



MAKING GLOBAL LABOUR MOBILITY A CATALYST FOR DEVELOPMENT

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New Era of Migration for Development

Emerging consensus on the development potential of migration:

🌐 **At the global level:**

- United Nations High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, September 2006;

- Global Forum on Migration and Development, Brussels, July 2007 & Manila 2008;

🌐 **At the regional level:** Regional Consultative Processes, such as Colombo Process, building dialogue, capacity and cooperation;

🌐 **At the interagency level:** Global Migration Group - 10 agencies working together.

Now is our chance to turn raised consciousness into action



Making Labour Migration Work for Development

Migration is a complex, cross-cutting issue:

- 🌐 **People** → livelihoods, opportunities, well-being and human rights
- 🌐 **States** → social, economic, political and security dimensions
- 🌐 **Private sector** → human resources, innovation, flexibility and diversity

Migration policies need to account for diverse interests of multiple stakeholders at national and international levels



Labour Mobility for Development: key policy elements

Sound data and targeted research

- Measure current and projected labour force needs and availability in countries of origin and destination and at regional and global levels;
- Map labour migration flows and trends;
- Ensure necessary disaggregation of data (e.g. by economic sector, occupation, gender, age);
- Integrate this knowledge into labour migration and human resource development policies and strategies.

Challenges:

- Compatibility of data collected by different national agencies and states;
- Disparities in capacities of states to collect data and undertake research;
- Mechanisms for exchange of and access to this information at national and international levels.



Labour Mobility for Development: key policy elements

Comprehensive policies

- ⊗ Address all stages of the labour migration process;
- ⊗ Allow for flexible labour migration policies;
- ⊗ Ensure complementarity between labour migration, labour market and human resource development strategies;
- ⊗ Ensure coherence with other related policies and regulations (e.g. recognition of qualifications, portability of social security & pensions);
- ⊗ Ensure coordination between various ministries and agencies at the national level;
- ⊗ Engage in active inter-state cooperation at bilateral, regional and international levels;
- ⊗ Engage all relevant non-governmental actors.



Labour Mobility for Development: key policy elements

Partnerships with non-state stakeholders

Why? → for effectiveness, sustainability, safety, greater equity and greater developmental impact of labour migration.

Who → private sector, civil society & migrants themselves.

How? →

- clearly define the role of each partner;
- treat non-state actors as full partners to ensure ownership of the partnership;
- build mutual trust through regular engagement in inclusive, balanced and better-informed dialogue.

What? →

- devise incentive-based labour migration policies and projects;
- ensure capacity & implementation of labour migration schemes;
- direct action to address the challenges and harness the potential of labour migration for development.



Labour Mobility for Development: key policy elements

Temporary and circular migration

Much international attention focused on their potential to:

- Contribute to the economic and societal development of countries of origin and destination as well as migrants and their families;
- Achieve convergence of interests among all relevant stakeholders;
- Facilitate political support and social acceptance.

But:

- temporary and circular labour migration schemes should be considered as only one, among many, tools in migration management;
- a combination of cooperative policies and incentives is needed to ensure that these types of mobility remain temporary;
- complementary policies need to be put in place to realize the developmental potential of these schemes;
- these or any other types of migration cannot substitute for government development policies.



Labour Mobility for Development: sharing experiences

- ④ No one size fits all solution;
- ④ Discuss and share → identify what works, what does not work and why;
- ④ Analyse the experiences → identify promising policies, effective tools and successful practical schemes;
- ④ Develop and implement innovative approaches.



Way Forward

Today, the international community has the opportunity to make migration work for development by:

- ④ Developing better tools and needed capacity for effective migration management;
- ④ Increasing inter-state cooperation on labour migration at all levels: bilateral, regional, inter-regional and potentially global;
- ④ Promoting dialogue and cooperation **with** non-state actors – encouraging public-private partnerships;
- ④ Encouraging active engagement of and partnerships **among** non-state actors;
- ④ Promoting policy dialogue and closer cooperation between migration & development stakeholders – at bilateral, regional, inter-regional and global levels;
- ④ Integrating labour migration into development planning agendas;
- ④ Experimenting – devising and investing in new pilot projects and programmes



Thank you !

