

North-South Migration To Developing Countries

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Policy Dialogue on Migration and Development

- 2013 UN High-Level Dialogue on Migration and Development;
- Post-MDG/2015 global development framework: should it include migration?
- European Report on Development: focus on post-2015;
- EC Communication on Migration and Development, May 2013: outlines EU position ahead of HLD.



EC Communication: Maximizing the Development Impact of Migration

- Proposes how the EU could adopt a more ambitious approach to migration and development;
- Development and migration agenda should be broadened;
- Migration policy should take account of development;
- Little reference to North-South migration from Europe to developing countries due to the economic crisis.



Presentation Outline

- Defining North-South migration
- Number/Profile of North-South migrants
- Factors contributing to North-South migration
- To what extent is North-South migration due to the economic crisis?
- What are the implications for development in countries of destination and origin ?



Definitions of “South” and “North” vary

UN DESA

- Based on UN classifications of developed and developing countries
- **North = North America (except Mexico), Europe, Japan, Australia and New Zealand.**

World Bank

- Based on GNI per capita
- **North = “High income countries”** Includes countries/regions, such as: Bahrain; Barbados; Hong Kong, China; Israel; Macao, China; Oman; Puerto Rico; Qatar; the Republic of Korea; Saudi Arabia; Singapore; Trinidad and Tobago; and the United Arab Emirates.

UNDP

- Based on Human Development Index
- **North = includes most high-income countries in Latin America, the Middle East and Asia (more similar to WB)**



North-South Migration: Global Trends

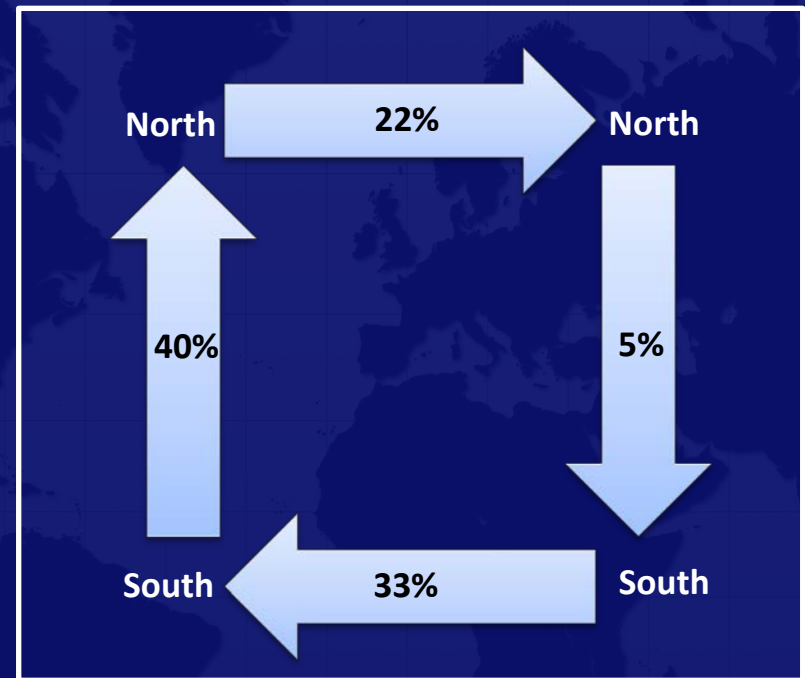
- Between 7 and 13 million migrants from the North living in the South in 2010;
- Around 8.5% of migrants in the South are from the North;
- N-S migrant stocks (2010):

- 8% are U.S.-born living in Mexico

Other large stocks

- Germany -> Turkey
 - U.S. -> South Africa
 - Portugal -> Brazil
 - Italy -> Argentina
- While global data have yet to reflect changes in N-S migration, increases can be seen at national and regional levels.

