patterns and an increase in asylum-seekers in Australia intensified the already highly politicized migration debate

In 2010, Oceania hosted 6 million international migrants. Although accounting for less than 3 per cent of the total global migrant stock, this number represented 16.8 per cent of Oceania's total population of about 35 million people. This proportion is even higher for the main destination countries – Australia and New Zealand – where international migrants accounted for 21.9 per cent and 22.4 per cent, respectively, of the total national population (UNDESA, 2009).

Although significant migration flows are nothing new to the region, awareness of recent shifts in migration patterns led to fervent public debates and discussions in Australia in 2010, notably during the pre-election campaigns. The increasing arrivals of migrants by boat (2,849 in 2009 and 6,879 in 2010) was the subject of much political controversy (Phillips and Spinks, 2011).

Australia, which is traditionally a main destination for migrants from Europe and the United Kingdom, now receives large migrant contingents from Asia as well as from neighbouring countries within Oceania.

Changes to migration policy in Australia and New Zealand even more focused on the highly skilled

In 2010, the Government of Australia maintained its preference for attracting the highly skilled and carried out reforms to its General Skilled Migration (GSM) programme. The reforms, which redefine and sharpen selection criteria for this category of migrants, are aimed at better facilitating the matching of supply and demand in particular sectors. The reformed policy gives preference to applicants who already have a job offer (Employer Nomination Scheme) or who qualify under the Regional Sponsored Migration Scheme (RSMS). The new Skilled Occupation List (SOL) has replaced the previous Migration Occupations in Demand List (MODL) and the Critical Skills List (CSL), and applicants must have a nominated occupation on the SOL at the time of application.⁷⁰

The Australian Permanent Skilled Migration Program was already cut in January 2009 by almost 15 per cent, due to the impact of the global economic crisis, and it was further reduced by more than 108,000 places in 2009–2010 (OECD, 2010). In New Zealand, the situation was no different in 2010: the number of permanent and long-term arrivals declined (down by about 6,000, compared to 2009), creating additional labour force shortages (Statistics New Zealand, 2011).

Recognizing the need to attract more highly skilled migrants, particularly among young people, New Zealand initiated a new Silver Fern Work Policy in early 2010, which consists of the Silver Fern Job Search visa/permit and the Silver Fern Practical Experience visa/permit (Immigration New Zealand, 2010). The Silver Fern Job Search Policy allows up to 300 young people with

⁷⁰ For further information, see: <http://www.immi.gov.au/skilled/general-skilled-migration/whats-new.htm> (accessed 20 April 2011).

recognized qualifications to enter New Zealand each year in search of skilled employment for up to nine months. In order to qualify, applicants must be between 20 and 35 years old, reside outside of New Zealand, hold a qualification that meets the needs under the programme or in general under New Zealand's Skilled Migrant Policy, meet language requirements and have a minimum amount of maintenance funds for the period of stay in New Zealand. The Silver Fern Practical Experience Policy offers a work permit that is valid for a maximum of two years for applicants who hold a Silver Fern Job Search permit or a Silver Fern Practical Experience permit, hold an offer of skilled employment for at least 12 months, and meet certain health and character requirements, as with the Silver Fern Job Search permit. Under both of these programmes, partners and dependants are not eligible for visas or work permits.⁷¹

Australia and New Zealand still main destinations within the region for migrants from Polynesia, Melanesia and Micronesia, with future climate change impacts a major concern

Migrants from Polynesia, Melanesia and Micronesia continue to migrate to Australia and New Zealand. Both countries have special entry visas that facilitate migration for nationals of several of the island states, such as Australia's Pacific Seasonal Worker Scheme and New Zealand's Pacific Access Category (PAC). The Pacific Seasonal Worker Scheme is only for citizens of Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Tonga and Vanuatu who have been invited by an approved employer. Under the scheme, seasonal workers are able to work in Australia for four to six months, are permitted multiple entries into Australia during this period and may return to work in future years. However, they are limited to working with approved employers and are not eligible to apply for other visas during their stay or to bring any dependents with them (Australian Government Department of Immigration and Citizenship, 2010).

In New Zealand, the PAC (a residence scheme) was established in July 2002 for Pacific countries with which New Zealand has close cultural and historical ties. The current PAC allows for up to 250 citizens of Tonga, 75 citizens of Tuvalu, and 75 citizens of Kiribati (including their partners and dependent children) to be granted residence in New Zealand each year. In 2009–2010, 357 people were approved for residence through the PAC, compared with 360 in 2008–2009 (New Zealand Department of Labour, 2010). Although it is not intended as a migration scheme to facilitate movement in the face of anticipated climate change impacts on the Pacific Islands, it may serve as a bridge head for future migration flows as migrants build social ties and networks (McAdam, 2011).

The impact of climate change (particularly sea-level rise) on Pacific Islands was high on the agenda, especially before and during the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Cancun in 2010. In preparation for the convention, the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) coordinated a meeting in November 2010 of the Pacific Island countries, to assist them in preparing for the Cancun discussions, where a strong representation from the Pacific region, including Heads of State, environment ministers and ambassadors of the Pacific, was expected (SPREP, 2010).

⁷¹ See: <http://www.immigration.govt.nz/NR/rdonlyres/D370501C-1B03-4C06-9205-5E98CF20A6EA/0/AmendmentCircular201002.pdf> (accessed on 21 June 2011).