
BACKGROUND AND BRIEF DESCRIPTION

The need for strategic data collection and research to support evidence-based policy making has been a recurrent issue in global migration dialogues, particularly after the conclusions of the Global Commission on International Migration in 2005. Recognizing that a thorough and comprehensive characterization of migration dynamics and the impacts of new policies in different contexts is essential for policy making, the European Commission launched its landmark initiative on Migration Profiles (MP) in 2005.

IOM has actively promoted the MP concept facilitating the implementation of MP projects in many countries since 2006. IOM describes MPs as a major information tool for strategic policy planning. More than 70 MPs have been prepared using a “standardized template”. IOM explicitly indicates that in order to be an effective tool for policy making, MPs need to be “government-owned” and prepared by an expert team from different government agencies and international experts. As a result, the participation of the civil society in these MPs has been weak.

Original MPs were conceived as concise statistical reports, prepared according to a common framework, which could make it easier to understand “at a glance” the migration situation in particular countries. These initial MPs were based on available economic and demographic data bases and for some, they left out important policy-related aspects of migration, particularly from the perspective of sending countries, with too much emphasis on financial flows and remittances. With time, the concept of MP gradually evolved to encompass a broader picture of the migration dynamics (i.e., the current “extended MPs”) but maintaining the focus on the situation in individual countries, aiming at a “better management” of migration flows, and overlooking the analysis of root causes of migration .

The International Network on Migration and Development (INMD), a global network of research and civil society organizations, individual researchers, and civil society leaders, has also placed the issue of information for policy making at the top of its agenda. All along, INMD has been promoting cooperation among states, civil society, and the academia to advance policy agendas based on solid research evidence, aiming at increasing the benefits and minimizing the costs of international migration, balancing the interests of sending and receiving countries, and considering the fragile situation of migrants and their families. The INMD has also insisted in the need to understand the root causes of migration in each corridor as a prerequisite for good policy design.

In 2006 INMD participated in the “**Bellagio Dialogues on Migration**” organized by the Rockefeller Foundation. INMD organized the conference “**Migration and Development: Perspectives from the South**”. This meeting concluded with a strong call for international collaboration. While the “win-win-win potential” of migration is frequently mentioned -- meaning that all parties can benefit -- the evidence shows a

different reality. High levels of irregular migration, labor exploitation, and the absence of development policies that create employment in sending countries, perpetuate a vicious cycle of poverty, marginalization, and discrimination at both ends of almost all migration corridors. Conference participants agreed that all parties should pursue the long-term objective of sustainable human development so that migration becomes an *option*, not a *necessity*. They also recognized that the current public discourse overrates the impact of financial remittances, ignores several costs and benefits of migration for both sending and receiving countries, as well as for migrants, leaves human rights off the radar screen, and does not address the root causes of migration. Participants concluded that the situation calls for a more collaborative approach to public policies, with sending and receiving countries working together with a systemic view of causes and impacts in each corridor, using a much wider range of indicators than is usual. Further, causal analysis, although complex, should not be left out in the assessment. The challenge is to include those more intractable issues that are rooted in the processes of unequal development that are almost always behind migration flows.¹

Several civil society organizations under the umbrella of PGA (People Global Action for Migration, Development and Human Rights) including INMD, have been calling for a more comprehensive approach that may eventually end up into a system to monitor and benchmark the situation in different migration corridors leading towards a more comprehensive and effective policy agenda that transcend the prevailing narrow scope regarding the nexus between migration and development, and through a more inclusive framework that places human rights and human development at the center.² For this ambitious objective, the huge volume of information compiled in all those MPs already prepared is a valuable starting point. However this is not enough; future policies will require much more cross-country collaboration, a prospective view of the main drivers of migration, and a focus that goes beyond individual countries and looks at “migration systems” or corridors including sending, receiving and often transit countries. INMD has been working with several partners to advance towards these objectives, and has already shared and discussed principles and dimensions for a new analytical framework with its civil society partners, and with experts from several international agencies (UN Population Division, IOM, ECLAC, UNESCO, etc.).³

¹ See: “***Perspectives from the South: Conclusions from the 2006 Bellagio Conference On Migration and Development***” in: http://rimd.reduaz.mx/secciones_documentos/241perspectives_from_the_south.pdf

² See: “***Reframing the Debate on Migration, development andf Human Rights: Fundamental Elements***”; in: http://rimd.reduaz.mx/secciones_documentos/959ReframingtheDebate.pdf