Four “pathways” of migration



Source: Gallup estimate of first generation adult migrant stock

Examples of North-South Migration

- **BRAZIL:** New migrants in Brazil **up 87%** from a decade before; main source countries: U.S., Japan, Paraguay, Portugal (IBGE 2012).
- Work permits granted to foreigners in Brazil **up 70%** since 2009 (73,022 in 2012). Largest recipients: U.S., Philippines, Haiti and UK (MTE).
- **CHINA:** Stocks of foreigners in China **up 35%** in last decade (593,832 in mainland China, 2010); 43.5% from South Korea, U.S., or Japan (UN DESA; China 2010 Census).
- **ANGOLA:** **23,787** moved **from Portugal** to Angola in 2009 (Emigration Observatory).
- **MOZAMBIQUE:** 9,224 **Portuguese** registered at consulates in 2012, **up nearly 50%** from 6,211 in 2008 (Emigration Observatory).



Emigration From Europe

- Emigration from Europe has increased;
- Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Ireland, Greece, Spain, Poland, Romania and the 3 Baltic Member States emigrants outnumbered immigrants (Eurostat, 2011);
- A substantial proportion of emigrants are **returnees** (especially to Brazil);
- 65% of international migrants in Brazil are returnees (2005-2010);
- Much emigration is North-North: between 2011-2012 migrant visas granted to Greeks in Australia doubled;
- But significant numbers of Europeans are also moving to developing countries.



European Migration to the South

Latin American and the Caribbean

- New emigration flows from EU-27 into LAC, esp. Argentina and Brazil. In 2008 and 2009, 107,000+ Europeans left for LAC (IOM, 2012);
- Main source countries: Spain, Germany, Netherlands, and Italy (ibid);
- Migration of Spain-born from Spain to Ecuador increased by 131 % between 2009 and 2010 (ibid).

