The IOM experience on South-South migration:

The example of the ACP Observatory

Presentation by Dr. Monika Peruffo, Director

International Dialogue on Migration
Geneva, 24-25 March 2014
Outline

1. Institutional partnerships: *The set-up of the ACP Observatory*

2. From the bottom-up: *Lessons learned from coordination in pilot countries*

3. Perspectives from the South: *Major findings from the ACP Observatory activities*
History of the establishment of the ACP Observatory

ACP Group of States

European Commission
DG Devco

European Development Fund
2008 decision to launch a ACP Facility on South-South migration

IOM selected to lead a Consortium of Academic Members setting up the ACP Observatory on Migration

International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Organisation internationale pour les migrations (OIM)

Financial support

ACP Observatory on Migration
Observatoire ACP sur les migrations
Observatório ACP das migrações

Financial support

Swiss Confederation
THE INTRA-ACP MIGRATION FACILITY

3 components

- Capacity-building of ACP Governments
- Capacity-building of the civil society
- ACP Observatory on Migration

Managed by

leading a Consortium of 15 partners and three associates
The Academic Advisory Board of the ACP Observatory

Consortium leader:

15 members

- Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar, Senegal
- Groupe d’Etudes et de Recherches sur les Migrations, Université Gaston Berger, Senegal
- Organisation for Social Science Research in Eastern & Southern Africa, Ethiopia
- Instituto Superior de Economia e Gestão (SOCIUS, CEsA), Portugal
- Institute for Public Policy Research, United Kingdom
- Université de Yaoundé II, Cameroon
- National University of Lesotho, Lesotho
- Southern Africa Migration Programme, University of Cape Town, South Africa
- World University Service Austria
- Shridath Ramphal Center, University of the West Indies, Barbados
- University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
- Commonwealth Secretariat, United Kingdom
- University of Sussex, United Kingdom
- MOI University, Kenya
- University of the South Pacific, Fiji
- Migration Policy Center, European University Institute, Italy
- Université de Goma, Democratic Republic of Congo
- Economic and Social Research Foundation, Tanzania

3 Associates
Mission:
Improving the availability of information and data on South-South migration for ACP countries

Period of implementation:
May 2010 – June 2014
(closing conference)
12 Pilot countries

Image showing the 6 ACP regions with 79 countries
Activities of the ACP Observatory

3 fields of activity

Research

Coordination with Cameroon research team, Yaoundé, 2011

Capacity-building on data management

Training on data management, Luanda, 2013

Networking, visibility and communication

Journalist interviews Migration Commissioner, Tanzania, 2012
A bottom-up approach: National Consultative Committees (NCC)

• NCC = Government agencies, civil society organizations and research institutions

• NCC responsible for defining the research and capacity-building priorities

• NCC is chaired by a representative of the government

→ Ownership of the results and facilitation of the policymaking process
A bottom-up approach:
Feeding the policymaking process

National stakeholders identify national priorities on migration for research

ACP Observatory supports national researchers to produce evidence for policymaking

Evidence is incorporated for policymaking

Evidence is presented to policymakers
A bottom-up approach: From the national level to international debates

Evidence gathered at the national and regional levels on South-South migration

Participation in international debates to showcase evidence and promote attention to South-South migration

- KNOMAD meetings
- UNDESA Coordination meetings
- GFMD
- IDM
- Etc.
The ACP Observatory major deliverables

25 national and regional studies based on key topics identified by the NCCs: diasporas, labour migration, financial and social remittances, impact on development, internal migration, displacement, irregular migration & trafficking. Available at: www.acpmigration-obs.org/Published%20studies

10 assessments of national data on migration, appraising which institutions collect data on migration and how this is classified, used and shared with other governmental institutions
The ACP Observatory major deliverables

13 background notes on relevant migration issues ACP wide including good practices and recommendations from ACP countries

14 national and regional overviews highlighting the main migration patterns and trends in the pilot countries and regions