³ See: “***Towards an Assessment of Migration, Development and Human Rights Links: Conceptual Framework and New Strategic Indicators***”; in: http://rimd.reduaz.mx/secciones_documentos/9457081PuentesCanalesetal29102010.pdf

With the decision by the Swiss Chairmanship to include MPs high in the V GFMD agenda there is a unique opportunity for governments, civil society, researchers, and international organizations to work together and explore how the original MP approach could be expanded in scope, allowing a more comprehensive diagnosis of the migration situation in main corridors, and promoting a more inclusive participation of different actors in the assessments. The assumption is that this expanded analytical framework, a new set of strategic indicators, and the interaction of different points of views (including those of civil society organizations) will generate a strong knowledge platform for more effective policies.

To take advantage from this window of opportunity and with the collaboration of various partners, INMD decided to organize the workshop -- **A Comprehensive Approach to Monitor International Migration: Joint Reflections** – that will be held in Bellagio, Italy, October 31 – November 4, 2011. The event is now formally linked to the official GFMD civil society program. A selected group of 23 participants have been invited including government officials from sending and receiving countries, experts on migration with wide experience on information management (including MPs), international agencies, and leaders of civil society organizations.

The workshop has three main objectives:

1. To discuss the feasibility for a policy-oriented information system to assess causes, costs and benefits of migration on specific corridors
2. To discuss data needs and availability, possible strategic indicators, and a platform for implementation including specific roles for UN and other multilateral agencies, governments, civil society organizations, and the academia.
3. To explore possible next steps: (a) including the project into the GFMD process and (b) moving forward from concept to a pilot operational plan (in selected corridors)

PARTICIPANTS

NAME	NATIONALITY	TITLE	INFORMATION
Rosa APARICIO	Spain	Researcher at the Doctoral Program on Migrations at the University Research Institute Ortega y Gasset, Spain	Previously at the Institute for Migration Studies; Universidad Pontificia Comillas. Member of the Board of European Observatory on racism and Xenophobia (EUMC); former Director of the Journal " <i>Migraciones</i> ".
Juan ARTOLA	Uruguay	Regional Director for South America, IOM.	Professor on Migration Policies, Master Study Programme on International Migration, University of Buenos Aires (UBA), Argentina
Maruja ASSIS	Philippines	Director of Research, Scalabrini Migration Center, Philippines	Scalabrini Migration Center, Philippines
John BINGHAM	France	Director, International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC); coordinator of CSD for the V GFMD in Switzerland.	Worked for the University of Phnom Penh, for the Catholic Church in UN refugee camps on the Thai-Cambodian border, and for Director of Immigrant Services with Catholic Charities in new York. Was also Chair of the New York Immigration Coalition.
Alejandro CANALES	Chile	Professor, Department of Regional Studies, University of Guadalajara (UDG), Mexico.	Former Professor of Economy, University of Chile. Fellow of the Mexican Academy of Sciences. Founder and first President of the Latin America Society of Population.
Francisco CARRION MENA	Ecuador	Head of the Ecuadorian Delegation in the UN; former Minister of Foreign Affairs	Member of the UN Commission for the Convention of the Rights of Migrants Workers, member of the UN Human Rights Committee, and president of the UN Committee for Decolonization. Also researcher at Universidad San Francisco; coordinator of OBANPEX (Andean Observatory of Foreign Policies).
Stephen CASTLES	Australia	Research Chair in Sociology, University of Sydney.	Former Director of the International Migration Institute (IMI) at the University of Oxford; Fellow of the

