Migration and Families
The multiple role of youth in family migration

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What are the current dynamics of youth migration?

- **Demographic changes**
  - Almost 200 million people are aged between 15 and 24 in Africa, the youngest population in the world, will double by 2045
  - Labour force will be one billion strong by 2040
  - 59% of 20-24 year olds will have had secondary education in 2030, compared to 42% today (137 million 20-24 year olds with secondary education and 12 million with tertiary education in 2030)

- **Weak labour markets leading to poverty**
  - Between 2000 and 2008, 73 million jobs were created in Africa, but only 16 million for young people aged between 15 and 24
  - Of Africa’s unemployed, 60% are young people and youth unemployment rates are double those of adult unemployment in most African countries
  - On average 72% of the youth population in Africa live with less than USD 2 per day. The incidence of poverty among young people in Nigeria, Ethiopia, Uganda, Zambia and Burundi is over 80%
**What drives young people to emigrate?**

- Younger migrants are different
  - a higher percentage migrate for non-economic reasons, such as education, marriage, family reunification or refuge
  - They are more likely to aspire to leave if dissatisfied with local institutions, local economy
    - school quality, city infrastructure, entrepreneurship opportunities, meritocracy
How are youth incorporated into national security frameworks?

• Shortcomings in social security are often a reason for emigration
  • More youth have irregular migration status, emigrate through irregular channels
  • Remittances as insurance
    • Emigrant
      • youth remit less
      • daughters more often then men
  • Staying back
    • Sharing within household of resources not always equal
  • Cost is higher for youth
    • Migrant youth comprise a higher percentage of the 'unbanked' and poor
      • More than three-quarters of the world's poor are "unbanked"
      • But more likely to innovate in transmission methods (mobile banking)
• Integration
  • Youth are more likely to learn local language, adapt quickly
Are policies adequate? How is youth migration mainstreamed into national development strategies?

- Labour market policies beginning to focus more on youth
  - e.g. Morocco

- Good practices
  - Entrepreneurship, loans, training
  - Vocational training, based on needs in country
  - Matching, educational reform (Togo)
  - Basic needs (health, social protection)

- Elements that lack attention
  - non-migration policies
    - Migration integrated in development policies
  - return, circular migration?
  - diaspora involvement?
A new project

Interrelations between public policies, migration and development

*Case studies and policy recommendations*

Joint project

January 2013 – June 2016

**Overall objective**

Enhance the capacity of partner countries to incorporate migration into the design and implementation of their development strategies.
Partner countries

- Haiti
- Dominican Republic
- Costa Rica
- Morocco
- Georgia
- Armenia
- Burkina Faso
- Côte d'Ivoire
- Cambodia
- Philippines
Added value of the project

Sectoral development policies

Field work

International migration

10 country studies

Cross-country analysis
Nine policy sectors

Cross-cutting issues
- Human rights
- Gender
- Governance

- Sustainability
- Social cohesion
- Economic growth

- Environment
- Health
- Social protection
- Education and skills
- Investment
- Financial services
- Agriculture
- Trade
- Labour market
Youth migration in the project

• Questionnaires on emigrants, immigrants and return migrants
  • Emigrants and return migrants
    • Why did they leave?
    • Who helped them?
    • Do they plan to return?
    • What are the remittances used for in the household?
  • Immigrants
    • Why did they come here?
    • Who helped them? Do they know anyone here?
    • Do they plan to return to their home country?
    • What are the remittances the send back used for?
    • How well do they feel they are integrated in society here?
Thank you

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