An online library open to all with more than 1,550 studies on South-South migration in ACP countries
The ACP Observatory major deliverables

3 inter-regional, 11 national workshops on migration data management and 12 presentation skills trainings

Categories of 400 trained stakeholders

4 meetings of the members of the Academic Advisory Board: Belgium (2010), Senegal (2011), Barbados (2012), Fiji 2013
The ACP Observatory major deliverables

3 inter-regional, 11 national workshops on migration data management and 12 presentation skills trainings

Categories of 400 trained stakeholders

4 meetings of the members of the Academic Advisory Board: Belgium (2010), Senegal (2011), Barbados (2012), Fiji 2013
Data on migration

Assessment of data on migration conducted by the ACP Observatory revealed that:

- Rich sources of data exist in ACP countries but:

- **Data gaps** - on diasporas, remittances, forced migration, human trafficking, irregular migration, migrant characteristics and profiles and impact of migration on development and vice versa (ex. *Lesotho does not collect any data at borders and entry points*)

- **Oudated information** (ex. *last census in Angola: 1970; last census in DRC: 1984*)

- **Lack or limited exchange of information and data** on migration between institutions of the same Government
Impact of migration on development

1. **Emigrants to other countries in the South: a positive impact on education and income levels**

   *Cameroon example:* Households with at least one emigrant abroad experienced positive impact on household savings and food expenditure

   *Lesotho example:* Remittances (including those from the South) can, however, also represent an economic lifeline and create dependency

2. **Positive impact of return migration:**

   *Cameroon example:* Households with returned migrants have higher expenditures on health and education as well as higher level of employment
3. The effects of immigration: livelihoods and integration

South-South migration presents an important livelihood strategy in which mobility serves as a key income diversification mechanism.

*Cameroon:* As a destination country for migrants – higher proportion of household members employed in immigrant households - employment a key motivation for migration.

Integration and awareness of the positive role of immigrants should be promoted in countries in the South.

*Trinidad and Tobago:* Demand for immigrants to carry out work, but they face severe challenges related to integration and fair treatment.
Diasporas: People living outside their country of origin, irrespective of citizenship and nationality and who are willing to contribute to the development of their origin country and/or community

1. Lack of data: Most diaspora members residing in Africa and other countries in the South do not register with their consulates

Kenya: For every diaspora member registered with embassies and consulates abroad, another 6 Kenyans living abroad are not

2. Skills circulation: Highly-skilled migrants also move within the South and education is an important motivation to migrate to other African countries and within the Pacific and Caribbean

Cameroon: High level of degree of entrepreneurship among migrants

3. Frequent returns and interest in skills-transfer programmes: Return migration is more feasible in the context of South-South migration
South-South remittances

1. The predominance of informal transfers: Informal channels are the most important type of money sending mechanism among countries in the South. Up to 87.4% in the case of Lesotho.

2. Wide use of money transfer operators when formal transfers occur: 80% of formal remittances sent to Cameroon via Western Union and Money Gram.

3. The success of mobile banking and its repercussions: Innovative channels: increase in internal remittances transfers. Mobile transfers have increased savings as side-effect. African countries starting from the Kenyan market (Tanzania, Ghana) but also emerging in various developing countries in Asia and the Pacific (ex: Fiji).

4. Remittance receivers: family members and relatives. Kenya: 28% of remittances are sent to parents, relatives (15%), children and spouses (12%).

5. Investments: 97% of Nigerian diaspora members in Ghana and South Africa indicate having made investments and/or owning property in their own country.
The flows of ideas, knowledge, behaviors and social capital transmitted by migrants to their families, friends and communities in their home and destination countries

In Tanzania, friends and relatives of emigrants and return migrants have experienced positive changes in their attitudes and practices related to health, including increased awareness on sexual and reproductive health.

In Senegal, several practices related to health are changing thanks to migrants’ intangible transfers, including the abandonment of the tradition of burying dead close to sources of water and the use of mosquito nets.
www.acpmigration-obs.org

Thank you!