Dilek CINAR	Turkey	Researcher and Professor, Bosphorous University, Istanbul.	Academy of Social Sciences in Australia; former advisor to the Australian and British Governments on migration issues. Bosphorous University, Istanbul, Turkey
Raul DELGADO-WISE	Mexico	Director, Institute for Development Studies, Autonomous University of Zacatecas, Mexico.	Guest lecturer in universities in Canada, the US, Germany, the Netherlands, UK, Spain and various Latin American countries. Fellow of the Mexican Academy of Sciences. Advisor to the Mexican Government on migration issues.
Jorge DURAND	Mexico	Professor of the University of Guadalajara, Mexico.	Co-Director Latin American Migration Project. Fellow of the Mexican and US Academy of Sciences and the American Philosophical Association.
Beata GODENZI	Switzerland	Head of Global Programme Migration; Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation	Member of the Swiss GFMD Task Force
William GOIS	Pakistan	Regional Coordinator; Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA)	Former member of the Pax Romana Asian Regional Team
Lourdes GOUVEIA	Venezuela	Professor of Sociology, University of Nebraska; Director, Office of Latino/Latin American Studies (OLLAS).	Board member of the Nebraska Appleseed Center for Law in the Public Interest and of the Chicano Awareness Center
Takyiwaa MANUH	Ghana	Professor of African Studies, University of Ghana	Participated in the preparation of the Migration profile for Ghana. President of the Scientific Committee of CODESRIA; member of the Governing Council of UNESCO's International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP) and member of the External Advisory Panel of the UNFPA
Shabarinath NAIR	India	Representative of the GFMD's CSD Organizing Team . Policy Associate at ICMC	Previously at OIM and human rights NGOs.
Jeffrey PASSEL	USA	Senior Demographer, Pew Hispanic Center	Former Principal Research Associate at the Urban Institute's Labor, Human Services and Population Center
Gemma PINYOL	Spain	Head of Cabinet; State	Member of GRITIM

		Secretary of Immigration and Emigration; Spain	(Interdisciplinary Research Group on Immigration at Pompeu Fabra University, and member of the European Observatory of Foreign Policies; Autonomous University of Barcelona.
Ruben PUENTES	Uruguay	Executive Director; International Network on Migration and Development (INMD).	Former Managing Director at the Rockefeller Foundation and Regional Representative for Latin America; coordinator of the North American Transnational Communities program.
Dilip RATHA	India	Senior Economist, World Bank. Migration and Remittances Unit; Development Economics Prospect Group.	CEO of the Migrating out of Poverty Consortium, University of Sussex, UK.
Emilio REYNERI	Italy	Professor of Sociology, Department of Sociology and Social Research; University of Milan	Department of Sociology and Social Research; University of Milan
Hector RODRIGUEZ	Mexico	Director of Doctoral Program on Public Policies; Monterrey Technological Institute, Mexico.	Monterrey Technological Institute, Mexico.
Roberto SURO	USA	Professor at the Annenberg School for Communication & Journalism, University of Southern California.	Journalist with extensive experience in foreign, domestic and Washington coverage as a senior staffer for <i>The New York Times</i> and <i>The Washington Post</i> . Former Director of the Pew Hispanic Center.
Anna TERRON	Spain	State Secretary for Immigration and Emigration; Ministry of Labor and Immigration, Spain.	Previously, delegate of the Generalitat of Catalunya in the EU. Recently presented the MIPEX III (Migrant Integration Policy Index III) in Madrid.
Hania ZLOTNIK,	Mexico	Director, UN Population Division.	Former Vice President of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (2001-2005); Board Member of the Population Association of America.

TENTATIVE AGENDA

DAY	ACTIVITY	Coordinator of session / panel participants (tentative)	
DAY 1 October 31	Morning and afternoon:	ARRIVALS	
	Evening:		
DAY 2 November 1 <i>Monitoring migration corridors: Migration Profiles and beyond</i>		Presentation of participants	
		Review of agenda and selection of the Evaluation Group	
	Morning:	Opening statements The need for reframing the development – migration – human rights debate.	DELGADO – CASTLES – GODEZI – BINGHAM
		Migration Profiles: overall discussion and review of cases	ARTOLA MANUH CINAR
	Afternoon:	Beyond Migration Profiles: Dimensions for a more comprehensive analysis	PUENTES
	Evening:	New indicators: technical feasibility and data availability	CANALES PASSEL RODRIGUEZ
DAY 3 November 2 <i>Impacting policy processes</i>	Evening:	Discussion Review of the day and summary of conclusions	
	Morning:	The integration of the information Informing public opinion Impacting policy making processes	SURO GOUVEIA CARRION MENA
	Afternoon:	Discussion Platform for implementation and roles of different partners	SLOTNIK GOIS BINGHAM
	Evening:	Review of the day and summary of conclusions	
DAY 4 November 3 <i>Implementation platform and partnerships; from concept to a pilots</i>	Morning:	From concept to a pilot operational plan The concept of “observatories” by corridors Collaboration, partners and their roles	APARICIO DURAND ASSIS
	Afternoon:	Discussion Review and summary of conclusions Next steps	PUENTES CASTLES DELGADO
	Evening:	Report from Evaluation Group	
		All day	DEPARTURES
DAY 5 November 4			