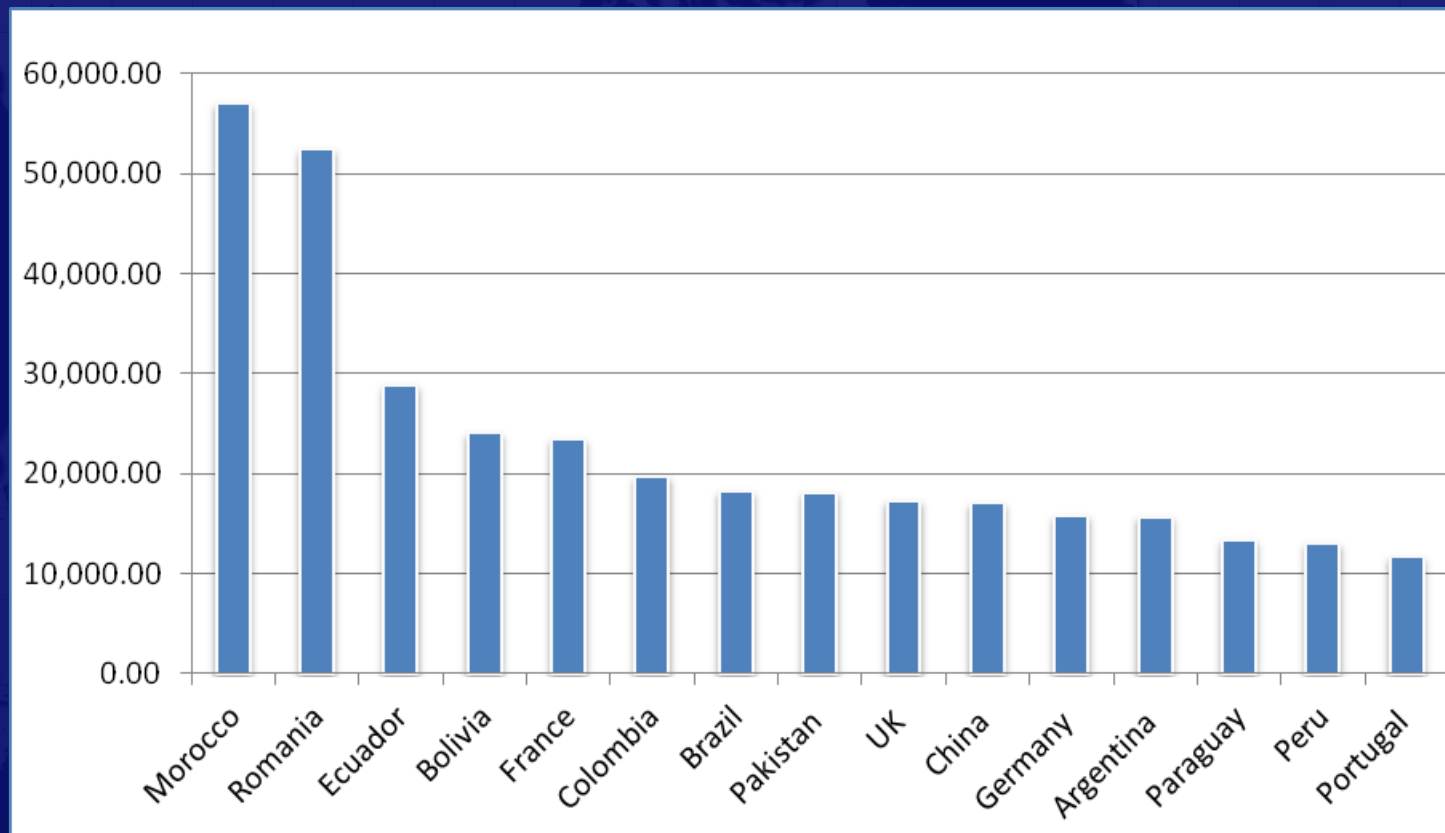
Africa

- Emigrants from Spain to Africa reached 83,891 in 2011, up from just over 6,000 in 2009 (Eurostat 2013; INE);
- Migration from Ireland to Africa more than doubled between 2008 and 2009; In 2011, 3,242 migrated from Ireland to Africa (Eurostat 2013).
- Migration from Ireland to Nigeria grew by over 162% between 2008 and 2010, and to South Africa by 173% (ibid).



Emigrants from Spain

Top Destinations of Emigrants from Spain, 2011



Source: National Statistics Institute (INE)



Drivers of North-South Migration

- Economic opportunity and the global economic crisis
- Return migration
- Expansion of global companies
- Student migration
- Retirement migration



Implications for Development: Remittance Flows to the North

- **PORTUGAL:** Portuguese citizens living abroad sent €2.45 billion in 2012, up from €2.42 in 2010;
- **SPAIN:** Spain received €5.9 billion in 2012, up 3.6% from 2011;
- Remittances sent from foreigners in Spain decreased to €6.4 billion in 2012 (peak of €8.4 in 2006);
- **IRELAND:** Irish living abroad sent €570 million home in 2012, up nearly 27% since 2007.
- However, remittances still account for only small share of GDP; less than 1% of GDP in Spain and Ireland, and higher at 2% in Portugal.



Implications for Development: Sending Countries (North)

Possible Positives:

- Relieves pressure on labour markets
- Increased remittance inflows

Possible Negatives:

- Loss of skilled young for sending countries – “lost generation”
- Reduction in tax base
- Demographic ratios – speed population ageing (both through emigration and decreased immigration)



Implications for Development: Receiving Countries (South)

Possible Positives:

- Human and financial capital
- Skills transfer and “reverse brain drain”
- Enhanced networks between North and South
- Stimulate service industry, attract investments and foreign visitors

Possible Negatives:

- Drive up real estate prices and strain on health and social services (retirement migrants)
- Compete with local labour
- Return of less-skilled migrants could put a strain on over-burdened labour markets and households accustomed to receiving remittances



Concluding Messages

- North-South migration seems to be increasing, although lack of research and data on this trend;
- North-South migration has potentially important implications for development in countries of destination and origin, but receives relatively little policy attention;
- Future global development agenda likely to focus on development of all countries, not only the poorest;
- North-South migration needs to be factored into this debate.



THANK YOU

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