

Migrant vulnerability and the Global Compact: Some thoughts & ideas



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Contemporary Migration Space

➤ Changing Development Paradigm

- Hyper-connected world
- Globalization: *slowing down*
- 'Triple F' crises
- Fourth Industrial Revolution
- changing '*world of work*'
- People first, *leave no one behind*

unprecedented transformation

➤ Changing geo-politics

- protracted conflicts
- fragility of States
- rise of non-State actors
- humanitarian challenges
- large-scale population movements
- institutional shortcomings

Migration and mobility

uncertain, tumultuous time

Concept of migrant vulnerability?

➤ Concept of migrant vulnerability is ambiguous and often fluid.

- Migrants vulnerability refers to the inability of migrants to effectively address /deal with the adverse effects of the migratory process

- It could also be seen as a function of:

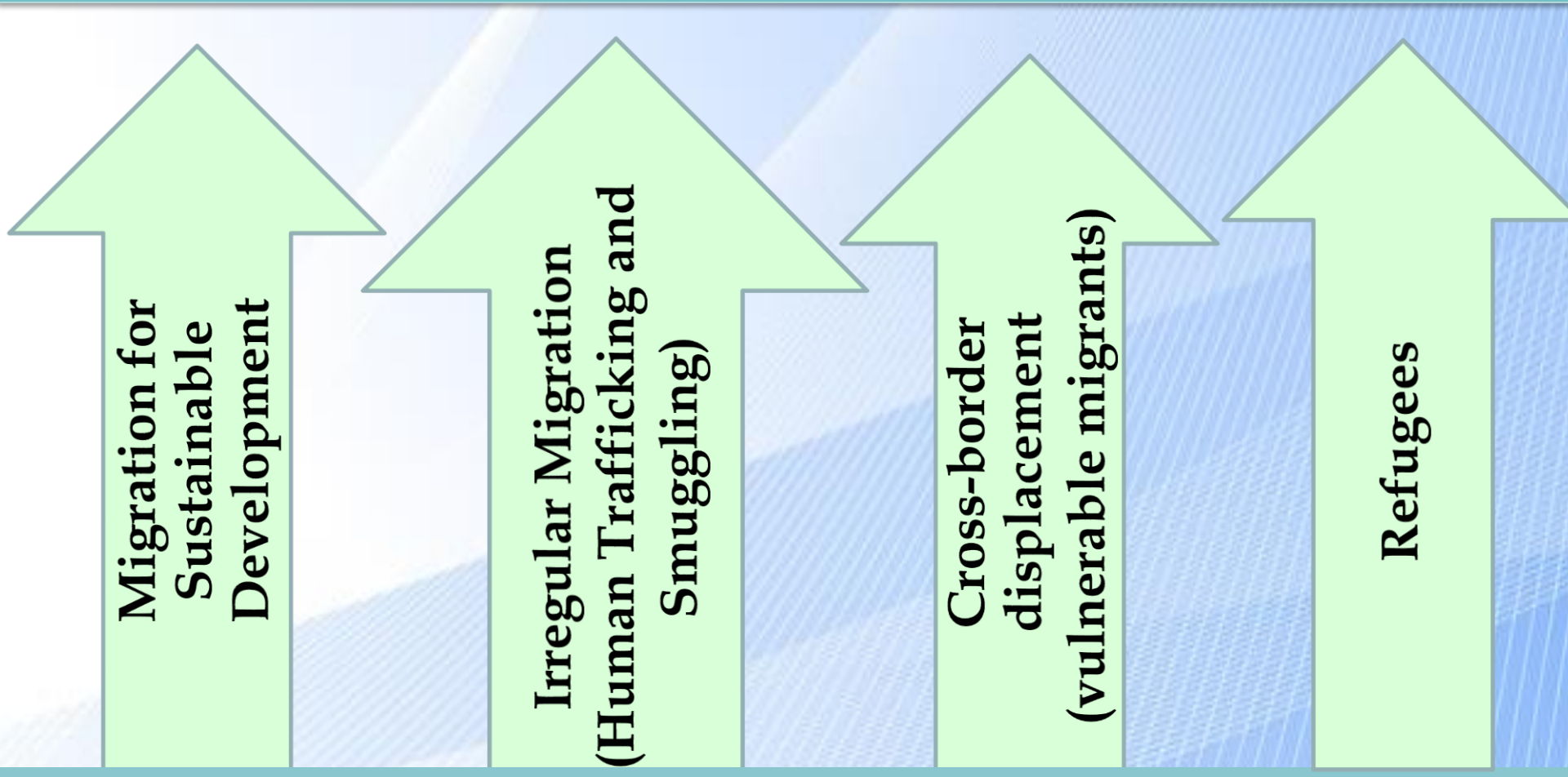
- i) Migrants ability to survive in an adverse situation,

- ii) Migrants capacity to return to normal life and livelihood, and

- iii) Larger socio-economic and political situation of migrants' place of stay

*Access to resources and power
mostly determine vulnerability*

Global Migratory Flows



**Migration for
Sustainable
Development**

**Irregular Migration
(Human Trafficking and
Smuggling)**

**Cross-border
displacement
(vulnerable migrants)**

Refugees

Rights and Protection

Challenges?

- States face three challenges in dealing with vulnerable migrants:
- i) Drawing a balance between maximizing economic gains, protecting citizens (at home and abroad) and maintaining state security (Regulate or Counter)
 - ii) Managing tensions between state sovereignty /national interest (*of State*) and universal human rights of citizens/non-citizens
 - iii) Matching capacity and resources with rising demand for governing migration and mobility

How to effectively address these challenges?!

Migration Compact

➤ Facilitate *orderly, safe, regular, and responsible* migration (Agenda 2030) – **Goal 10 (Target 10.7)**

- “Orderly” refers to a system whereby migratory movements are made systematic, consistent, predictable and humane
- “Safe” refers to physical and mental safety
- “Regular” refers to legal migration
- “Responsible” refers to all parties/stakeholders assuming corresponding roles and responsibilities, taking into account circumstances

Genesis of Compact (Bangladesh Proposal)

➤ Approach:

- Opportunities and challenges of migrations deserve to be weighted in an integrated manner within the broader development context (Agenda 2030)
- Not leaving anyone behind (vulnerable migrants)
- New and innovative mechanism for governance of migration
- Ensure peace and stability along the migration pathway
- Implement normative frameworks
- Need for a bold, focused and measurable migration compact

Migration Compact

➤ Elements:

- Ensuring that migrants' human rights are protected specially in times of crisis
- Foster inclusion of migrants
- Making it easier for migrants to move
- Preventing irregular movements including trafficking and smuggling
- Reducing the costs for migrants, and enhancing the developmental impacts of migration
- Promoting inclusion and combating racism, xenophobia, discrimination and intolerance towards all migrants

Nature of Negotiated Compact?

□ Four main options:

1. Migration Convention (binding agreement)
2. Guiding principles and guidelines (non-binding)
3. Commitments with concrete deliverables, implementation and monitoring framework (SDG-type)
4. Instrument like the Paris Agreement on Climate Change

Probable way forward!

- Leadership for ambitious and balanced Compact outcome
- Avoid politicization and securitization of migration
- Ensure UN system-wide coordination
- Build a new and constructive partnership

Time for a new Migration Compact

Thank you !

